



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



# UZBEKISTAN

## COUNTRY PROFILE

Home to the largest population in Central Asia, Uzbekistan plays a pivotal role in forging regional stability, prosperity and security in the region — including in neighboring Afghanistan. Its natural resources, solid infrastructure and reform-oriented government hold the potential to increase regional trade and bolster economic growth.

The United States, through USAID, partners with Uzbekistan to deepen democratic values, drive economic growth and combat infectious diseases. Our programs help mitigate pressure from malign influencers in the region and build Uzbekistan’s capacity to plan, finance and implement its own development solutions.

### OUR WORK

Recent political changes in Uzbekistan are paving the way for USAID to further spur sustainable development. USAID is working to support the country’s policy reform agenda, strengthen democratic values, increase regional trade and combat transnational health threats.

PHOTO CREDIT: SCOTT FONTAINE, USAID

## DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE

Ineffective rule of law, coupled with limited government transparency and accountability, weakens public trust in Uzbek institutions, threatening long-term resilience. USAID helps to build trust between government and civil society by facilitating dialogue on critical topics like human trafficking and labor migration, and by helping to implement judicial reform. In 2018, for example, the Uzbek Government expanded a USAID-piloted e-court system from eight civil courts to all 89 civil courts in the country, making court proceedings more transparent and significantly reducing the time needed to file court cases and publish decisions.

## ECONOMIC GROWTH

Historical dependence on low-value commodities and years of political isolation have hampered sustainable economic growth. To invigorate the economy, USAID is reinforcing Uzbekistan's effort to join the World Trade Organization and is helping to improve the business climate, create jobs that curb migration and diversify export markets. Over the last two years, for example, USAID helped Uzbek companies purchase agricultural equipment and supplies from American companies, boosting growth.

## HEALTH

High rates of drug-resistant tuberculosis (DR TB) challenge Uzbekistan's health system and threaten long-term productivity. USAID helps curb the spread of DR TB by improving care and treatment services and by working closely with high-risk populations. Thanks in part to USAID's efforts since 2002, TB incidence has dropped by 40 percent and TB mortality has decreased by 60 percent.



USAID trains technicians on how to use American rapid testing machines that diagnose TB within hours instead of weeks.

PHOTO CREDIT: USAID



USAID helped facilitate more than \$56 million worth of business deals in 2018, expanding and diversifying Uzbekistan's economy.

PHOTO CREDIT: USAID

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