

ISSUE XIII • OCTOBER 16, 2007 TOP STORY

#### **Acting Administrator Fore in Romania**



On October 9, USAID Acting Administrator and Acting Director of Foreign Assistance Henrietta Fore joined USAID in Romania for the celebration of the legacy and the achievements of Romanians and Americans working in partnerships for seventeen years under the Support for East European Democracy (SEED) program.

Early in the day, USAID Acting Administrator was shown the transformations in the child welfare system brought about with USAID assistance when she visited a former large state-run orphanage which now serves as a center for modern child welfare services. With USAID's assistance, since the early 1990s, Romania has experienced a decrease from 170,000 abandoned children held in public institutions to just under 25,000 children today. USAID's work has focused on strengthening a foster care system with trained foster parents, establishing standards for the social work profession and membership in international organizations, decentralization of decision making/budgeting in child welfare system which has opened the door for NGOs to provide services; and NGOs training parents at risk of abandoning their children through providing life-skills training and living space for teenage mothers, and support care for disabilities.

USAID has provided over \$600 million in assistance to Romania over the course of the 17 year development assistance relationship. (Source)

#### **TOP STORY**

# **USAID Releases First-Ever Annual Report To Congress On Orphans And Vulnerable Children**

WASHINGTON – USAID released the first-ever annual report to Congress detailing U.S. Government (USG) efforts to address the needs of orphans and vulnerable children throughout the developing world. Fiscal year 2006 funding for U.S. programs that included services for orphans and vulnerable children exceeded \$5 billion and reached more than 135 million children, according to the report titled Highly Vulnerable Children: Causes, Consequences and Actions.

(Press Release) (View full report)

# **WEEKLY**

## **USAID** World News



LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN

Ecuadorian Jungle Chocolate: A Tale of Taste and

Hope 14,000 people in the Amazon Jungle are
transforming their lives as they add a little of this
"consciousness" to a traditional Ecuadorian activity:
cultivating cacao...



EUROPE & EURASIA USAID Acting Administrator Joins Closing Celebration of USAID Bulgaria Henrietta Fore joined the celebration of Bulgaria's graduation from SEED development assistance, the closing of the USAID Mission in Bulgaria, and the continuing U.S.-Bulgarian partnership...



ASIA NEAR EAST <u>USAID Awards</u>
<u>Community-Based Conflict Mitigation Program in Iraq</u> USAID awarded a contract for the Iraq
Community-Based Conflict Mitigation Program to
Relief International of California, and the Columbia
University Center for International Conflict
Resolution of New York...



AFRICA USAID Supports Efforts to End Child Marriage in Ethiopia USAID awarded CARE, an international non-governmental organization, more than \$1.3 million to implement a three-year program in Ethiopia focused on ending child marriage in the country...

### Introducing



Get information about the NEW Iraq PRTs Magazine

"Much of the progress we are seeing is the result of the work of our Provincial Reconstruction Teams. These teams bring together military and civilian experts to help local Iraqi communities pursue reconciliation, strengthen moderates, and speed the transition to Iraqi self-reliance."

President George W. Bush

## **Telling Our Story**

# **Local Council Revives Community in Montenegro**

Community
development
councils are
helping lead
local
development
projects in
Montenegro



June 28, 2007

Photo: CHF International

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