

## Data Sheet

<b>USAID Mission:</b>	Turkmenistan
<b>Program Title:</b>	Democratic Culture and Institutions
<b>Pillar:</b>	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
<b>Strategic Objective:</b>	120-0211
<b>Status:</b>	Continuing
<b>Planned FY 2005 Obligation:</b>	\$1,200,000 FSA
<b>Prior Year Unobligated:</b>	\$224,000 FSA
<b>Proposed FY 2006 Obligation:</b>	\$972,000 FSA
<b>Year of Initial Obligation:</b>	2001
<b>Estimated Year of Final Obligation:</b>	2007

**Summary:** USAID's democracy efforts are limited in Turkmenistan due to the difficult operating environment. USAID seeks to strengthen democratic culture in Turkmenistan by building strong and sustainable civic organizations and by increasing the availability of information and outside news programming to Turkmen citizens.

### Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

**FY 2005 Program:** Strengthen Civil Society (\$807,000 FSA, \$53,000 FSA carryover). The local Network of Civil Society Resource Centers (CSSCs) will receive support to provide training, information, funding, and other assistance to local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and community-based organizations. An assessment will be made in FY 2005 to determine the follow-on strategy for the civil society program. If possible, registered independent NGOs may receive institutional-strengthening grants, and community organizations may receive community action grants. Consultations to NGOs on registration and legal issues will continue. Principal contractors/grantees: Counterpart International (prime), International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (ICNL) (sub).

Establish and Ensure Media Freedom and Freedom of Information (\$308,000 FSA, \$107,000 FSA carryover). Internews Network will develop a new satellite broadcast program to make political, economic, and socially important television programming from stations throughout Central Asia available, through direct satellite transmission to individual citizens with satellite dishes in Turkmenistan. Internews Network will also facilitate the production of at least one weekly program that specifically targets the Turkmen audience. Principal contractor/grantee: Internews Network (prime).

Protect Human Rights and Equal Access to Justice (\$85,000 FSA, \$64,000 FSA carryover). The legal reform program will target future legal professionals by building law students' practical writing and oral advocacy skills through moot courts, mock trials, and Street Law in partnership with the Adalat Law Student Club, and by giving them hands-on practice through the establishment of university-affiliated legal clinics. Technical and financial support of the legal clinics and Legal Resource Center at Turkmen State University will continue. Principal contractors/grantees: Freedom House (prime), American Bar Association/Central European and Eurasian Law Initiative (ABA/CEELI) (sub).

**FY 2006 Program:** Strengthen Civil Society (\$768,000 FSA). USAID will continue support to the Network of CSSCs, enabling it to provide a full range of technical services, legal consultations, and small grants to indigenous civil society organizations, as well as to mobilize communities for local-level issue advocacy. Localizing assistance through an indigenous, registered Network of CSSCs at the end of the cooperative agreement, which expires in FY 2006, will depend on the overall political environment in the country. Principal contractor/grantee: TBD (prime).

Establish and Ensure Media Freedom and Freedom of Information (\$204,000 FSA). In the second year of the satellite broadcast program, USAID will continue to transmit television

programs produced in other Central Asian countries. Principal contractor/grantee: Internews Network (prime).

**Performance and Results:** Last year, the policy environment for civil society and the chance for intellectual growth of emerging community leaders took a major step backwards with the adoption of a restrictive NGO law and enforcement of black lists and exit visas for travel. This year, the need for exit visas was repealed; black lists still reportedly exist but have had little effect on the travel of USAID's partners. The Law on NGOs forbids civic organizations from operating without official registration. Although criminal charges for participation in unregistered organizations were recently dropped, such participation remains illegal, and citizens seem to be taking this to heart by decreasing their activism. Given the number of registered independent NGOs, this year USAID shifted from more formal assistance and training for established NGOs to a more grassroots, community-oriented approach for civil society strengthening. This paid off in an increase in local-level activism for discussion of key issues of concern, advocacy, and strengthened partnerships between citizens and local officials. Through a new partnership with the Women's Resource Center Network, USAID was able to reach more than 2,200 rural clients this year with legal consultations. In addition, the establishment of a new legal clinic and continued support to the Legal Resource Center at Turkmen State University and ADALAT student association will give law students the practical tools they need to become effective legal professionals in the near future. At the end of the program, an increased number of citizens will have improved knowledge of their civic and legal rights.

## US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Turkmenistan

120-0211 Democratic Culture and Institutions	<b>FSA</b>
<b>Through September 30, 2003</b>	
Obligations	2,445
Expenditures	1,387
Unliquidated	1,058
<b>Fiscal Year 2004</b>	
Obligations	1,121
Expenditures	926
<b>Through September 30, 2004</b>	
Obligations	3,566
Expenditures	2,313
Unliquidated	1,253

<b>Prior Year Unobligated Funds</b>	
Obligations	224
<b>Planned Fiscal Year 2005 NOA</b>	
Obligations	1,200
<b>Total Planned Fiscal Year 2005</b>	
Obligations	1,424
<b>Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 NOA</b>	
Obligations	972
Future Obligations	1,300
Est. Total Cost	7,262

