

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
Status:	New in FY 2004
Planned FY 2005 Obligation:	\$230,000 FSA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$120,000 FSA
Proposed FY 2006 Obligation:	\$212,000 FSA
Year of Initial Obligation:	2004
Estimated Year of Final Obligation:	2008

Summary: USAID's Basic Education program is aimed at broadening access to quality education by focusing on in-service teacher training, management capacity, efficiency in finance, as well as parent and community participation. USAID also promotes healthy lifestyles and cross-border friendships through programming in sports and health education for Tajik youth.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2005 Program: Improve the Quality of Basic Education (\$230,000 FSA, \$120,000 FSA carryover). In FY 2005, training and capacity building will continue for teachers at new target sites throughout Tajikistan, promoting the use of modern, interactive, child-centered teaching methodologies in primary and secondary schools. Initial program schools now have the capacity to train the schools in their surrounding area so training will begin to benefit many more teachers. Together with key individuals from the Ministries of Education, Finance, and local government, USAID will introduce a new education finance mechanism based on a per capita formula in a pilot based in Kulob City, starting January 2005. The mechanism is expected to be more equitable and efficient than the current input-based mechanism. USAID will continue to work with schools and communities to establish joint partnership groups and provide training for these groups in resource mobilization and project management to address their most critical needs. In Kulob, USAID will provide training in community involvement to complement a World Bank activity, which will expand the impact of USAID-promoted community mobilization approaches to all schools in the district. At thirty target schools, the partnership groups will oversee renovation of school infrastructure, using small grants provided by USAID. Additional assistance will be provided to school-community groups for school furniture repair, which will involve small grants for materials and training to enhance sustainability. School administrators in all target schools, as well as local education authorities, will receive training in effective school management and community outreach. USAID will also carry out a mid-term evaluation of the Basic Education Program in spring 2005 to make necessary adjustments to the current program and to determine priorities for future assistance. Principal contractors/grantees: Aga Khan Foundation (prime), Academy for Educational Development (prime), Open Society Institute (sub), Save the Children/U.K. (sub), Abt Associates (sub), and Save the Children/U.S. (sub).

FY 2006 Program: Improve the Quality of Basic Education (\$212,000 FSA). In FY 2006, USAID will continue to strengthen pilot schools in five regions of Tajikistan. Learning resource centers with materials on best practices in pedagogy may be established at remote rural cluster sites. In-service teacher training institutes (TTI) will continue to receive training in interactive methodologies, and will use their enhanced capacity to disseminate the methodologies to a larger community of teachers and educators. Implementers and stakeholders will use the first year results of the per capita education finance pilot to make any necessary adjustments to the new mechanism. Additional assistance in the form of small grants and training may be provided to select school-community groups for furniture repair. USAID will coordinate its activities with other large donors in basic education. Principal contractors/grantees: Aga Khan Foundation (prime), Academy for Educational Development (prime), Open Society Institute (sub), and Abt Associates

(sub).

Performance and Results: USAID's progress this year met expectations. During 2004, capacity was built in 18 pilot schools to equip them to serve as training and resource centers for clusters of 46 surrounding schools. USAID trained 666 teachers in modern interactive pedagogy and 192 education administrators in the principles of effective school management. The Basic Education Program enjoys overwhelming support of educators, parents, and other stakeholders in all target areas. At the central level, the Ministry of Education also demonstrated strong commitment to support USAID activities in basic education. USAID collaborates successfully with other international donor agencies in basic education in Tajikistan. Thirty-five community groups have been created to support quality improvements and address access issues at the local level. During FY 2004, these groups have successfully returned to school 104 out of 137 identified non-attending children. Over 6,500 Tajik youth were reached through sports and health education activities in FY 2004. A pilot aimed at improving efficiency and equity in education finance is due to begin in January 2005.

By the end of this program, teacher training and capacity building will raise the quality of teaching, which will become evident as more stakeholders express greater satisfaction with the quality of education in the target areas. Children will study in better physical environments, and better financing mechanisms will increase the efficiency with which schools deliver services. USAID efforts complement World Bank and Asian Development Bank programs, which are mainly aimed at infrastructure rehabilitation, small grants for school improvement, and textbook publishing. USAID activities in education finance are closely coordinated with the World Bank's assistance to the Central Government related to budgeting for the social sector.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Tajikistan

119-0340 Improved Quality of and Access to Basic Education	FSA
Through September 30, 2003	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	0
Fiscal Year 2004	
Obligations	180
Expenditures	66
Through September 30, 2004	
Obligations	180

Expenditures	66
Unliquidated	114
Prior Year Unobligated Funds	
Obligations	120
Planned Fiscal Year 2005 NOA	
Obligations	230
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2005	
Obligations	350
Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 NOA	
Obligations	212
Future Obligations	150
Est. Total Cost	892

