

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Bulgaria
Program Title:	Cross-Cutting Programs
Pillar:	No pillar info
Strategic Objective:	183-0420
Status:	Continuing
Planned FY 2005 Obligation:	\$2,989,000 AEEB
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$263,000 AEEB
Proposed FY 2006 Obligation:	\$3,082,000 AEEB
Year of Initial Obligation:	1991
Estimated Year of Final Obligation:	2007

Summary: This program support objective includes two categories of initiatives: 1) activities that support the Mission's whole portfolio - the Media and Participant Training programs and the Program Development and Support activity; and 2) special initiatives.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2005 Program: Establish and Ensure Media Freedom and Freedom of Information (\$300,000 AEEB). In 2005, USAID will continue to support advocacy and public awareness efforts in key areas of reform, working closely with the newly established Broadcast Training Center (BTC). The USAID-supported anticorruption TV program "Na Chisto" (Clean Slate), produced by BTC, will be broadcast on a TV channel with national coverage, thus significantly expanding its audience. The Legal Center for Journalist Support within the BTC will coordinate enhanced protection for investigative reporters against prosecution and harassment. Advocacy efforts for reform in the judiciary will continue through professional coverage of courts' activities in the media. BTC will include TV reports investigating trafficking cases in the "Na Chisto" program. The center will partner with Roma TV stations and independent producers to broadcast programs on ethnic issues. BTC will focus on achieving sustainability through increased training fees and production sales. Broadcast Training Center (prime).

Improve Quality of Workforce (\$1,300,000 AEEB). During FY 2005, USAID will continue to fund U.S. based, in-country, and third-country training opportunities for Bulgarian officials, NGOs, and entrepreneurs, with increased focus on in-country and third-country trainings. A challenge for the upcoming years will be to sustain and expand training achievements, and capitalize the impact of U.S. trainings through an appropriate legacy tool. An external evaluation will help USAID define options. USAID will review and select from recommendations made for potential legacies to capitalize on the impact of the participant training program. USAID will work with the selected institution(s) to enable it to sustain programmatic results after graduation. Principal contractor: World Learning (prime).

Improve Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and Biodiversity Conservation (\$75,000 AEEB). USAID will support the newly established Protective Areas Fund (PAF) to become operational and begin accepting major grants. The support will include assistance to develop an operations manual and procedures, financial administration and sub-account system. The activity will also help the PAF build its communication and fundraising capacity by developing a full complement of communications materials aimed at increasing its public awareness. As a result of this assistance, PAF is expected to become operational and capable to fundraise, administer grants, and become a legacy after USAID graduation. Principal grantee: National Trust Eco Fund (prime).

Strengthen Democratic Political Parties (\$200,000 AEEB). In early 2005, in close cooperation with the major political parties that will likely pass the minimum vote threshold for Parliamentary participation (4%), USAID will launch a short term program to help these parties run informed election campaigns. The assistance will focus on conducting a series of polls and focus groups discussions. The polls will explore public attitudes, particularly those of youth, women, and ethnic minorities, toward individual political parties and key local campaign issues, such as granting greater autonomy to local government and fiscal decentralization. The second critical component of the program will be technical assistance to the parties

by individually working with them. USAID will organize post-polling debrief seminars to present polling results and prepare candidates and campaign managers to conduct effective campaigns focused on issues of local concern. Principal grantee: TBD (prime).

Program Development and Support (\$814,000 AEEB). Support for all USAID activities will continue through funding program staff and related administrative expenses. These resources will also be used for program-related audits, studies, assessment and evaluations of current programs to facilitate progress across all strategic objectives. Various contractors and grantees.

Water and Wastewater Training Program (\$300,000 AEEB, \$263,000 AEEB carryover). USAID will continue with the second phase of the program, pending passage of legislative amendments requiring mandatory training and certification of water and wastewater operators. The pilot training facility created during the first phase will be registered as a legal entity and will apply for registration and accreditation as a vocational training center for training and certification of water and wastewater staff and operators in the country. USG funds will support the institutional strengthening of the entity. Principal grantee: Delaware Technical and Community College (prime).

FY 2006 Program: Establish and Ensure Media Freedom and Freedom of Information (\$228,000 AEEB). USAID plans to continue the advocacy and public awareness efforts in key areas of reform, while at the same time supporting the Broadcast Training Center to ensure its sustainability. Same implementer as above.

Improve Quality of Workforce (\$1,300,000 AEEB). During FY 2006, USAID will provide US-based, in-country, and third-country training opportunities for Bulgarian officials, NGOs, and entrepreneurs. USAID also intends to work with a selected legacy, and indigenous training centers to build their capacity to sustain similar training activities after USAID graduation. Same implementer as above.

Program Development and Support (PDS) (\$1,454,000 AEEB). This activity will invariably continue to be the major support vehicle for program activities, staff, and logistics. These resources may also be used for program-related audits, studies, final assessment, and close-out evaluations, as well as for activities in support of selected legacy mechanisms and partner organizations. Various contractors and grantees

Water and Wastewater Training Program (\$100,000 AEEB). Stand alone Program. Upon successful registration and accreditation of the Bulgarian Water and Wastewater Training Center, USAID intends to work with the Bulgarian National Association on Water Quality (BNAWQ) or alternatively with another independent NGO to be established for the purpose managing the training center. USAID may support a one-year program to implement a full training and certification program for staff and operators of at least three water and wastewater utilities in the country and to prepare the training center for its self-sustained functioning after USAID graduation. Principal grantee: Bulgarian National Association on Water Quality (prime).

Performance and Results: Program support activities complement all Strategic Objectives in USAID's graduation strategy for Bulgaria. Development of human capacity within Bulgaria is a major theme. As a direct result of the participant training initiative, Bulgarian leaders and professionals are better equipped with skills and practical knowledge necessary to support the transition processes in the country. Additionally, the Program Development and Support (PDS) activity contributes to the full spectrum of USAID programs by ensuring resources and information for their smooth progress. The PDS program enables USAID to accurately and objectively assess the impact of USAID programs in Bulgaria.

At the time of graduation from USAID assistance, USAID expects to have developed legacy institutions such as the American University in Bulgaria and the Broadcast Training Center. These institutions will be capable of continuing USAID's tradition of developing human capacity in all sectors of society.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Bulgaria

183-0420 Cross-Cutting Programs	AEEB	ESF
Through September 30, 2003		
Obligations	27,689	25,000
Expenditures	25,922	25,000
Unliquidated	1,767	0
Fiscal Year 2004		
Obligations	3,323	0
Expenditures	2,060	0
Through September 30, 2004		
Obligations	31,012	25,000
Expenditures	27,982	25,000
Unliquidated	3,030	0
Prior Year Unobligated Funds		
Obligations	263	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2005 NOA		
Obligations	2,989	0
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2005		
Obligations	3,252	0
Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 NOA		
Obligations	3,082	0
Future Obligations	0	0
Est. Total Cost	37,346	25,000