

**Files of Melanne Verveer, Assistant to the President and Chief of
Staff to the First Lady
Box 2: Books and Files**

Archived from OEOB 102 by Eric Woodard on April 7, 2000

- HRC briefing book for Middle East, October 1994
- HRC briefing book for Nicaragua and Chile, October 1995
- HRC briefing book for Bolivia, December 1996
- New Independent States, November 1997

ENCLOSURES FILED OVERSIZE ATTACHMENTS

15616

NARA 13095

FLOTUS Trip to the New Independent States



November 1997

Information Requested from
USAID

Michael Omeary

190

456-5708

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FLOTUS TRIP TO NIS

Information Requested from USAID

1. NIS Regional Program Overview
2. AIHA NIS-Wide Overview

Kazakhstan

3. Kazakhstan Program Overview
4. Almaty Women's Wellness Center
5. Address to Central Asian Conference on Women in Politics

Kyrgyzstan

6. Kyrgyzstan Program Overview
7. FINCA

Uzbekistan

8. Uzbekistan Program Overview
9. Women's Wellness Center/TashMI
10. Samarkand Artisan Center

Russia

11. Russia Program Overview
12. Ural Women's Business Association

Ukraine

13. Ukraine Program Overview
14. Lviv Oblast Clinical Hospital

Selected Topics

15. US-NIS Women's Group
16. Aral Sea Health Statistics
17. Infectious Diseases
18. Soros Foundation
19. Contraception
20. Democracy Work
21. Statistics on Orphans and Homeless Children
22. Religion Law in Russia
23. Domestic Violence
24. Independent Media
25. Health Care Improvements
26. Eurasia Foundation
27. Proposed Bishkek Announceables

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AIHA HOSPITAL PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM

The American International Health Alliance (AIHA) currently supports forty-four health care partnerships: twenty-eight in eleven countries in the NIS (New Independent States) and seventeen in nine countries in Central and Eastern Europe, and is a model of collaborative USAID assistance in the region. The purpose of this USAID funded partnership program is to support American health care institutions and systems in assisting their NIS counterparts through "peer to peer exchanges" to address significant mortality and morbidity issues; to improve health care organization; and to introduce market-oriented solutions to institutional delivery and finance problems.

AIHA's largely voluntary partnership model relies upon extensive exchanges of health care professionals between partner institutions. To date, over 5,000 exchanges and 100,000 person hours have taken place with the NIS. U.S. physicians, nurses, administrators and technical personnel generously donate their time, effort, needed supplies and equipment to NIS partners, voluntarily contributing approximately \$70 million since 1992, or nearly \$3 for every USAID dollar invested in the partnerships program.

As a direct result of partnership activities, demonstrable progress is being made in the quality of medical care and management:

- **Partnerships report improved quality and productivity**, citing statistics of reduced length of hospital stay, lower rates of hospital-acquired infections, increases in out-patient services, reductions in costly in-patient beds, and overall increases in the number of patients being treated.
- **Building Local Capacity:** Partnerships have created a cross-regional cadre of over 300 health care managers and trainers schooled in Western management skills and clinical techniques, with the confidence to lead future reforms.
- **Creating Lasting Relationships and Linkages:** Through the information initiative, which provides all NIS partners with access to the Internet, electronic mail, and modern western medical and management literature, AIHA is attempting to counteract 70 years of Soviet isolation from Western medical research and management innovations. We have observed growing communication and dialogue both between US and NIS professionals and also inter-regionally in the NIS through information technology in telemedicine, distance learning, and e-mail information sharing.
- **Extending "Beyond Hospital Walls"** The program has expanded beyond individual institutions to address systemic health issues, including improving medical and nursing curricula; health care management training; workforce planning issues; infectious disease control and prevention of antimicrobial resistance; and healthy communities. AIHA initiatives in infection control, emergency services and neonatal resuscitation are being rolled out nationwide with support from several host country Ministries of Health.

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Divider Title: _____

Area: 1,049,200 sq. mi.

