

Tajikistan

The Development Challenge: The continuing instability in Afghanistan and the ongoing war on terrorism have spotlighted Tajikistan as a key U.S. ally in this isolated region of the world. Long noted as the poorest country to gain independence of the former Soviet Union, Tajikistan is using increased donor assistance to address the most pressing needs of its people. While economic growth in 2002 was 9.1% and has held steady at 7.9% for the first 10 months of 2003, 83% of the population still lives below the poverty line, with 18.6% of the urban and 23.4% of the rural population in extreme poverty. A national nutritional survey undertaken this year found that 4.7% of children under five years of age suffer from acute malnutrition and that 36.2% are affected by chronic malnutrition. Primary school enrollment has slipped to 88.4% overall, with girls affected most seriously. The agricultural sector, which employs over 60% of the population, is seriously constrained by the country's deteriorated irrigation infrastructure, a poorly executed program of land privatization, and a lack of quality inputs and financial capital for farmers. Thus far, the government has not been able to establish the rule of law sufficiently to attract the domestic and foreign investment needed to spur economic growth. The situation is worsened by poor public sector salaries and weak government institutions that have fostered a culture of corruption, earning Tajikistan a ranking of 128th out of 133 countries assessed by Transparency International. Narcotics trafficking remains a significant problem, as heroin producers in Afghanistan use Tajikistan as a primary transit route for exports to Russia and Europe. Neighboring Uzbekistan continues to severely restrict movement across its border, effectively shutting off much of Tajikistan's international trade. The country is also heavily burdened by a crushing external debt of almost \$1.05 billion, or 78% of GDP, owed mostly to Russia and Uzbekistan. Despite the problems it faces, the Government of Tajikistan (GOT) has been energized by increased support from the donor community and is moving on a broad front to complete the transition to a market economy and meet social sector needs. This includes legislative and regulatory reforms in the areas of banking supervision, tax administration, commercial law, and the judiciary needed to improve the quality and honesty of governance and fight corruption. The Government is also increasing public spending on health and education and is making fundamental reforms in how these services are provided and financed.

The USAID program directly supports the GOT's reform agenda. It advances U.S. national interests to stem drug trafficking and promote political and social stability through democratic and economic reform, improved quality of life, and enhanced productive capacity of the Tajik people.

The USAID Program: The Program Data Sheets provided below cover seven strategic objectives for which USAID is requesting funds. These seven objectives promote reforms and training that foster the growth of small and medium enterprises, promote civil society and expand access to information, improve primary health care and prevent infectious disease, encourage better use of the region's water and energy resources, improve primary education, and mitigate or prevent conflict. The design of this program is effectively building both public and private capacity to develop and implement public policies and reforms, particularly in the area of economic reform and regional trade, as well as at the local level where we are re-establishing links between communities and local government. Such efforts are critical to our success in a country where neither businesses and communities nor government structures are accustomed to working together to address development needs. FY 2004 funds will be used to implement the program as currently planned and previously described in the FY 2004 Congressional Budget Justification, including cross-cutting objectives in youth, gender, anti-corruption, and rule of law. The specific activities to be funded by FY 2004 and FY 2005 appropriations are described in more detail in the following Program Data Sheets.

USAID expanded new activities in Tajikistan, including: fiscal reform, banking supervision, microfinance development, World Trade Organization (WTO) accession activities, customs reforms, identification and removal of investment constraints, restoration of primary irrigation infrastructure, and civic education; and initiated new activities relating to local government, maternal and child health/reproductive health, drug demand reduction, and basic education.

Other Program Elements: With funding from USAID's Child Survival Matching Grant program, a very successful primary and reproductive health care activity is continuing in the isolated and under-served

Penjikent District, which is cut off from the rest of Tajikistan by the closed Uzbekistan border to the east and mountain passes to the north and south that are closed six months per year. USAID's Office of Food for Peace has provided essential support for the World Food Program's school feeding and other vulnerable group feeding programs using P.L. 480 Title II resources. The Farmer-to-Farmer Program, also financed through P.L. 480 and managed by USAID's Bureau for Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade, has actively supported agriculture-related SME development efforts in Tajikistan. USAID's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance is also undertaking a new regional earthquake preparedness project that will target Dushanbe, Tajikistan; Almaty, Kazakhstan; and Tashkent, Uzbekistan. The Departments of Commerce, Defense, Agriculture, and State also manage programs complementary to USAID field activities in various sectors.

