

## Data Sheet

<b>USAID Mission:</b>	Albania
<b>Program Title:</b>	Special Initiatives
<b>Pillar:</b>	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
<b>Strategic Objective:</b>	182-0410
<b>Status:</b>	Continuing
<b>Planned FY 2006 Obligation:</b>	\$2,280,000 AEEB
<b>Prior Year Unobligated:</b>	\$1,407,000 AEEB
<b>Proposed FY 2007 Obligation:</b>	\$1,843,000 AEEB
<b>Year of Initial Obligation:</b>	1992
<b>Estimated Year of Final Obligation:</b>	2007

**Summary:** The energy program supports the implementation of the national energy strategy by improving the availability, efficiency and reliability of energy supply at reasonable cost. The anti-trafficking program addresses prevention, reintegration, and repatriation of trafficked women and children by enhanced bilateral and international cooperation. The faith-based initiative focuses on strengthening inter-faith tolerance through community-based development activities, round table discussions and media presentations.

### Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

#### FY 2006 Program:

Improve Economic Policy and the Business Environment (\$750,000 AEEB, \$949,000 AEEB prior year recoveries). USAID's technical assistance and training will focus on legal and regulatory development; implementation of the approved transitional energy market model; and managerial capacity building. The Albanian Electricity Regulatory Entity (ERE) will be assisted to continue improving its regulatory capacity and increase its independence and transparency. Assistance will be provided for the harmonization of power sector secondary legislation for domestic and regional electricity markets and for the improvement of the financial management of KESH (the state-owned power company). An energy management training course will be organized for managers and specialists from the energy-related sectors. The USAID-supported partnership between ERE and the Indiana State Utility Commission, between the United States Energy Association (USEA) and KESH, as well as between Albanian Transmission System Operator (OST) and representatives of three utilities in the United States will continue to expose Albanian specialists to utility management best practices for metering, billings, and collections. Principal contractors: Pierce Atwood, Hunton and Williams, USEA, National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC)(primes).

Reduce Trafficking In Persons (\$1,530,000 AEEB, \$264,000 AEEB carryover). USAID will continue to fund efforts to decrease child trafficking, focusing along five key axes of intervention: prevention; protection; assisted voluntary return; reintegration; and coordination. Ongoing programs include school prevention and summer camp/community activities that offer a source of identification, prevention, and intervention for children at-risk. Coordination efforts along these axes will continue with a non-governmental organization partner in Greece, with particular attention given to safe, fast, and voluntary return of unaccompanied children detected in Greece. Assistance to combat trafficking in women and girls will focus specifically on prevention, reintegration, coordination, and NGO capacity building. The activities of 23 grants will be evaluated for impact and potential for sustainability in: social and political advocacy; technical assistance to shelters; institutional capacity building; and prevention and reintegration activities for victims of trafficking. USAID will continue to fund the maintenance of a database, which has compiled a comprehensive set of data on anti-trafficking activities being implemented by local actors throughout the country, and will be expanded with input from the 23 grantees. Support for Regional Cluster Groups (RCGs) involving local, international, and Government of Albania (GOA) anti-trafficking stakeholders will shift from a regional to a local approach. Principal contractors/grantees: Creative Associates International, Inc. (CAII), Terre des hommes (Tdh)(primes).

Strengthen Civil Society (\$194,000 AEEB carryover). USAID will continue to support interfaith dialogue with community initiatives and media related activities. Special attention will be given to women, youth, and local religious groups. Religious communities will continue to design and implement small grants. A documentary film to promote interfaith tolerance will be made. A regional network of interfaith activities will be established and advisory committees will be formed in the remaining target cities. Principal contractor: World Learning (prime).

**FY 2007 Program:**

Improve Economic Policy and the Business Environment (\$500,000 AEEB). USAID plans to continue its technical assistance and training for the legal and regulatory development for ERE and the improvement of the national energy market. Principal contractors/grantees: Pierce Atwood, USEA, NARUC (primes).

Reduce Trafficking In Persons (\$1,343,000 AEEB). USAID plans to fund activities to increase the capacity of social services and support the creation of a national child protection net. USAID plans to reduce the vulnerability of women and children by by empowering minorities and strengthening civil society's involvement in anti-trafficking efforts and improving coordination and information management among stakeholders. USAID plans to strengthen RCG participants' institutional capacity and to increase collaboration among service providers and anti-trafficking stakeholders. A national trafficking database will be further developed. Principal contractors: Tdh (prime) and others TBD.

**Performance and Results:** USAID assistance enabled ERE to improve its core competencies and slightly increase its independence and transparency. Legislation and regulations were adopted including a transmission system code, market rules, metering code and distribution code. USAID supported the preparation of the unbundled electricity tariff methodologies and models and the training on their application. A new energy efficiency law was approved by the Government of Albania. At the program completion, the Electric Regulatory Entity will be fully capable of overseeing an environmentally sound and well-regulated power sector. Necessary legislation and regulations will have been implemented to create favorable conditions for an efficient and competitive power market and consumer protection. The national power market will be in compliance with the Energy Community of South Eastern Europe Treaty.

The project that combats child trafficking expanded its coverage within central and southern Albania to reach 17 out of 36 districts. Children's rights and anti-trafficking awareness raising activities and prevention publications were provided in schools and neighborhoods/villages at-risk. Protection services were provided to 1,229 children at-risk and victims of trafficking, and state authorities increased their involvement in child anti-trafficking policy by accompanying project staff on family visits.

The project to combat trafficking of women and girls awarded 23 prevention and reintegration grants to local and international NGOs, thus establishing at least one anti-trafficking activity in each of the country's 12 regions. Stakeholders came together during 18 bi-monthly RCG meetings, which were found to be useful by 85% of the RCG participants surveyed. Through its implementers, USAID reached 7,285 people with public awareness and education media campaigns, and 95 survivors of trafficking received services. Sixty-six officials were trained through the project.

By program completion, USAID's anti-trafficking assistance in Albania will have contributed to the increased capacity of a sustainable civil society and its efforts to counteract trafficking in persons. Both the number of social services providers and the quality of assistance to at-risk and former victims of trafficking will be improved, while the number of trafficked women and children should be reduced.

The Faith-based Initiative supported efforts of religious communities to expand opportunities for interfaith dialogue, particularly among youth. USAID organized the country's first-ever interfaith youth summer camp. The camp offered an exceptional opportunity for youth from the country's major religions to share experiences, learn about each other faiths, and discuss common ideas and concerns. Televised discussions to promote interfaith tolerance were organized and interfaith advisory committees were established in two target cities. By program completion, a dedicated cadre of religious leaders and activists will be in place and two mechanisms for continuing dialogue and cooperation will be established.

## US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Albania

182-0410 Special Initiatives	AEEB	ESF
<b>Through September 30, 2004</b>		
Obligations	40,253	11,880
Expenditures	35,393	11,880
Unliquidated	4,860	0
<b>Fiscal Year 2005</b>		
Obligations	3,616	0
Expenditures	3,383	0
<b>Through September 30, 2005</b>		
Obligations	43,869	11,880
Expenditures	38,776	11,880
Unliquidated	5,093	0
<b>Prior Year Unobligated Funds</b>		
Obligations	1,407	0
<b>Planned Fiscal Year 2006 NOA</b>		
Obligations	2,280	0
<b>Total Planned Fiscal Year 2006</b>		
Obligations	3,687	0
<b>Proposed Fiscal Year 2007 NOA</b>		
Obligations	1,843	0
Future Obligations	0	0
Est. Total Cost	49,399	11,880