Capital: Almaty (expected to be moved to Akmola in 1997).

Population: 16.9 m (1996); 41% Kazakh, 37% Russian

Population by Age Group: 0-14: 30%; 15-64: 63%; 65 & over: 7%.

Population Growth Rate: .1% (1994)

Rural: 41%, **Urban:** 59%

Life Expectancy at birth: male: 59; female: 70; average: 64 (1996)

Infant Mortality Rate: 27/1,000

Per Capita Income: \$1,330 (1995); **PPP:** \$3,010

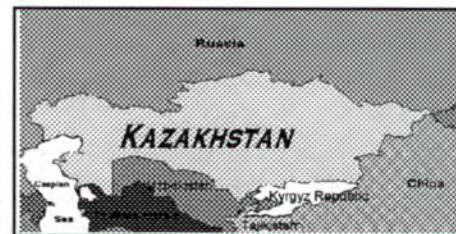
Ethnic Composition: Kazak, 42%; Russian, 37%; Ukrainian, 5%;

German, 5%; Uzbek, 2%; Tatar, 2%; other, 7%

Religion: Muslim, 47%; Russian Orthodox, 44%; Protestant, 2%; other 7%

Language: Kazak 44%; Russian, 36%

Literacy: 98%



President: Nursultan Nazarbaev

Prime Minister: Nurlan Balgimbayev

U.S. Ambassador: Bolat Nurgaliyev

OVERVIEW OF USAID PROGRAMS

Economic Reform and Private Sector Development: The USAID small-scale privatization program with the GOK was officially closed in August 1996, marking the end of a highly productive 3-year joint effort. The process will be completed by Kazakhstani professionals and other international donors. USAID is focusing on legal and regulatory reform, with emphasis on trade and investment, bankruptcy and general business law reform. Achievements to date include facilitating the redrafting of foreign investment legislation; guiding development of decrees to streamline business licensing requirements; assisting in developing the customs reform process, and, assisting the GOK in its efforts to WTO accession. USAID has played a pivotal role in establishing a Stock Exchange, improving banking management, and providing policy assistance with budget planning and implementation processes. A new modern tax code was adopted in July 1995. International Accounting Standards were adopted with USAID assistance. Pension Reform will be implemented in January 1998. The Central Asian American Enterprise Fund is established in Almaty and provides loans to speed the growth of private enterprise.

Democratic Institutions: USAID's program focuses on democratic processes which enhance civic participation and education, the flow of information, transparency and accountability in government, and dialogue between the government and non-government sectors. Small grant programs support local NGOs who seek improvement in the legal and regulatory environment, and in effecting social change and providing needed services. Assistance has been provided in establishing attorney associations, a Legal Information Center, and training for judges and parliamentarians. Assistance continues for independent TV through seminars on a variety of production and management topics.

Social Sector Restructuring. USAID health programs include health care financing and privatization of pharmacies, reproductive health, health demographic surveys, and vaccine support. A hospital partnership program with Arizona hospitals provides training and technical assistance in modern methods, practices, and management in health care. In housing, more than 4,400 homeowner associations have been formed representing over 95% of Kazakhstan's housing stock. Privatization of housing maintenance has strengthened municipal governments ability to deliver social services through the use of open tenders for services, cost recovery in utilities billing and targeting, rather than across the board, subsidies. Training programs, both in Kazakhstan and the U.S. provide further support.

Fiscal Year 1996 = \$33.5.M

Fiscal Year 1997 = \$35.5 M

USAID/Central Asia: Patricia K. Buckles, Regional Director (011-7-3272-50-76-33)

97A Furmanov St., Almaty, 48009

USAID/Washington: Peter Downs (202-712-0995)

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ALMATY, KAZAKSTAN-TUCSON, ARIZONA PARTNERSHIP

Formed in 1993, the Almaty-Tucson Partnership is composed a large group of Almaty health care institutions, including the Institute for Pediatrics and Children's Surgery, the Almaty City Emergency Hospital, the Almaty City Perinatal Center, and others. The US partners are a coalition of eight hospitals, the public health department and the Medical university led by Tucson Medical Center.

