

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Kazakhstan
Program Title:	Strengthened Democratic Culture
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	115-0211
Status:	Continuing
Proposed FY 2003 Obligation:	\$5,750,000 FSA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$784,000 FSA
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$4,713,000 FSA
Year of Initial Obligation:	2001
Estimated Completion Date:	2005

Summary: USAID's Democracy Program in Kazakhstan strengthens democratic culture among citizens and target institutions by: 1) creating stronger, more sustainable civic organizations; 2) increasing availability of information on civic rights and public issues; 3) enhancing opportunities for citizen participation in governance; and 4) helping public institutions become more effective, responsive, and accountable. In an increasingly repressive environment, USAID quickly obligated supplemental funds to broaden its support of democratic activists, including additional support to political parties, human rights organizations, and civic activists. Prior year unobligated funds include \$370,000 of FY 2002 Supplemental - FSA/NIS.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2003 Program:

Political process and institutions (\$1,700,000 FSA). USAID will strengthen the canvassing and organizing skills of political parties, movements, and independent candidates. USAID's Local Government Initiative will strengthen think tanks, professional organizations, locally-elected councils, and others who advocate for decentralization. The judicial reform program will train judges on civil and criminal issues as well as disseminate judicial decisions. USAID will step up support to Kazakhstan's fledgling human rights organizations in order to bring more public understanding and awareness of abuses. USAID's legal reform program focuses on legal education and ethics. Principal implementing partners are: the American Bar Association's Central and East European Law Institute (ABA/CEELI) (prime), Urban Institute (prime), NDI (prime), and others to be determined through competition.

Civil society (\$2,001,000 FSA). USAID will continue support to two NGO partners to conduct up to four national advocacy campaigns. USAID will support seven civil society support centers (CSSCs), that provide training, technical support, information, networking, and professional services to non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Grants will be made to support grassroots community development, national advocacy, and institutional development. Training on advocacy and strategic planning will be provided to activists and NGOs. Principal implementing partners are: Counterpart (prime), the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (ICNL) (sub), NDI (prime), and others to be determined through competition.

Media and information (\$2,049,000 FSA). USAID will support training for 18 non-governmental television stations to improve quality, build financial stability, and editorial independence. A production fund will enable independent stations and production houses to produce local programming in the Kazakh language to fully comply with Kazakhstani law. A legal advisor will consult with media outlets to ensure that they are in compliance with the law. A print media advisor will continue to upgrade the quality of reporting. To combat trafficking in women, USAID will provide legal and policy advice to the Government and support 16 anti-trafficking hotlines and a nationwide awareness campaign. USAID will support reform of teaching methods to promote tolerance and democratic ideals from kindergarten through secondary school, roll out its civic education program for secondary schools, and support extracurricular activities.

Principal implementing partners are: Internews (prime), the International Center for Journalists (sub), Soros Foundation (prime), and others to be determined through competition.

FY 2004 Program:

Political process and institutions (\$1,461,030 FSA). USAID will continue to support political parties and movements that are committed to democracy. If elections are held in FY 2004, USAID's program will strengthen the capacity of political parties and citizens to participate in the process. USAID may expand its technical assistance and training to more local governments depending on commitment to greater decentralization at the national level. Judicial training may be expanded outside of Almaty and assistance to improve court administration may be provided. Protection of human rights will remain an important activity.

Civil society (\$1,366,770 FSA). Greater emphasis may be placed on strengthening the network of CSSCs, increasing local support, and membership and decreasing dependence on international organizations. Civic advocacy work will continue.

Media and information (\$1,885,200 FSA). USAID will continue its media support program to increase the quality of information available to the public. Anti-trafficking will remain a key component of USAID's Information Initiative. Youth will continue to be targeted through civic and democratic education programs as well as complementary activities for students.

Performance and Results: Despite a challenging environment, USAID successfully supported programs and met targets. USAID quickly obligated supplemental funds to deepen support of democratic activists, including additional support to political parties and civic activists. Supplemental funds reinforced a newly focused and expanded judicial and legal reform program and the next phase of USAID's local government assistance. USAID conducted introductory, multi-party training workshops that focused on organizational, strategic, and message development as a lead-up to an expanded political party program. USAID's training and technical assistance helped to raise the professionalism and financial independence of media outlets. RIKA TV, a provincial independent station and a recipient of USAID assistance, was recognized as best among all regional stations in the country. USAID assisted the National Association of Television and Radio Broadcasters with fundraising and development. Students are more aware of political and social issues and more active in solving social issues. To increase the availability of information, 23,980 students participated in USAID's civic education courses (exceeding our target by 20,000); 733 students participated in extra-curricular activities such as student local government days and democracy summer camps; and 350 schools used the USAID-funded civics textbook for 10th and 11th graders. Over 81,000 students participated in programs designed to develop more democratic teaching methods and increase parent involvement and student activism. USAID conducted a university-level anti-corruption course, which increased student awareness of corruption. Sixteen anti-trafficking hotlines and a widespread information campaign increased awareness about the ploys used by phony overseas companies to attract people into forced prostitution overseas. USAID supported the Youth Information Service of Kazakhstan (YISK) in its efforts against a Soviet-style draft law on youth. Opposition and pro-government faction deputies received YISK representatives very favorably, despite the government's public support for the draft law. Deputies invited YISK to participate in the parliamentary working committee to amend the law, assuring citizens a voice within the process. USAID supported the Republican Network of Independent Monitors (RNIM) to carry out a civic advocacy campaign on housing reform. RNIM gathered over 42,000 signatures in support of changes to the housing law. Housing managers and tenants have signed 279 "democratic contracts." By program's end, there will be stronger, more sustainable civic organizations, increased availability of information on civic rights and domestic public issues such as human rights and corruption, enhanced opportunities for citizen participation in governance, and more effective, responsive, and accountable public institutions.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Kazakhstan

115-0211 Strengthened Democratic Culture	FSA
Through September 30, 2001	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	0
Fiscal Year 2002*	
Obligations	5,900
Expenditures	1,619
Through September 30, 2002	
Obligations	5,900
Expenditures	1,619
Unliquidated	4,281
Prior Year Unobligated Funds**	
Obligations	784
Planned Fiscal Year 2003 NOA	
Obligations	5,750
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2003	
Obligations	6,534
Proposed Fiscal Year 2004 NOA	
Obligations	4,713
Future Obligations	0
Est. Total Cost	17,147

*Fiscal Year 2002 includes \$630,000 of FY 2002 Supplemental - FSA/NIS.

**Prior Year Unobligated Funds includes \$370,000 of FY 2002 Supplemental - FSA/NIS.