Other Donors: The U.S. Government is the largest bilateral donor, providing assistance through USAID, the State Department, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and others. The second largest bilateral donor is Japan, which provides assistance for rehabilitation of the agricultural sector, and food security and poverty reduction programs through international NGOs. The European Union has re-established its Technical Assistance for the Commonwealth of Independent States as well as a new Food Security program. These programs complement the European Union's continuing humanitarian assistance program funded through the European Community Humanitarian Office. Other bilateral donors include Switzerland, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Norway, Sweden, and the United Kingdom. The long-established Swiss program is closely coordinated with the USAID effort, particularly in the areas of regional water programs, WTO accession, and judicial reform. Similarly, USAID has worked in close partnership with the newly arrived Swedes and Canadians to ensure close coordination as they design their programs. The largest non-state donor is the Aga Khan Development Network which supports a number of economic development activities throughout the country. Multilateral donors include the World Bank (health reform and private sector development), the Asian Development Bank (ADB) (social service sector rehabilitation, transportation, irrigation, and hydroelectric generation), Islamic Development Bank (road construction, energy sector rehabilitation, and school and irrigation rehabilitation), and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (telecommunications, airport navigation, and microfinance). USAID works closely with the ADB and the World Bank in a number of areas, but particularly in microfinance, irrigation rehabilitation, health care reform, and basic education.

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Tajikistan
Program Title:	Small and Medium Sized Enterprises
Pillar:	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Strategic Objective:	119-0131
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$5,000,000 FSA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$974,000 FSA
Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:	\$4,700,000 FSA
Year of Initial Obligation:	2001
Year of Final Obligation:	FY 2006

Summary: USAID's program to improve the environment for the growth of small/medium enterprises (SMEs) includes training and technical assistance to increase opportunities to acquire business information, knowledge, and skills; support more responsive financial institutions, instruments, and markets; and improve the implementation of laws and regulations.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

Business Skills and Information (\$1,076,000 FSA, \$231,922 FSA carryover). USAID's Enterprise Development Project (EDP) will deliver business and trade advisory services to 120 clients near Dushanbe and Khujand and foster trade links with businesses in Afghanistan. On average, it is expected that client sales and productivity will increase by 18% and 10%, respectively. In addition, the project will train, test, and certify accountants in International Accounting Standards (IAS). Approximately 125 Tajik accountants will earn the Certified Accounting Practitioner designation and an additional 25 will earn the advanced Certified International Professional Accountant designation. An IAS curriculum will be implemented in higher education institutions. Principal contractor/grantee: Pragma Corporation.

To improve the quality of business and economics education, USAID will provide support to strengthen the quality of higher education, thereby better preparing youth to participate in a market economy. The program will train professors in modern business and economics and work with administrators at universities to build capacity and develop economics and business programs that meet international standards. USAID, in partnership with Junior Achievement International (JAI), will provide business and economics training to teachers and build administrative capacity in the JAI local chapter. Principal contractors/grantees: Carana Corporation (prime) and JAI (prime).

Access to Capital (\$1,733,000 FSA, \$642,002 FSA carryover). USAID will support microfinance institutions through technical advice and lending capital, particularly in underserved, agricultural areas. USAID will partner with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development's (EBRD) Micro and Small Enterprise Finance Facility to train loan officers that manage credit lines of \$7 million. Principal contractors/grantees: Agricultural Cooperative Development International/Volunteers for Overseas Cooperative Assistance (prime) and EBRD (prime).

Improve the Implementation of Laws and Regulations (\$2,191,000 FSA, \$100,000 FSA carryover). USAID's Trade Facilitation and Investment project will work with associations and the government to improve the legal and regulatory environment for businesses, particularly in the Ferghana Valley, where customs and administrative barriers severely inhibit the flow of trade between the countries that share the valley. Assistance in support of World Trade Organization accession will continue with the provision of expertise for the development of a new, compliant customs code. Principal contractor/grantee: Pragma Corporation.

Work with the National Bank will concentrate on implementing the Basel Core Principles, which will strengthen supervision and reliability of the banking system. USAID will continue to institute the bank supervision system and to train bank staff. Assistance to the Ministry of State Revenues and Duties (MSRD) to develop a Central Taxpayer Registration system for a new, national taxpayer register will continue and form the basis of tax accounting and compliance control. USAID will fund a macroeconomic advisor to the President's State Advisor to improve the budgeting process and allocation of scarce public investment funds. Principal contractor/grantee: BearingPoint (prime).

USAID will continue training programs for the Tajik judiciary in commercial, civil, and criminal law. These programs foster the development of local training capacity, thereby creating the basis for self-sustaining programs and ongoing institutional development. Assistance in developing commercial law will continue as USAID collaborates with government working groups on drafting a new pledge law and franchising law. Additionally, USAID will provide limited technical assistance to promote land reform, particularly to strengthen leasing arrangements. Principal contractor/grantee: Associates in Rural Development, Inc./Checchi.

FY 2005 Program:

Business Skills and Information (\$1,400,000 FSA). The EDP will continue to deliver advisory services and training, focusing on the implementation of IAS in client businesses. Improving agribusiness in the Ferghana Valley and trade links with neighboring countries, including Afghanistan, will be a priority. Principal contractor/grantee: Pragma Corporation.