The Partnership focuses on:

- nursing reform (education and management);
- women's health (Women's Wellness Center);
- programs in toxicology, perinatology, leukemia and respiratory disease;
- physician education in specialty areas;
- infection control;
- emergency medical services; and
- health care administration and management.

Selected Program Outcomes

Infection Control: The Partnership and Almaty City Health Administration has created an in-service training for nurses in infection control. Nurses Trainers have trained 300 of their colleagues in infection control procedures and at 11 Almaty hospitals, trained nurses have been appointed as Head Nurses for Infection Control.

Nursing Reform: The role of nurses has changed significantly within the partnership, as nurses with new clinical and management skills are occupying leadership positions in hospitals. An expanded nursing curriculum (BSN), has been approved by the Ministries of Health and Education, which will enable graduates to work under a new Nurse job classification, with higher pay and status, approved by the Ministry of Labor.

Women's Health: The partnership have developed a model comprehensive women's wellness center. This "**one-stop shopping**" approach will provide an integrated set of services (primary care, reproductive health, mental health and education in such topics as domestic violence and substance abuse) for women of all ages. The Women's Wellness Center will improve access to a **continuum of care** for women whose health needs have often been ignored and underserved.

EMS Center: The Almaty EMS Training Center has trained over 1000 ambulance team members trained thus far (including physicians, nurses and feldshers) in Almaty and Semipalatinsk to improve first-responder care. The first-ever 24-hour Poison Control Center has been created under the partnership.

Model Perinatal Center: The Model Perinatal Center has successfully implemented "rooming in" for babies with their mothers, reduced lengths of stay for both vaginal and cesarean deliveries, and has supported a breast-feeding program in which over

90 percent of the mothers are participating.

ALMATY-TUCSON PARTNERSHIP

EVENT: Official Opening of Women's Wellness Center and Walkthrough (with possibility of participation of First Lady of Kazakhstan)

DATE OF EVENT: Tuesday, November 11, 1997

DURATION: 45 minutes, 12pm-12:45pm

LOCATION: Perinatal Center, Almaty, Kazakhstan

DIRECTOR: Dr. Tamara Chuvakova

Background: AIHA and the Almaty-Tucson partnership have developed a model comprehensive women's wellness center that is scheduled for official opening in November 1997. This "**one-stop shopping**" approach will provide an integrated set of services (primary care, reproductive health, mental health and education in such topics as domestic violence and substance abuse) for women of all ages.

The Women's Wellness Center will improve access to a **continuum of care** for women whose health needs have often been ignored and underserved. Women's Wellness Staff have already been trained in modern primary care screening and services, contraceptive technology, health education, and a "customer service" approach to health care. Staff will be trained to provide care and education to the victims of domestic violence.

US and Almaty partners have provided significant investment to create the WWC. Almaty City Health Administration has provided space, support for renovation valued at \$100,000 and pledged to pay all operating costs. US (Tucson and USAID/AIHA) have matched Almaty's contribution through equipment and supplies donations.

Site Description: The Center is designed as an adaptation of a western women's services and education clinic and comprised of eight well-lighted rooms; a registration and waiting area, two exam rooms, a procedure room, an operating room, an office for the director, a separate office for nurses and midwives, and a health promotion/education classroom. In its initial year, the Center is expected to see approximately 100 clients per week for services and a larger number through its educational program.

Event Description: The event will comprise a walk-through of the Women's Wellness Center, brief meetings with Kazak women of all ages who are participating in Center educational classes (reproductive health, menopause, pre-natal, etc), followed by the official ribbon-cutting dedication ceremony with short speeches by FLOTUS, other VIPs. The First Lady of Kazakhstan, Mrs. Sara Nazerbaeva, will join FLOTUS in the Opening. Kazak women are embracing the educational classes at the WWC and are

even bringing in their young daughters. One woman attending the prenatal class stated: "I wanted my daughter to learn about the important topics reproductive health and sexuality because I never had a chance to learn."

