

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Azerbaijan
Program Title:	Cross-Cutting Programs
Pillar:	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Strategic Objective:	112-0420
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$5,350,000 FSA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$416,000 FSA
Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:	\$5,031,000 FSA
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 1992
Year of Final Obligation:	FY 2009

Summary: This cross-cutting objective is comprised of two components that complement all of the Mission's strategic objectives. Those components are training and small grants assistance. Training supports all objectives and consists of short-term and long-term training, and advanced degree opportunities. The small grants assistance to private sector and civil society groups is an instrument to provide financial support to USAID's local partners.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

Increase citizen representation and participation in democratic processes and economic activities (\$2,500,000 FSA). The Strategic Technical Assistance for Results with Training (START) Program supports training in several areas: poverty reduction, gender equality, fiscal reform, community development, NGO strengthening, rural health services, and municipal and national government capacity building. Principal contractor: World Learning, Inc. USA.

Support for civil society and private enterprise development (\$1,850,000 FSA). Thirty-five grants to NGOs and private enterprises will be awarded. With the continued waiver of Section 907, interventions in public administration and policy will be added. To prepare for the Eurasia Foundation's future independence from the USG funding, co-funding was sought and received in FY 2003 from such non-U.S. Government sources as the Open Society Institute (Soros Foundation), World Bank, British Petroleum, Exxon, Chevron, Shell, Unocal, and others. An international arbitration system will be introduced as an alternative to the state court system for solving civil and commercial disputes. Other efforts to ensure autonomy of local civil society groups will be pursued in FY 2004. Principal grantee: Eurasia Foundation.

Program Development and Support (\$1,000,000 FSA, \$415,142 FSA carryover). Funds will be used for program funded staff salaries, project design, assessments and evaluations.

FY 2005 Program:

Participant Training (\$2,500,000 FSA). Short and long-term training is provided in Azerbaijan, in the U.S. and in third countries on a variety of topics supporting USAID's strategic objectives. Principal contractor: World Learning, Inc. USA.

Support for civil society and private enterprise development (\$1,831,320 FSA). With the continued waiver of Section 907 expanded interventions in public administration and policy will be added. Principal grantee: Eurasia Foundation.

Program Development and Support (\$700,000 FSA). USAID will utilize these funds to support program-funded staff and other costs related to program design and development.

Performance and Results: In coordination with the World Bank, a project on rural infrastructure was implemented to help municipalities plan and manage infrastructure development. Recommendations from a survey conducted to determine techniques to increase the effectiveness of municipalities were

implemented. With support from the Israeli Embassy in Baku and the Exxon Azerbaijan Operating Company, LLC. community groups were mobilized to improve teaching in the schools by using concepts that stress volunteerism and democratic principles. Training was conducted for SMEs to improve their understanding and compliance with tax legislation through interactive training, supported by a database on recent changes to the tax code. With support from BP, International Accounting Standards were introduced to government officials. Small handicraft businesses in rural Azerbaijan learned how to promote and market their crafts. Many jobs were created and traditional handicrafts and designs were preserved.

Continued emphasis on training and the small grants program across the Mission's strategic objectives will increase the knowledge, experience, social, and economic links (social capital) that are vital for the development of democratic processes and equal participation in the economy.