

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Uzbekistan
Program Title:	Energy and Water
Pillar:	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Strategic Objective:	122-0161
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$3,000,000 FSA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$1,453,000 FSA
Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:	\$2,400,000 FSA
Year of Initial Obligation:	2001
Year of Final Obligation:	FY 2006

Summary: USAID's water and energy activities are focused on improving Uzbekistan's capacity to manage water resources through well-directed technical assistance, the introduction of improved technologies accompanied by selected training, targeted public outreach, and similar actions leading to better management of critical resources. As the large infrastructure improvement programs which were funded by the 2002 supplemental come to an end, programs will emphasize training, public outreach, policy reforms, and promoting the replication of demonstration projects that have been completed over the past three years of USAID's flagship Natural Resource Management Program. USAID will also launch a robust program of assistance to Water User Associations (WUAs).

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

Water User Association Support (\$2,000,000 FSA, \$1,453,310 FSA carryover). USAID will broaden and strengthen its assistance to newly formed water user associations in Uzbekistan. Due to the issuing of a government decree, over 100 new associations have been formed. For the most part, they are weak and require assistance to ensure sustainability. The program goal is to transfer management of lower-level irrigation to the local user level. The result will be improvements in water efficiency, transparency in allocations, stronger democratic local water management institutions, and cost recovery schemes that generate funds from users for system operation and maintenance. Principal contractor/grantee: to be determined.

Pilot Agricultural Enterprise and Agricultural Growth Models (\$1,000,000 FSA). Agriculture is the largest sector of the economy in Uzbekistan. However, the sector is not growing quickly enough to meet the employment, income, and production expectations of the population, and there are numerous constraints to privatization of farms and other agricultural small and medium enterprises. USAID will initiate a program to help accelerate the movement toward a market-oriented and growing agricultural sector through various pilot activities. First, the project will test and demonstrate models of assistance that would result in improved growth and incomes for agricultural small/medium enterprises (including farms). Second, the project will demonstrate the efficacy of market-led approaches that target value-added products. Third, it will focus primarily on horticulture and link with other on-going or planned USAID activities, including land reform, irrigation technical assistance and business support services. Fourth, implementation will be via a limited number of implementers to achieve management efficiency over a limited time frame and with realistic expectations for results by USAID, host governments and participants. Finally, the models tested should be suitable for possible replication and provide usable lessons for sharing among the countries in the region. Principal contractor/grantee: to be determined.

FY 2005 Program:

Water User Association Support (WUA) (\$2,000,000 FSA). USAID will continue to provide training, technical assistance, and small grants to strengthen local water user associations. It is anticipated that by the second year of the project training programs will be conducted throughout the country with WUA representatives already implementing the practices and principles being taught. Selected WUAs will

make internal improvements to the water systems they manage by means of funds received from the USAID grants program. Principal contractor/grantee: to be determined.

Pilot Agricultural Enterprise and Agricultural Growth Models (\$400,000 FSA). USAID will continue developing and strengthening models for demonstrating how the agricultural sector can be modernized. By FY 2005, demonstration sites will be established and the main activities needed to raise incomes with farmer groups will be determined. Agreements with the Ministry of Agriculture will be signed that will allow USAID to institute reforms in the demonstration areas. Farmer business/marketing groups will be made aware of the program and organized for participation. Training programs will begin. Principal contractor/grantee: to be determined.

Performance and Results: USAID's performance in the water sector has resulted in several significant achievements over the past two years. Activities with different counterpart organizations have resulted in improved communication systems, infrastructure repairs, equipment upgrades, and significantly improved methods of data collection, analysis, and transmission. The Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources, the Uzbek weather and water forecasting agency, the Water Basin Authorities of the two main river basins, and three major irrigation regions are all benefiting from this assistance. In potable water, over 500,000 residents of the Karakalpakstan region will soon have improved access to a reliable water supply as a result of USAID's ongoing assistance. Due to USAID's work, two major policy changes are transferring water management from the inefficient national level down to the hydro-basin and user levels. Pilot projects are now being implemented that demonstrate water-saving techniques, improved water control structures, and better communications systems. Likewise, in institutional development, democratic water user association elections and other capacity-building actions are being conducted. A public outreach program is actively working through several media sources to reach millions with the message of the importance of improving the management and use of water resources, and the importance of water to the health and well being of every citizen. Overall, the performance of this program in Uzbekistan has been solid. Host country commitment to improvements in the water resources sector is strong and key counterparts have consistently supported USAID's agenda. A robust training program has supported all of the technical areas with over 3,500 people participating in the program, including 946 women. USAID will continue to carry out its aggressive portfolio of activities in Uzbekistan, working collaboratively with Uzbek agencies, local organizations, and other donors.

By program completion, demonstration models on several aspects of improved management of the vast Uzbek irrigation system will be in place and specialists will be trained in effective replication of such activities. An improved system of collecting, analyzing, and transmitting weather and water resources data will also be fully implemented. Thousands of citizens in the Karakalpakstan region of the Aral Sea will benefit from improved quality and delivery service for potable water. Finally, a greater number of Water User Associations will be in place and operating in a more favorable legislative environment.