



Portfolio Overview

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) manages assistance programs, made possible by the generous support of the American people. Since 1993, the American people through USAID have provided more than \$77 million in programs that support Turkmenistan's democratic institutions, social sector and economic growth. USAID programs in Turkmenistan are implemented through contracts and grants by more than 20 local and international organizations. Implementing partners include U.N. agencies, for-profit companies and non-governmental organizations.



ECONOMIC GROWTH

PROGRAM COMPONENTS

ECONOMIC POLICY: Through its Economic Reforms to Enhance Competitiveness (EREC) project, USAID assists Turkmenistan in strengthening sustainable institutional capacity for fiscal management to create the foundation for competitive private sector development and stimulate investment in Turkmenistan.

FINANCIAL SECTOR: Through the Accounting/CIPA project, USAID supports the Certified International Professional Accountant (CIPA) program, which is based on International Financial Reporting Standards, and builds local capacity to meet the technical and professional standards of the accounting profession.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY: By building linkages that connect entrepreneurial farmers to profitable markets, USAID promotes transition in Turkmenistan's agricultural sector. In addition, sustainable farmers' organizations help producers respond to specific market opportunities and meet the demands of new, high-value markets. The primary focus of USAID assistance is on targeted support in the adoption of improved, market-oriented production and practices, which will spur wider acceptance of such methods. Through the Farmer-to-Farmer Program, USAID brings volunteer experts to deliver technical assistance to small and medium agribusinesses.

PRIVATE SECTOR PRODUCTIVITY: To help young people successfully enter a market economy as employers or entrepreneurs, USAID supports development of practical skills in business and economics education at the middle and secondary school levels through Junior Achievement (JA). This program increases access to economics and business education for young people through student-oriented activities, contests and alumni networking. To support the professional development of participating teachers, JA has established training centers in all five provinces in Turkmenistan. The program also improves the institutional capacity of the JA operations in Turkmenistan through organizational development, strengthening partnerships with the private sector to increase sustainability, and engagement with the public sector to incorporate business and economics education into mainstream curriculum to improve the quality of students' education.

MODERN ENERGY SERVICES: Energy is driving economic growth in Central Asia. Development of energy resources within a framework of transparency, good governance and integration with regional markets is an essential building block for sustainable economic growth in the region. Through Regional Energy Market Assistance Program (REMAP), USAID assists in the creation of a Central Asia regional transmission planning model, the development of a regional electricity market model, electricity market regulatory harmonization and provides capacity building activities for key energy institutions.

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

BearingPoint Inc.

The Pragma Corporation

Winrock International

Junior Achievement

United States Energy Association

INVESTING IN PEOPLE

PROGRAM COMPONENTS

QUALITY PRIMARY HEALTH CARE: Working primarily through its ZdravPlus II project, USAID supports quality improvement training seminars for primary health care staff on such topics as basic laboratory training skills and interpersonal

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

Abt Associates

communications to improve doctor-patient interactions. USAID continues to provide assistance to a joint laboratory and primary health care training program, which evolved from laboratory training to broader primary health care training for laboratory and family medicine specialists.

Based on the project's results, the government of Turkmenistan requested in 2007 that ZdravPlus expand its automated health information system developed for hospitals to additional three pilot hospitals. The hospital-based information system provides data that to better link costs to services delivered, enabling rational assessments for payment systems and other health financing reforms.

MATERNAL, CHILD, AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH: USAID trains health staff to better manage obstetric and pre-natal health care in pilot sites. USAID's "Keeping Children Healthy" campaigns, as well as other education on management of common but serious childhood illnesses, is also being expanded to include new pilot districts in Dashoguz, Ahal, Balkan, Lebap, and Mary provinces. Implementation of the new methodology, based on the World Health Organization's (WHO) Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (IMCI), is being monitored in all 14 pilots. Zdrav Plus now provides three different kinds of IMCI in pilot sites – for family doctors, for family nurses and hospital IMCI.

Abt Associates;
Project HOPE Consortium;
U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

USAID supports the implementation of the National Safe Motherhood Program which educates families on effective perinatal care and develops and disseminates standards for maternal and child health.