Access to Capital (\$1,780,000 FSA). Assistance to microfinance institutions will build their capacity to provide services on a sustainable basis. Work with the National Bank will further implement Basel Core Principles to improve supervisory capabilities, including support for the adoption and implementation of compliant legislation. Principal contractor/grantee: BearingPoint.

Improve the Implementation of Laws and Regulations (\$1,520,000 FSA). Assistance for World Trade Organization accession will continue as well as efforts to strengthen partnerships between the government and the business community, as a way of improving the policy and legal conditions for businesses. Efforts to improve cross-border trade in the Ferghana Valley also will continue. Depending on resource levels, USAID may continue a regional land reform project, which provides legal assistance to farmers, enabling them to better exercise and protect their land rights. Principal contractor/grantee: Pragma Corporation.

Performance and Results: USAID activities achieved important results in FY 2003. USAID secured approval from the Ministry of Education and the rectors of business universities to introduce USAID-developed IAS courses. This represents a major step forward in developing the next generation of accountants. USAID worked with the Ministry of State Revenues and Duties to develop a new Central Taxpayer Registration system, which will form the basis of tax accounting and compliance control. This important achievement is the first step in actually implementing a taxpayer service unit and developing a single taxpayer identification number that integrates tax registration with that of the social fund and customs procedures. USAID assisted the National Bank of Tajikistan to complete the first implementation phase of FinA (financial analysis) banking supervisory software, a system previously implemented in Kyrgyzstan. The new system will establish a regulatory and reporting framework, enabling the National Bank to recognize potential problems in the banking system before they arise. After conducting a trade mission in May 2003, the EDP project facilitated its first trade deal between Tajik and Afghan businesses. The deal was completed in October 2003 and involved an Afghan builder who purchased \$75,000 in lumber.

Entrepreneurs are currently being introduced to a wide array of modern business methods and practices, which will provide the basis for sustained economic growth in Tajikistan. By the end of the strategic objective, it is expected that microfinance, trade promotion, a modern legal and regulatory environment, the adoption of international accounting standards, and accession to the WTO will expand entrepreneurial opportunities and competitiveness.

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.

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Tajikistan
Program Title:	Democratic Culture and Institutions
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	119-0211
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$5,364,000 FSA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$315,000 ESF; \$62,000 FSA
Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:	\$4,800,000 FSA
Year of Initial Obligation:	2001
Year of Final Obligation:	FY 2006

Summary: In Tajikistan, USAID's democracy program promotes stronger and more sustainable civic organizations, increases the availability of information, enhances citizen participation opportunities, and helps public institutions become more effective, responsive, and accountable.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

Accountable Public Institutions (\$1,484,072 FSA). USAID's local government program will assist a Presidential Working Group develop a decentralization strategy by finalizing draft laws on Local State Powers and Self-Management Bodies in Settlements and Villages. USAID will develop municipal management training modules and provide social partnership grants. Equipping law students to advocate for clients' rights, fairly prosecute criminals, or properly adjudicate cases will be the focus of USAID's legal efforts. USAID will issue an RFA for legal education reform and continue efforts to create an independent judiciary. Principal contractors/grantees: Associates in Rural Development, Inc./Checchi (prime), the Urban Institute (prime), and others to be determined.

Civic Organizations (\$1,228,919 FSA). USAID will continue to support a national resource center network that will conduct trainings and provide legal consultations to NGOs. Additionally, the network will distribute advocacy grants to local communities. Institutional grants also will be given to NGOs in certain sectors to strengthen their institutional capacity and assist them in becoming leading NGOs in their respective sectors (gender, youth, environment, and civic rights). Advocacy work will continue to focus on a better legal environment for NGOs. Principal contractors/grantees: International Research and Exchange Board (prime), the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (sub), and Partners for Democratic Change (sub).

Citizen Participation (\$788,426 FSA). USAID will issue RFAs for its political party and civic advocacy activities. These programs will promote the development of political parties and activate civic advocacy organizations in conjunction with upcoming elections in 2005 and 2006. Principal contractors/grantees: to be determined.

Media and Information (\$1,862,583 FSA, \$62,363 FSA carryover). USAID is seeking implementers for its media program, a main feature of which is the development of an independent television station network to promote sharing of information and services. USAID will provide the network with training and technical assistance and perhaps transmitters to broaden outreach. Since informing the public about the risks and dangers associated with human trafficking is the cornerstone of USAID's trafficking strategy in Tajikistan, public service announcements, brochures, talk shows, radio call-in programs, and a mobile theater will be used to alert citizens to the grave consequences of the issue. USAID will continue to pilot its civic education textbook in Russian and Tajik and develop a second edition. Principal contractors/grantees: International Organization for Migration (prime), the International Foundation for Election Systems (prime), and others to be determined.

FY 2005 Program:

Accountable Public Institutions (\$1,124,474 FSA). Legal education will continue to be the primary focus of USAID's legal reform efforts through support for clinical education, extra-curricular activities to improve students' advocacy and leadership skills, ethics training, and curriculum reform. USAID's judicial reform program will train judges on international and domestic laws, promote the importance of judicial ethics, and increase judges' access to information. USAID's local government initiative will present new training modules related to citizen involvement, the role of local councils, local governance basics, and capital investment planning. Principal contractors/grantees: Urban Institute and others to be determined.