Personalities:

First Lady of Kazakhstan

Mrs. Sara Nazarbayeva [nahzarby'eva]: The First Lady is very interested in health issues, especially in promoting healthy lifestyles and protecting vulnerable women, adolescents and children during the transition. She has emphasized that children, as the future of a nation, must be instilled with healthy values while they are young and be taught the dangers of smoking, drug addiction and alcoholism as well as the importance of safe sex. President Nazarbayev issued a presidential declaration this week concerning the importance of promoting health lifestyles and behaviors among the young. Mrs. Nazarbayeva is President of a charity foundation called Bobek (baby) which targets mothers, families and children. Please note that USAID/CAR may warn you about lending support for this organization, as there have been concerns about the group's finances.

President Nazarbayev is scheduled to visit the U.S. beginning November 16, 1997. He will travel to Baylor Medical Center, which is a key U.S. partner of the Houston-Semipalatinsk partnership.

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USAID Country Profile: The Kyrgyz Republic

July, 1997

Area: 76,642 sq. miles

Population: 4.5M: 54% Kyrgyz, 28% Russian, 15% Uzbek, German/Other

Population by Age Group: 0-14: 37%; 15-64: 57%; 65+: 6%.

Population Growth Rate: .94%

Rural: 62%, **Urban:** 38%, (1995) **Capital:** Bishkek

Life Expectancy at birth: male, 63; female 72.1

Infant Mortality Rate: 30 (deaths per 1000 before age 1)

Literacy: 98%; **Per Capita Income:** \$700: PPP-\$1,800

Religion: Predominately Islam (70%), Russian Orthodox

Language: Kyrgyz and Russian



President: Askar Akayev

Prime Minister: Apas Jumagulov

Ambassador to U.S.: Bakit Abdrisaev

OVERVIEW OF USAID PROGRAMS

Economic Reform and Private Sector Development: The Kyrgyz Republic has made the strongest commitment of any country in the region to the privatization of state-owned assets. USAID assistance has resulted in the privatization of approximately 6280 enterprises, with the focus now on privatizing blue-chip state enterprises and developing Kyrgyzstan's capital markets. A stock exchange and a central depository have been established, and USAID is encouraging establishment of procurement laws and a monitoring agency. International Accounting Standards will be used in all KG enterprises beginning in January, 1998. These USAID supported activities will assist in the development of a market economy, and are further enhanced by USAID assistance in passage of a Foreign Investment Law, Procurement Law, Bankruptcy Law, and in furthering the KG application to join the World Trade Organization (WTO). A Tax Law was adopted in 1996. A draft law on Municipal Finance has been completed. Assistance in micro enterprise accounts created 264 village banks with over 3000 members.

Democratic Institutions: Assistance has been provided in the creation of a legal infrastructure to encourage NGO development, rule of law, human rights, and citizen participation. Over 400 NGOs, have been trained by USAID programs throughout Kyrgyzstan. USAID assists the National Association of Local Self-Government through funding for seminars and publications. Training in election organization and a recent televised political candidate debate have also been supported by USAID. In addition, USAID has supported both a bar and judges' association, a strengthened parliament, and creation of a law library in Bishkek. Assistance to independent TV and radio stations includes news exchanges, documentary tape sharing, and training activities. Kyrgyzstan leads the Central Asian countries in development of democracy.

Social Transition: A broad based health program provides assistance through medical partnerships, women's reproductive health services, health care financing and service delivery, and infectious disease control. Assistance has also been provided in land, real estate, and finance. A unified system for registration of real estate will be expanded nationwide in FY98.

