

Capital: Ankara
Population: 67.3 million (2002 est.)
Real annual GDP growth: 4.2%
Unemployment: 10.8% of labor force (2002 est.)
GDP per capita (current U.S.\$): \$2,610 (2002 est.), \$6,690 (2002, at PPP)
Religion: 99.8% Muslim, .2% Christian and Jewish
Language: Turkish (official), Greek, English
President: Ahmed Necdet Sezer
Prime Minister: Recep Tayyip Erdogan
Ambassador to U.S.: Faruk Logoglu



National Interest: Turkey is a vital strategic partner and NATO ally and occupies a strategic location between Eastern Europe, the Middle East, and the former Soviet Union. Turkey has been a critical ally in the global war on terrorism, in the aftermath of September 11, 2001. Turkey's policies and actions affect the resolution of a host of simmering regional conflicts, including Iraq, the Middle East, Cyprus, the Caucasus, and the Balkans.

OVERVIEW OF USAID FOCUS IN TURKEY

FY02: ESF \$200 million (minus parking fees)
 FY03: ESF \$0

Cash Transfer Program (FY 2002 ESF: \$200 million, 100%): In FY 2002, the U.S. provided \$200 million (minus parking fees) in Economic Support Fund (ESF) funds to offset the economic stress in Turkey that resulted from Turkey's support for combating international terrorism. The funds were used to service Turkey's debts to the United States and to international financial institutions, and to aid, thereby, its economic recovery. This assistance was a cash transfer program to Turkey, provided by the FY2002 Supplemental Appropriations Act for Further Recovery From and Response to Terrorist Attacks on the United States.

USAID/Washington: Nicholas Studzinski (202) 712-1601 Chief, Southern Europe Division
 Valerie Kwok, Alternate Desk Officer (202) 712-1116
 USAID website on Turkey: http://www.usaid.gov/locations/europe_eurasia/countries/tr