Civic Organizations (\$1,207,167 FSA). USAID will continue its support to the Network of Civil Society Support Centers (CSSCs) by providing a full-range of services to indigenous civil society organizations. By 2005, USAID will decide whether to shift from supporting the U.S.-based implementing partner or directly supporting the local CSSCs' association. Training will focus on institutional capacity-building and financial management. USAID will provide training and services to indigenous NGOs so that these organizations can serve as advocates for reforms. USAID will provide institutional grant funds to NGOs working with youth, civic rights, and environmental issues. A cadre of local professional lawyers will continue to provide legal services to NGOs. Principal contractors/grantees: IREX (prime), the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (sub), and Partners for Democratic Change (sub).

Citizen Participation (\$649,198 FSA). Political party work will prepare registered parties for elections and facilitate public forums for party representatives to articulate their positions. Civic advocacy work will attempt to energize citizens to advocate for their personal and collective interests. Principal contractors/grantees: to be determined.

Media and Information (\$1,819,161 FSA). USAID will increase its focus on independent radio stations and newspapers, since these outlets reach a large portion of the population and have not received much donor support. USAID will continue its support to the independent television network. Through television, radio, newspapers, roundtables, trainings, and conferences, USAID will continue educating the Tajik public about human trafficking. USAID's civic education efforts will focus on helping the Ministry of Education to include the course into the official curriculum. Principal contractors/grantees: International Foundation for Election Systems and others to be determined.

Performance and Results: The June referendum, which made over 30 amendments to the Constitution, was a litmus test for political motivation in the country. While debate took place between political parties months before the referendum, these discussions attracted little public interest and the flawed nature of the actual referendum met with little public outcry. The ability of the present government to push through the referendum without much opposition does not bode well for the development of a pluralist system or a transfer of power. The new constitution could allow the President to stay in power for another 16 years.

USAID's local government implementer is working with the newly-formed Presidential Working Group to draft local government legislation, which will replace the old Soviet-style centralized governance structure. USAID's civic education textbook is lauded by the Ministry of Education and strongly endorsed by the opposition. Moreover, students and teachers embraced the program wholeheartedly. On the media front, a new independent radio station went on the air in Dushanbe, four years after it first applied for a license.

While USAID experienced mixed results with its programs during FY 2003, there are opportunities for progress. USAID and its partners must seek out ways to energize citizens to advocate for democratic processes and institutions. By program's end, there will be stronger and more sustainable civic organizations; increased availability of information on civic rights and domestic public issues; enhanced opportunities for citizen participation in governance; and more effective, responsive, and accountable public institutions.

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Tajikistan
Program Title:	Conflict Prevention
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	119-0240
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$1,801,000 FSA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:	\$800,000 FSA
Year of Initial Obligation:	2004
Year of Final Obligation:	2006

Summary: Conflict prevention strengthens vulnerable communities and eases local tensions through public dialogue and improvement of small-scale social and physical infrastructure. Through this approach, USAID is addressing both the root and immediate causes of potential conflict through its conflict prevention objective. Since many conflicts in Central Asia have arisen at the community (rather than international) level and our ability to change structural factors at the national level is limited, USAID's conflict prevention strategy focuses on giving citizens opportunities to participate in decisions that affect their communities, improve living standards, and provide skills and experience that will diminish the potential for conflict. Community action programs, targeted where risks of communal or religious conflicts are greatest, are designed to increase citizen participation in community decision making and local government, and contribute to mitigating sources of conflict by promoting economic recovery and inter-ethnic cooperation. In Tajikistan, conflict prevention activities are focused in the Rasht Valley, southern Khatlon and Sogd, regions which have been identified as being at greater risk for conflict. Conflict prevention activities began in FY 2002 under the Mission's cross-cutting program, and have been reported up to now as a component under SO 4.2. Since the conflict program will become a special objective in FY 2004, it is being notified separately for FY 2004 funding.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

Conflict Prevention (\$1,801,000 FSA). Conflict prevention activities in Tajikistan will expand to 171 communities in Khatlon Province and Rasht Valley. USAID will continue to focus on coordination with other partners to address issues of unemployment (especially among urban youth), with a new component directly targeted at businesses whose growth will serve the entire target community, thereby alleviating economic tension. As a result of a mid-term evaluation of the program a number of adjustments in program implementation will be made including: more directly discussing and addressing issues of conflict in communities; placing a greater emphasis on social projects and activities to be done in conjunction with infrastructure projects; and making a greater effort to involve women and youth. Principal contractors/grantees: Mercy Corps, the United Nations Development Program, the Aga Khan Foundation, and others to be determined through competition.