USAID supports Turkmenistan's adoption of the WHO-recommended live birth definition. This step involves policy change at the national level as well as training of health officials, neonatologists, obstetricians, and pediatricians. The WHO criteria provide a broader definition of live birth than did the Soviet version, opening the way for internationally comparable statistics and interventions to reduce infant mortality. CDC assists in the development of related regulations and documents. In cooperation with UNICEF, CDC trained medical staff on the application of the new definition, and monitor their progress in applying the knowledge and skills they obtained to their daily practice.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE CONTROL: Tuberculosis (TB) control is a priority for the government of Turkmenistan, which has decreed national implementation of the Directly Observed Treatment Short Course (DOTS) strategy for TB control. In 2007, Turkmenistan reported 100% coverage of the country with DOTS. USAID provides technical assistance to the Ministry of Health and Medical Industry on implementation of DOTS in the cities of Ashgabat and Mary, and the entire Balkan province. In addition to technical assistance, USAID provided essential laboratory equipment to new laboratories in pilot areas. Project HOPE, together with the Turkmenistan Medical University's TB faculty, provides training seminars for TB specialists, primary health care physicians, and other health professionals. With the support of USAID, provided through the Project HOPE Consortium, the government of Turkmenistan received free TB medicines from the Global Drug Facility.

Project HOPE Consortium;
U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;
World Health Organization;
Winrock International

Although Turkmenistan has not yet had an officially documented outbreak of avian influenza, USAID is assisting the government of Turkmenistan in its efforts to prevent its spread amongst the animal population and prepare for a possible human pandemic. The Farmer-to-Farmer project used volunteer technical assistance to help the government of Turkmenistan to properly educate farmers and villagers about the H5N1 virus. CDC provided assistance to the government of Turkmenistan in upgrading its avian flu laboratory equipment and training laboratory staff in PCR quality assured testing.

HIV/AIDS PREVENTION AND CONTROL: The government of Turkmenistan developed and approved a national HIV/AIDS prevention program for 2005-2010. In March 2007, USAID and the Ministry of Health and Medical Industry (MOHMI) signed a Memorandum of Understanding on implementation of HIV/AIDS prevention activities under the USAID CAPACITY project. In 2008, the CAPACITY Project opened its first HIV/AIDS Prevention Youth Center in Ashgabat in cooperation with National HIV/AIDS Center, the Youth Union and the MOHMI. It works with young people who are at increased risk for contracting HIV, sexually transmitted diseases and for drug abuse. The center organizes such activities as language courses, computer classes, sports and social clubs that are alternatives to risky behavior. Young people are able to receive counseling on reproductive health, psycho-social support and referral for medical treatment.

JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc.;

U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

In Turkmenistan, CAPACITY works closely with the National AIDS Center on HIV prevention, by educating vulnerable populations and strengthening the technical capacity of the Center to manage the national HIV/AIDS prevention program for Turkmenistan. CAPACITY also focuses on improving the quality of HIV/AIDS services, including voluntary consulting and testing.

With USAID funding, CDC's regional blood safety training program equipped six serology labs in Turkmenistan in 2005 and trained specialists on laboratory quality control. In 2007, CDC provided refresher training for laboratory specialists at blood stations and AIDS Centers on hepatitis and HIV/AIDS diagnostics, and trained 25 specialists on safe blood transfusion practices with an accent on reducing unnecessary blood transfusions.

BASIC EDUCATION: The goal of the Quality Learning Program (QLP) is to expand access to quality primary and secondary education in Turkmenistan. Project activities will build on achievements and lessons learned by USAID's previous program in basic education. The project will also support the government's efforts to implement their national education strategy. The project will result in improved student learning outcomes through broad application of modern teaching and student assessment methodologies.

Creative Associates International, Inc.

GOVERNING JUSTLY AND DEMOCRATICALLY

PROGRAM COMPONENTS

CIVIC PARTICIPATION: USAID supports the strengthening of civil society and citizen organizations in approximately 50 communities as they seek to develop their communities and participate in local governance at the community level. Activities help citizens improve their knowledge of civic and legal rights and the means to protect them. The program also provides skills and organizational capacity to identify and address community needs by working in coordination with local authorities and the business community. USAID provides legal advice to NGOs and other organizations on the legal framework for their operation.

The USAID Community Connections program provides US exchange visit experiences for a wide variety of professionals including business leaders, local/national government officials, representatives of non-governmental organizations and health professionals. Participants will be exposed to the institutions and challenges of a democratic, free-market society and be inspired to implement change in their home countries. Professional linkages between the American host communities and the participants' home communities will be created.

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

Counterpart (Urban Institute, American Bar Association);

PACT (International Center for Not-for-Profit Law);

World Learning (ACCELS - American Councils)

MEDIA FREEDOM AND FREEDOM OF INFORMATION: USAID assists in increasing access to information, through internet and other means. This includes support for a network of six internet access centers, which connect experts, activists, academics, and professionals in innovative ways that facilitate democratic exchange, provide a forum for ideas and opinions, and cultivate social dialogue.

PACT
(Internews);

IREX

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