

## Data Sheet

<b>USAID Mission:</b>	Central Asian Republics Regional
<b>Program Title:</b>	Small and Medium Sized Enterprises
<b>Pillar:</b>	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
<b>Strategic Objective:</b>	176-0131
<b>Status:</b>	Continuing
<b>Planned FY 2006 Obligation:</b>	\$75,000 FSA
<b>Prior Year Unobligated:</b>	\$20,000 FSA
<b>Proposed FY 2007 Obligation:</b>	\$200,000 FSA
<b>Year of Initial Obligation:</b>	2001
<b>Estimated Year of Final Obligation:</b>	2007

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

### Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

#### FY 2006 Program:

Strengthen the Financial Services Sector and Increase Access to Capital (\$75,000 FSA, \$20,000 FSA carryover). USAID will continue to strengthen the capacity of microfinance institutions to provide financial services on a sustainable basis. Special attention will be given to expanding services to rural areas. Principal contractors/grantees: Agricultural Cooperative Development International/Volunteers for Overseas Cooperative Assistance and to be determined (TBD)(primes).

#### FY 2007 Program:

Strengthen the Financial Services Sector and Increase Access to Capital (\$200,000 FSA). USAID will support further expansion of access to finance for micro and small entrepreneurs, particularly in rural areas. Principal contractor/grantee: TBD (prime).

**Performance and Results:** Regional funds enable USAID to support specific regional activities and high priority needs in countries in which country funds are insufficient. USAID, through its Economic Policy Reform Project, provided assistance to improve implementation of tax legislation in Tajikistan. USAID technical experts reviewed the newly-adopted Tax Code to identify whether it promotes private sector development and suits existing tax administration capacity. Several significant draft regulations were evaluated, including Taxpayer Registration, Value-Added Tax, and Simplified Taxation, with a number of recommendations made to bring them in line with international best practices.

Using the funds from the FY 2004 budget, the Land Tenure Project, in close collaboration with other stakeholders, helped to develop a draft Framework Strategy for Land Reform in Tajikistan. After a series of issues-focused preliminary workshops, a plenary workshop produced a matrix of proposed land reform priorities for the next three years. The priorities covered a number of areas including land administration, farms and farm structures, legal education/legal aid, and gender. With the development of the draft Framework Strategy for Land Reform, there is now a clearer list of policy and legislative priorities being considered by the Government. Reluctance within Government to acknowledge that legislative reform was necessary was overcome by developing a collaborative relationship and providing comparative law workshops to show the experiences of countries with similar histories.

Regional funds were used by the Central Asian Microfinance Alliance (CAMFA) to strengthen the capacity of Central Asian microfinance associations to function effectively and to improve their sustainability prospects. CAMFA's current assistance to the associations supports over 60 microfinance institutions (MFIs) with a consolidated portfolio of over \$51 million and 91,000 active clients. Funds were used to organize CAMFA's regional conference for MFIs. The conference served as a venue for regional MFIs to learn best practices, network, exchange experiences, and meet international microfinance experts.

By program's end, entrepreneurs will have greater access to credit to start up and run successful businesses. Microfinance institutions will have increased capacity to provide services on a sustainable basis.

## US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

### Central Asian Republics Regional

176-0131 Small and Medium Sized Enterprises	<b>FSA</b>
<b>Through September 30, 2004</b>	
Obligations	3,079
Expenditures	1,455
Unliquidated	1,624
<b>Fiscal Year 2005</b>	
Obligations	170
Expenditures	0
<b>Through September 30, 2005</b>	
Obligations	3,249
Expenditures	1,455
Unliquidated	1,794
<b>Prior Year Unobligated Funds</b>	
Obligations	20
<b>Planned Fiscal Year 2006 NOA</b>	
Obligations	75
<b>Total Planned Fiscal Year 2006</b>	
Obligations	95
<b>Proposed Fiscal Year 2007 NOA</b>	
Obligations	200
Future Obligations	200
Est. Total Cost	3,744