FY 2005 Program:

Conflict Prevention (\$800,000 FSA). By 2005, USAID will be nearing the end of its engagement with some of its initial conflict prevention sites. In the more recently targeted areas, where conflict vulnerability is likely to be much higher, economic activities and community-based infrastructure and social events will continue to help communities draw youth away from the attraction of violent and extremist organizations and manipulation by elites. The majority of USAID's conflict prevention activities in Central Asia in 2005 and beyond will focus on Tajikistan. The number of total beneficiaries is expected to reach 343,000 in 2005. Principal contractors/grantees: to be determined through competition.

Performance and Results: Tajikistan's conflict prevention activities are focused in the south, where tensions run especially high because of closed international borders that restrict trade; disputes that have

resulted from recent land reform measures; a general lack of information and government control of media; unemployment; manipulation by dities; and the general sorts of issues that arise in any ethnic salad bowl such as the Ferghana Valley. During FY 2003, USAID was active in 194 communities in Tajikistan, including many in the Ferghana Valley border region. More than 200 small infrastructure and social engagement projects have been completed (139 in fiscal year 2003), benefiting more than 150,000 people. Examples of conflict prevention activities undertaken by USAID include the organization of a sports ground located between three ethnically-different and unfriendly villages in Shartuz in South-Western Khatlon Province; construction of a small primary school in a mountain village in Garm, Rasht Valley, where children previously attended an over-crowded school in a neighboring village, a situation that had caused resentment among parents; and construction of a water supply system in Sari Pul and Kalaka in Garm, where last year there were two conflicts involving members of both communities over the lack of access to water. In each incident, persons from both sides incurred injuries during the violent clashes. With the implementation of the project almost complete, community members from both Sari Pul and Kalaka have not only settled their differences but also are working side-by-side to install the water system.

Attitudinal polling began in FY 2003, providing baseline data for levels of trust within and between communities and residents' perceptions of local tension. A recent mid-term project evaluation of USAID's conflict prevention program states that, in general, USAID is helping to realize a stronger social fabric in these communities. By program's end, there will be an increased number of communities reporting lessened tension or resolved conflicts, strengthened community participation, and improved local services through community decisions.

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Tajikistan
Program Title:	Health and Population
Pillar:	Global Health
Strategic Objective:	119-0320
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$4,610,000 FSA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$1,254,000 FSA
Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:	\$4,700,000 FSA
Year of Initial Obligation:	2001
Year of Final Obligation:	FY 2006

Summary: USAID's quality primary health care (PHC) objective aims to create a higher quality, cost-effective PHC system in pilot sites by improving health education, awarding local NGOs small grants for health projects, retraining doctors and nurses in family medicine, improving care of pregnant women and their children, preventing and treating child malnutrition, implementing incentive-based provider payment systems, reducing conflict through youth sports and health education projects, assisting in malaria control, controlling tuberculosis (TB), and containing the HIV epidemic among injecting drug users.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

Increase Quality of Primary Health Care (\$\$1,023,379 FSA, \$566,767 FSA carryover). USAID will continue health education campaigns and train PHC staff on health promotion, award local NGOs small grants, prepare family medicine trainers for regional training centers, provide family medicine training to more doctors, strengthen rational drug use through a new drug information center, establish more hospital pharmacy committees, and implement evidence-based protocols and new hospital and PHC financing and health information systems in pilot sites. New partnerships will improve pre-service medical education and strengthen nursing leadership. Principal contractors/grantees: Abt Associates (prime), American International Health Alliance (prime), Counterpart Consortium (prime), and new partners to be determined.

Improve Maternal and Child Health Services (\$986,621 FSA, \$27,854 FSA carryover). USAID will continue to: mobilize community groups, emphasizing men's and youth groups, advocate for safe motherhood and child health; create village pharmacies and revolving drug funds; establish additional health facilities; and certify baby-friendly hospitals. Local trainers will assume training responsibilities. A situation analysis on policy issues will begin with contraceptive security. Child screening and malnutrition referrals will continue near the Afghan border. USAID's cross-border Sports and Health Education Program will expand to school camps, health education, and school improvement projects. Principal contractors/grantees: Abt Associates (prime), Action Against Hunger (prime), and Project HOPE (prime).

Control TB and Other Infectious Diseases (\$650,000 FSA, \$179,466 FSA carryover). USAID will launch a new, five-year TB Control Program to strengthen surveillance, lab quality, and rational drug management; expand the Directly Observed Treatment, Short-course approach; and integrate TB control into reformed health systems. Coordination among health and penal systems and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB, and Malaria (GFATM) partners will improve. The Applied Epidemiology Program will continue. Principal contractors/grantees: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) (prime) and a new partner to be determined.

