

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Turkmenistan
Program Title:	Cross-Cutting Programs
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	120-0420
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$400,000 FSA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:	\$233,000 FSA
Year of Initial Obligation:	2001
Year of Final Obligation:	FY 2006

Summary: This cross-cutting program supports all of USAID's strategic objectives, and includes two main components: training and exchanges to support USAID's technical assistance programs in areas directly relevant to primary health care, and the transition to democracy and a free-market economy; and program development support for evaluations, studies, technical assistance, and management support.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

Participant Training (\$300,000 FSA). More than 800 participants will be trained through participant training projects in Turkmenistan during FY 2004. Training programs will support USAID's technical assistance in the areas of small/medium enterprise development, health care reform, energy and water resources, agriculture, and various cross-cutting objectives. Principal contractor/grantee: Academy for Educational Development (prime).

Program Support (\$100,000 FSA). A wide range of program and personnel support activities will continue. As required, funding will enable USAID to support unanticipated opportunities to advance or reinforce USAID objectives. Program personnel essential to the implementation of program activities will be supported by this category.

FY 2005 Program:

Participant Training (\$200,000 FSA). USAID plans to extend the agreement for the participant training activity in 2005. Based on an evaluation of 10 years of past participants that was conducted in FY 2003, USAID will examine how the program can be re-designed for increased sector impact. Principal contractor/grantee: Academy for Educational Development (prime).

Program Support (\$33,302 FSA). A wide range of program and personnel support activities will continue. As required, funding will enable USAID to support unanticipated opportunities to advance or reinforce USAID objectives. Program personnel essential to the implementation of program activities will be supported by this category.

Performance and Results: In FY 2003, USAID trained over 1,000 Turkmenistan citizens (approximately 40% women) through the participant training program, focusing on improving the environment for agricultural small/medium enterprises (through business planning and legislative advocacy), development of NGOs, and strengthening of partnerships between NGOs, the local government, and the health sector to improve collaborative efforts to combat the threat of infectious diseases. Examples of various training events conducted under the training in Turkmenistan during FY 2003 follow.

A series of in-country programs related to eliminating the hepatitis B virus through vaccinations helped give health personnel the skills and knowledge necessary to successfully implement Decree 350, which calls for the vaccination of all newborns. After only two months of implementing the strategies learned, more than 60 hospitals and clinics in Ashgabat and Akhal Velayat have printed versions of the decree and

are following its guidelines. Reportedly, the health care sector immunized 97% of newborns in 2002 due to the successful implementation of Decree 350.

After participating in the Global Summit of Women in Barcelona (a summit aimed at helping women extend their businesses around the world), the director of the Chapak Business Association was inspired to open a shop in Cologne in October 2002, together with two colleagues and former residents of Turkmenistan. Among other items, the shop sells crafts made by Turkmen artisans. Furthermore, the director organized a sale of Turkmen crafts in Silke Vagner, an ethnographic museum and fashion house in Leipzig, in September 2002. The Global Summit not only helped the director extend her business relationships with her counterparts around the world, but also helped her understand the importance of e-commerce in world trade. In August, one month after the summit, the director launched a web page - www.catgen.com/chapak - to advertise the sale of Turkmen crafts through the Internet. In the near future, the director plans to hire a web design specialist to update this site for e-commerce. As a result of her training at the Global Summit for Women, the director has expanded her business significantly by hiring an additional 20 women to work on a regular basis. Among them are weavers, dyers, embroiderers, and cutters. She also opened a small carpet shop in Kyzyl-Arvat in January 2003, and hired 10 local women to weave Turkmen carpets for the shop.

The Eurasia Foundation awarded five grants to Turkmen NGOs in FY 2003, with an average grant size of nearly \$6,000. More than half of these grant funds supported civil society, with the remainder targeting improvements in public policy and administration. For example, in an effort to increase the viability of private farmers, the Eurasia Foundation provided business and agricultural training to 130 crop and livestock farmers in four regions, including the Afghan border region of Mary. In addition, with funding from the Eurasia Foundation, the Union of Economists produced the first English-Russian-Turkmen dictionary of economic terms. Once it is printed, 1,000 copies will be distributed to government ministries, businesses, libraries, and universities. As a result of high demand for the book, the publisher requested permission to print a second run for commercial release. Lastly, the Eurasia Foundation provided a grant to the Center for Women Economists to support research related to the role of NGOs in society and to engage in advocacy efforts to promote more permissive NGO legislation. The research results were released only in October 2003 and are being reviewed.