Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Tajikistan
Program Title:	Water and Energy
Pillar:	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Strategic Objective:	119-0161
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	$872,000 FSA
Prior Year Unobligated:	$700,000 FSA
Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:	$1,200,000 FSA
Year of Initial Obligation:	2001
Year of Final Obligation:	FY 2006

Summary: USAID's program to improve integrated water management includes several activities that focus on the irrigation system, which is vital to the economic development of the country. As the large infrastructure improvement programs funded by the 2002 supplemental money comes to an end, program emphasis will focus more on training, public outreach, policy reforms, and the promotion of demonstration projects that have been completed during the past two years of a natural resource management program. During FY 2004, USAID will launch a robust program of assistance to water user associations (WUAs). In energy, USAID is assisting the Government of Tajikistan and other stakeholders in the process of developing a national energy policy and associated implementation strategies. USAID is also implementing pilot demonstration projects of energy efficiency models.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

Water User Association Support ($872,000 FSA, $600,000 FSA carryover). Building on the efforts of the past two years, USAID will broaden and strengthen its assistance to newly formed water user associations (WUAs) in Tajikistan. Although some WUAs do exist, generally, they are weak and require assistance to become sustainable. The goal of the program is to transfer management of irrigation water systems and associated practices from the central government to the user. To do this, the program will: develop irrigation system demonstration models and/or techniques that use water more efficiently; promote and stimulate WUA policy and procedural reforms and replications of demonstration models and training; conduct public outreach campaigns and training to promote replication of WUAs to donors, international financial institutions, NGOs, citizens, and local and state government agencies; and implement a competitive small grants program to assist WUAs. Types of assistance supported by the small grants program might include purchase of field or office equipment, infrastructure repair, and/or training. The WUA program will result in improvements in water efficiency, transparency in allocations, stronger democratic local water management institutions, and cost recovery schemes that generate funds from users for system operation and maintenance. Principal contractor/grantee: PA Government Services and another to be determined.

Assistance to the Energy Sector ($100,000 FSA carryover).

Pilot Agricultural Enterprise and Agricultural Growth Models ($0 FSA). Agriculture is vital to the economy and social well-being of the people of Tajikistan. The agricultural sector is by far the largest employer (70%) and a major source of exports and government revenue. However, the sector is not growing quickly enough to meet the employment demand and income expectations of the population, and there are numerous constraints to privatization of farms and other agricultural small and medium enterprises (SME). The program will test and demonstrate models that will: result in improved production and incomes for agricultural SME's (including farms); demonstrate the efficacy of market-led approaches that target value-added products and include elements that reach up to processors or export markets and down to farms; work primarily in the area of horticulture and link with other ongoing or planned USAID

activities, including those related to land reform, water, and business support services; and strive for replication of demonstration models and promotion of lessons learned from the demonstration models. Principal contractor/grantee: to be determined.

FY 2005 Program:
Water User Association Support ($1,200,000 FSA). USAID will continue working to support Water User Associations in order to increase their capacity to manage water on the local level and to enact practices that are based on democratic principles. In the second year of the program it is anticipated that more of the project resources will be used in the grants component so that WUA groups can better put into practice the training programs presented in the first year. The implementers will remain the same as in FY 2004. Principal contractor/grantee: PA Government Services and another to be determined.

Performance and Results: USAID's performance in the water sector has resulted in several significant achievements over the past two years. Following the transfer of computers to both the central office and field offices of the Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources, USAID conducted an intensive program to train and up-grade the skills of staff within the Ministry. As a result, the staff is using the equipment on a daily basis to collect, store, and exchange water data. In addition, installation and training of an appropriate radio communication system is enabling Ministry staff to improve data monitoring and water allocation decisions, critical to improving the management of water resources.

During FY 2003, using supplemental funding, USAID rehabilitated and provided new pumps, motors, and electrical systems to nine key irrigation pumping stations that serve approximately 20,000 hectares or a population of approximately 60,000 to 70,000 people. The additional water made available from this assistance has helped to minimize under-irrigation and has brought some land back into production. This is a significant step toward increasing crop yields, a direct benefit to farmers and an impetus to economic growth within the target areas.

USAID has also assisted the Tajikistan weather and water forecasting agency to improve the collection, analysis, and exchange of data critical to water resource management. Nine weather and river flow stations have been installed, including five in high altitude regions, to help improve the collection of vital water and weather data for the country. Of particular note is the installation of a meteorological station at the Fedchenko Glacier, located at over 4,000 meters in the remote Pamir Mountains, 500 kilometers from Dushanbe. This site is very important in determining water flows, including flood forecasting, for the entire Central Asian Region. Installing a station at such an altitude presented some unusual challenges that were overcome with the help of President Rakhmanov himself. USAID has made good progress in linking the nine stations into a central network to improve the quality of data collection and to better analyze water and weather data. This resulting information is supplied to other public entities for multiple uses, including weather predictions and water allocation decisions. The information is also being shared with neighboring countries, fostering water and energy cooperation and mitigating potential conflicts.

By program completion, selected irrigation facilities will be upgraded and demonstration models for improved irrigation system management will be in place. Specialists will be trained in effective use and replication of model systems. Improved means of collecting, analyzing, and transmitting weather and water resources data will also be implemented. Finally, a greater number of water user associations will be in place and operating in a more favorable legislative environment.