Prevent the Spread of HIV/AIDS (\$1,950,000 FSA, \$480,203 FSA carryover). CDC will establish HIV sentinel surveillance. USAID's new HIV/AIDS prevention activity will help NGOs expand service coverage of high risk groups, develop protocols to assist with antiretroviral use and treatment for opportunistic infections, and improve counseling and testing services. Social marketing of safe practices

will continue. USAID will supplement the Government of Tajikistan's grant from the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria (GFATM). USAID's drug demand reduction program will begin full-scale activities to reduce demand for illegal drugs, including creating youth centers, training journalists and narcologists, providing outreach to schools and community organizations, and connecting groups at risk to needed services. Principal contractors/grantees: CDC (prime) Population Services International (prime), Open Society Institute (OSI)/Kazakhstan (prime), and a new partner to be determined.

FY 2005 Program:

Increase the Quality of Primary Health Care (\$1,742,120 FSA). USAID will award a new contract to broaden health education efforts, and expand health finance and information systems to a regional level. USAID will continue family medicine training of trainers, pharmacy activities, small grants to health sector NGOs, and partnership work. Principal contractors/grantees: same as above.

Improve Maternal and Child Health Services (\$660,000 FSA). USAID will expand project activities to more districts, doubling the number of beneficiaries. Based on lessons learned during phase one, phase two will accelerate health provider training, community grants and mobilization activities and policy advocacy. USAID will expand certification of baby friendly hospitals, village pharmacies, revolving drug funds, and health facilities to new districts. Opportunities to link community mobilization and grant activities with prenatal care and screening and referral of malnourished children will be pursued. USAID's cross-border Sports and Health Education Project will conduct more School Camps. Principal contractors/grantees: Project HOPE (prime) and Abt Associates.

Control TB and Other Infectious Diseases (\$797,880 FSA). USAID will: train specialists in surveillance and diagnostics; train oblast monitoring teams and PHC doctors on TB diagnosis and community treatment; and continue Applied Epidemiology training. Principal contractors/grantees: same as above.

Prevent the Spread of HIV/AIDS (\$1,500,000 FSA). USAID will continue establishing HIV/AIDS surveillance systems, improving lab diagnostics, funding HIV/AIDS NGOs' prevention programs, and assisting the government to implement GFATM. USAID will continue grants to NGOs to provide drug use alternatives and improve services to those at risk of or seeking to end drug use. Assessments will lead to introduction in of successful models from other countries engaged in drug demand reduction to Tajikistan. Principal contractors/grantees: CDC (prime), Open Society Institute/Kazakhstan, and a new partner to be determined.

Performance and Results: USAID significantly expanded programs in maternal and child /reproductive health, drug abuse prevention and small grants. The Family Medicine Clinical Training Center enrolled 20 doctors in a course to become family medicine trainers. Hospital and PHC clinic financing systems are underway in five sites. Under-equipped PHC clinics welcomed the U.S. Department of State's infusion of medicines, supplies and equipment. With USAID assistance, the \$16 million donation reached 60 PHC clinics. USAID's new maternal child/health activity established 200 village committees to advocate for health priorities and health facilities, involving food-for-work brigades. USAID supported 37,000 screenings of children below age five to find and refer 105 severely-malnourished and 1,286 moderately-malnourished children. The GFATM awarded Tajikistan \$1,521,040 for AIDS and \$3,071,150 to fight TB. Pilot monitoring results show that TB labs' and facilities' average scores on minimum standards checklists exceeded expectations at 96.5% for labs (65% target) and 76.1% for facilities (75% target).

With successful completion of this SO, Tajikistan will have a health finance and health information system in two oblasts, a country-wide family medicine retraining system in place, a coordinated comprehensive HIV/AIDS program that includes prevention, care, and treatment, and a TB control program firmly launched.

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Tajikistan
Program Title:	Improved Quality of and Access to Basic Education
Pillar:	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Strategic Objective:	119-0340
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$300,000 FSA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:	\$130,000 FSA
Year of Initial Obligation:	2004
Year of Final Obligation:	FY 2006

Summary: The USAID Basic Education Sector Strengthening Program began its activities with supplemental funding in FY 2003 under the cross-cutting strategic objective. In FY 2004, basic education will become a separate strategic objective. In Tajikistan, the program is focused on primary education (grades 1-4), and covers aspects such as improving in-service teacher training; increasing parent and community involvement in schools; strengthening institutional, management, and technical capacity at all levels of the educational system; and improving school infrastructure. The program is implemented through two principal agreements: Participation, Education, And Knowledge Strengthening (PEAKS) and Improving Basic Education in Tajikistan (IBET). During the course of FY 2004, smaller-scale initiatives will be funded to complement the existing activities and maximize impact of the USAID program throughout the basic education sector. A mid-term assessment to be conducted in 2004 will help identify areas of focus for a possible three to five year extension of the USAID basic education program after the expiration of the principal agreement (FY 2006).