Fiscal Year 1996 = \$18.5 M

Fiscal Year 1997 = \$20.8 M

USAID/Central Asia: Patricia K. Buckles, Regional Director (011-996-3272-50-76-33) 97A Furmanov St., Almaty 48009

USAID/CAR Country Representative in Bishkek: CJ Rushin-Bell (011-996-3312-21-06-63)

USAID/Washington: Delphia Dirks (202-712-4652)

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USAID Country Profile: Uzbekistan

July, 1997

Population: 22.7 M, 71.4% Uzbek, 8.3% Russian, 4.7% Tajik, 4.1% Kazak, 2% Tatar, 8% Other

Area: 172,700 sq. mi., approx. one and one-half times size of Arizona

Population by Age Group: 0-14, 40%; 15-24 55%; 65+, 5% (1994)

Population Growth Rate: 1.76%

Rural: 41%, **Urban:** 59%, **Capital:** Tashkent

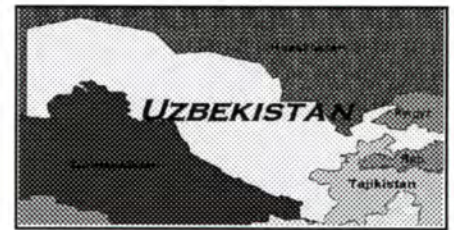
Per Capita Income: \$970 **PPP, \$2,370**

Religion: Sunni Muslim: 88%, Russian Orthodox: 9%, Other 3%

Language usage: 75% speak Uzbek, 33% speak Russian fluently (only 4.6% of ethnic Russians speak Uzbek fluently). Literacy (1994) 97%

Life Expectancy at birth: 70 years

Infant Mortality Rate: 30 (deaths per 1000 before age one)



President: Islam Karimov

Prime Minister: Utkur Sultanov

Ambassador to US: Sodik Safaev

OVERVIEW OF USAID PROGRAMS

Economic Restructuring: USAID consultants continue to provide assistance in refining the Tax Code which will be implemented in January, 1998 which makes Uzbekistan the third country in the NIS to enact comprehensive tax reform legislation. USAID advisors have contributed to the new State Financial Procedures Law and companion Treasury Law expected to go to Parliament soon. New public and private pension laws are being drafted. Volunteers provide business-related assistance and training to private farmers and agribusinesses.

Democratic Transition: Technical support has been provided to the more than 300 local NGOs for management skills in developing sustainable programs for civic, social, and political development. USAID grantee, Aid-to-Artisans, has assisted with training artists to become successful NGOs. Success in developing independent judicial and advocate associations has sparked interest in a similar association for notaries. Court reform, court organization, and judicial reform are the topics of an ongoing series of lectures provided by USAID legal experts. USAID has funded the development of a law library in Tashkent, with further development and connection to rural resources centers part of the long-term plan. TV stations are provided the opportunity to study broadcast methods, news exchanges and programming documents. Both U.S.-based, and in-country training, support these activities through the Global training program. Results of a USAID-sponsored survey of voter opinion has recently been released to the government, press, NGO's and other interested groups in Uzbekistan.

Social Transition: USAID's program for women's health and family planning have resulted in fewer abortions, lower fertility rates and a knowledge of modern contraception methods on the parts of both partners and their doctors. Training continues for professionals in patient management and counseling and in modern contraceptive methods, as well as management and marketing for owners of the recently privatized pharmacies. Through the Tashkent-Chicago hospital partnership, a neonatal intensive care unit has been equipped, and physicians trained in management practices and outpatient care. A new immunization calendar for infants and young children has been adopted through USAID assistance. Progress is near completion for a reformed pension system, an area that has huge financial implications for the government and the population.

Fiscal Year 1996 = \$19.3 M

Fiscal Year 1997 = \$21.5 M

USAID/Central Asia: Patricia K. Buckles, Regional Director (011-7-3272-50-76-33), 97A Furmanov St. Almaty 48009

USAID/CAR Country Representative in Tashkent: David Mandel, (7-3732- 33-84-78)

USAID/Washington: Delphia Dirks (202-712-4652)

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TASHKENT, UZBEKISTAN-CHICAGO, ILLINOIS PARTNERSHIP

Formed in 1992, the Tashkent-Chicago Partnership is composed of the Second Tashkent State Medical Institute (TashMI II), one of the ten largest hospitals in the NIS, and the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) Medical Center.

