

Capital: Chisinau
Population: 4.28 million (2001 est.)
GDP(current US\$): \$1,479 million (2001)
Population below national poverty line (2001) : 23.3%
GDP per capita (current US\$): \$407 (2002)
GDP per capita (purchasing power parity): \$2,500 (2002)
Religion: Eastern Orthodox 98%, Jewish, Baptist
Language: Romanian (official), Russian and Gagauz
President: Vladimir Voronin
Prime Minister: Vasile Tarlev
Ambassador to US: Mihai Manoli



National Interest: The United States has a national interest in ensuring security in Moldova and regional stability. The United States also has a national interest in strengthening democracy and a free market economy in Moldova, which until recently has been a model for reform for the former Soviet states. Moldova has been a strong supporter of the war on terrorism, granting the U.S. overflight rights and basing rights.

OVERVIEW OF USAID'S FOCUS IN MOLDOVA

FY03: Total FSA - \$29 million, USAID Total \$22million

Private Enterprise Development (FY03 \$16 million, 73%):

The USAID Private Enterprise Development program in Moldova is made up of two components: Energy and Telecom Activities, where the objective is to advance the process of regulatory and institutional reforms first undertaken by the Government of Moldova in 1997. The end goal of these reforms is to attract investment into the industry. The second component is Private Enterprise and Agricultural Activities. The activities under this goal include assisting the government in the generation of new jobs and higher income. Assistance focuses on improving agricultural production and distribution systems, expanding the role of small and medium enterprises in the Moldovan economy, restructuring strategic industries for sale to the private sector, and improving the country's investment climate.

Democratic Transition (FY03 \$4million, 18%): The USAID Democratic Transition program in Moldova is currently made up of the three components: technical assistance to local governments; improved municipal services; and more democratic governance. These activities are augmented by activities which aim to increase civil society participation. The Local Government Reform Project introduces community strategic planning, improving financial management, improving services, and increasing transparency and citizen participation. The Rule of Law Project continues to work with partners to advance the rule of law in Moldova through public advocacy.

Social Transition (FY03 \$2million, 9%)

The portion of USAID/Moldova's Social Transition Program funded with FREEDOM Support Act resources includes three components: humanitarian and social assistance; health partnerships and combating infectious diseases Tuberculosis (TB); and anti-trafficking of persons. The Mission's Hospital Partnership Program focuses on the provision of community-based primary health care services at model primary health care clinics. The Community and Humanitarian Assistance Program conducts deliveries of humanitarian assistance.

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