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

Implement In-Service Teacher Training (\$100,000 FSA, \$245,000 FSA carryover). USAID will continue training and capacity building activities for teachers at an expanded number of sites, including the pilot schools and surrounding cluster schools identified during the first year of this strategic objective. Teacher training activities will complement the existing basic education programs, such as PEAKS and the Sports and Health Education Program (SHEP). Training will strengthen teachers' skills in pedagogy, and development of curricula and learning materials to help them achieve better student performance results. Teachers will also receive printed materials on best international teaching methodologies. Principal contractors/grantees: Academy for Educational Development (prime), Aga Khan Foundation (prime), Open Society Institute (sub), and Save the Children/U.K. (sub).

Increase Involvement of Parents and Community in Schools (\$170,000 FSA, \$436,316 FSA carryover). Partnerships between schools, parents, and community will be strengthened to improve local support for schools and enhance parents' role as monitors of educational quality. USAID will continue capacity building of Community Education Committees and a variety of activities will be carried out to complement the existing program and increase access of marginalized children to quality primary education. Schools will continue to receive assistance in infrastructure rehabilitation. Whenever possible, USAID will look for possibilities of cooperation with other donors, including the U.N. Children's Fund, World Bank, and Asian Development Bank. Principal contractors/grantees: Academy for Educational Development (prime), Open Society Institute (sub), Save the Children/U.K. (sub), and Save the Children/U.S. (sub).

Strengthen Management Capacity in the Education Sector (\$30,000 FSA, \$83,000 FSA carryover). School administrators and local-level education authorities will receive training in effective school management and strategic planning. Efforts will be made to improve financing policies in the education sector and promote well-designed decentralization. Principal contractors/grantees: Academy for Educational Development (prime), Aga Khan Foundation (prime), and Abt Associates (sub).

FY 2005 Program:

Implement In-Service Teacher Training Activities (\$40,000 FSA). USAID plans to continue training of trainer models on best international methodologies at a large number of sites to increase the reach of basic education activities. Depending on needs identified in the initial program's mid-term assessment, teacher training activities may begin to address more specific needs and content areas. In Tajikistan, literacy appears to be a special problem that may need additional focus. Teaching materials may be distributed on interactive teaching techniques that stimulate learning and result in better student performance. Principal contractors/grantees: same as above.

Increase Parent and Community Involvement in Education (\$75,000 FSA). USAID plans to strengthen parent-teacher partnerships in education decision-making that can result in a wide range of activities in support of schools, including collaborative efforts on school infrastructure rehabilitation, management of non-budgetary funding in schools, and inclusion of out-of-school children in the education system. Work with communities will also focus on sharing best practices in community approaches among communities and with education managers to encourage greater acceptance for an enhanced parent/community role. Principal contractors/grantees: same as above.

Strengthen Management Capacity in the Education Sector (\$15,000 FSA). USAID envisions that policy dialogue initiated during the current three-year activity will result in policy pilots where new education finance strategies can be brought to scale. USAID plans to continue capacity building for educators at the community level along with institutional and structural improvements at the national level. Regional events to share experiences with education finance reform between countries will lead to new pilot activities. Principal contractors/grantees: same as above.

Other activities will address the needs identified in the planned FY 2004 mid-term assessment.

Performance and Results: Targeting an initial twenty primary schools, training of trainer activities started during the summer of 2003, introducing modern teaching methodologies for the first time to 362 teachers of primary grades. Supporting this training program, 22 Community Education Committees have been formed by the two principal implementers at the pilot schools to build partnerships between the school and the community. Over 200 school administrators and education authorities received initial training on effective school management and strategic planning. Seventeen pilot schools will serve as training and resource hubs for clusters of surrounding schools starting in 2004, thereby expanding the outreach and impact of the USAID Basic Education program. USAID continues to coordinate efforts with other international entities, including the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, and the U.N. Children's Fund. An agreement on cooperation and coordination of basic education activities was secured with the World Bank to achieve maximum efficiency and geographic overlap of donor efforts.

By the end of this program, the joint efforts of schools, education authorities, parents, and communities will result in an increase in attendance, and more children will be able to complete primary and secondary school. Children will study in better physical environments, and better financing mechanisms will increase efficiency of financial flows in the education sector, making more state funding available to meet school needs. Teacher training and capacity building will raise the quality of teaching, which will become evident as more stakeholders express satisfaction with the quality of education in the target areas.

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Tajikistan
Program Title:	Cross-Cutting Programs
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	119-0420
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$1,884,000 FSA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$2,814,000 FSA
Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:	\$1,308,000 FSA
Year of Initial Obligation:	2001
Year of Final Obligation:	FY 2006

Summary: This cross-cutting program supports all of USAID's strategic objectives, and includes three main components: training and exchanges to support USAID's technical assistance programs in areas directly relevant to primary health care and the transition to democracy and a free-market economy; sub-grants to the Eurasia Foundation to strengthen NGOs working in private enterprise development, civil society, public policy, and media; and program development support for cross-cutting evaluations, studies, technical assistance, and management support.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

Participant Training (\$964,533 FSA). More than 2,000 participants will be trained through participant training projects in Tajikistan during FY 2003. Training programs will support USAID's technical assistance in the areas relevant to fiscal and tax reform, small and medium enterprise (SME) development, local governance, health-care reform, energy and water resources, conflict resolution, education reform, and various cross-cutting objectives. Principal contractor/grantee: Academy for Educational Development.

Conflict Prevention (\$1,973,000 FSA carryover): Conflict prevention activities will expand to 171 communities in Khatlon Province and Rasht Valley. USAID will focus on coordination with other partners to address issues of unemployment, targeting businesses whose growth will serve the entire target community. The USAID program will: more directly discuss and address issues of conflict in communities; place a greater emphasis on social projects and activities to be done in conjunction with infrastructure projects; and make a greater effort to involve women and youth. Principal contractors/grantees: Mercy Corps, the United Nations Development Program, and the Aga Khan Foundation.

Education (\$764,316 FSA carryover). USAID will support the further dissemination of teacher training programs, strengthen partnerships between schools and community, and provide school administrators and local-level education authorities with training in school management to increase transparency and accountability. Education pilots begun during the initial stage of the project will be analyzed and considered for scaling up. A mid-term assessment will help guide the final year of program implementation and identify areas of focus for a modest follow-on that will complement other donor activity. Principal contractors/grantees: Academy for Educational Development (prime) and Aga Khan Foundation (prime).

Eurasia Foundation (\$500,000 FSA). Eurasia Foundation grants will strengthen local NGOs involved in civil society strengthening, private enterprise development, public administration, and media. The Eurasia Foundation will expand its Ferghana Valley Initiative to provide targeted grants to increase dialogue and cross-border linkages in this conflict-prone region. Principal contractor/grantee: Eurasia Foundation.

Program Support (\$419,467 FSA, \$76,399 FSA carryover). Program and personnel support activities will support unanticipated opportunities to advance or reinforce USAID objectives.

FY 2005 Program:

Participant Training (\$600,000 FSA). USAID plans to extend the agreement for the participant training activity in 2005. Based on a 10-year evaluation that was conducted in FY 2003 and an intensive review with past participants, USAID will examine how the program can be re-designed for increased sector impact. Principal contractor/grantee: same as above.

Eurasia Foundation (\$312,500 FSA). The Eurasia Foundation will continue to provide grants on an open-door basis to NGOs in Tajikistan working in the sectors of private enterprise, civil society, and public and policy administration. Principal contractor/grantee: same as above.

Program Support (\$395,000 FSA). Program and personnel support activities will support unanticipated opportunities to advance or reinforce USAID objectives. Assessments for continuation of the current strategy are planned for funding.

Performance and Results: In FY 2003, USAID trained over 2300 Tajikistani citizens (approximately 40% of who were women) in the areas of judicial and legal reform, NGO development and strengthening, civil society, mass media, gender issues (with a special emphasis on micro-lending and business education), and primary health care.

The director of the NGO Avesto used the skills and knowledge attained during a Hungarian study tour on health promotion and marketing to establish the Family Doctor Dispensary medical center in Dushanbe. With financial support from the Embassy of Japan, the center was constructed in the suburbs of Dushanbe and opened in December 2002. To date, the center has treated over 1,008 patients and will serve approximately 5,000 people in Gulbuta District.

As a result of training related to the International Classification of Diseases System, Version 10 (ICD-10) for specialists and doctors, 143 representatives of 134 medical institutions implemented the ICD-10 system in their institutions.

With assistance from a local women's committee, following a series of SME development seminars in the Rasht Valley, over 20% of the participants succeeded in leasing land (1-5 hectares each) and, as a result, have already sown wheat and potatoes. Additionally, in Rasht Rayon, participants of the same seminar series created Marifat, a local organization, which through funding from the Participant Training Program and Mercy Corps, has developed spin-off trainings related to civil rights and SME development. In total, Marifat has conducted its seminars in 11 small communities of Rasht Rayon for approximately 165 women.

In Tajikistan, the Eurasia Foundation awarded 23 grants to Tajikistani NGOs in FY 2003, focusing on private enterprise development and target improvements in the areas of civil society and public policy and administration. Through the Ferghana Valley Initiative, aimed at forging cross-border connections in this politically-sensitive region, the Eurasia Foundation awarded six grants in Tajikistan in the areas of mass media development, cross-border trade, and legal and civil rights defense.

Additionally, in an attempt to reduce tension along the Afghan border, the Eurasia Foundation concentrated agricultural-support grants in the impoverished border oblasts of Gorno-Badakhshan and Khatlon. One grant provided livestock training to 20 yak farmers and consultations to 250 more in the second-highest village in the world and another taught 160 farmers how to process fruit and vegetables. Furthermore, in the Ferghana Valley, the Eurasia Foundation provided a grant to the San-Francisco-based Bay Area Council for Jewish Rescue and Renewal to combat extremism through first-responder training aimed at promoting tolerance. First responder participants included policemen and teachers.