The partnership focuses on:

- neonatology and perinatal medicine;
- women's health;
- hospital and clinic administration;
- nursing and medical education;
- general surgery and neurosurgery; and
- physician training in specialty areas.

Selected Program Outcomes

Neonatology and Perinatal Medicine: Partnership efforts have resulted in tangible advances in the services and quality of care provided at TashMI II. There has been a steady decline in the number of infant and maternal deaths within the Institute's facilities. A new **neonatal intensive care unit (NICU)** was equipped and staffed by physicians trained at UIC, and substantial improvement has occurred in resuscitation techniques and the care of premature infants. The Ministry of Health is establishing a **high-risk pregnancy center** which will be the "Center of Excellence" in perinatal care for the country. In April, 1997 the partnership opened the **Neonatal Resuscitation Training Center** at TashMI II, which trains physicians, nurses, and midwives throughout the region in simple, life-saving resuscitation techniques.

Women's Health: The partnership have developed a model comprehensive women's wellness center. This "**one-stop shopping**" approach will provide an integrated set of services (primary care, reproductive health, mental health and education in such topics as domestic violence and substance abuse) for women of all ages. The Women's Wellness Center will improve access to a **continuum of care** for women whose health needs have often been ignored and underserved.

Hospital Administration and Financial Reform: TashMI II has improved the financial standing of its hospital facilities by retiring nearly two-thirds of its beds, reducing average inpatient stays (from more than 18 days in 1992 to less than 10 days now), opening an outpatient unit (or day hospital), and shifting part of the patient base into outpatient care. As a result, costly inpatient services have been reduced, decreasing general overhead costs, while outpatient services have grown.

Nursing Reform: Within the Chronic Disease Hospital of TashMI II, nurses with updated clinical and management skills have been given primary responsibility for

patient care and management of a unit (in a manner comparable to what is usual in the US).

TASHKENT-CHICAGO PARTNERSHIP

EVENT: Official Opening of Women's Wellness Center and Walkthrough (with participation of First Lady of Uzbekistan)

DATE OF EVENT: November 13, 1997

DURATION: 75 minutes, 10am-11:15am

LOCATION: Second State Medical Institute (TASHMI II) **DIRECTOR:**
Dr. Dilmurod Yusupov
Dr. Alla Pogorelova

Background: AIHA and the Tashkent-Chicago partnership have developed a model comprehensive women's wellness center that is scheduled for official opening in November 1997. This "**one-stop shopping**" approach will provide an integrated set of services (primary care, reproductive health, mental health and education in such topics as domestic violence and substance abuse) for women of all ages.

The Women's Wellness Center will improve access to a **continuum of care** for women whose health needs have often been ignored and underserved. Women's Wellness Staff have already been trained in modern primary care screening and services, contraceptive technology, health education, and a "customer service" approach to health care. The center is developing educational programs for adolescents and new approaches to serving post-menopausal and elderly women. US partners are providing WWC staff with techniques and approaches to address the whole person (body, mind and soul) in delivering health care.

US and Almaty partners have provided significant investment to create the WWC. TASHMI II and Tashkent City Health Administration have provided space, support for renovation valued at \$70,000 and all future operating costs. US (Chicago and USAID/AIHA) have matched Almaty's contribution through equipment and supplies donations.

Site Description: The Center is designed as an adaptation of a western women's services and education clinic and comprised of two exam rooms, a procedure rooms, adolescent room, laboratory, and conference room. In its initial year, the Center is expected to see approximately 600 clients per week for services and a larger number through its educational program.

Event Description: The event will comprise a walk-through of the Women's Wellness Center, brief meetings with Uzbek who are participating in Center prenatal and baby care classes, followed by the official ribbon-cutting dedication ceremony with short speeches by FLOTUS, other VIPs. The First Lady of Uzbekistan, Mrs. Tatiana Karimova, will join FLOTUS in the Opening.

500th USG Flight: There will be great attention paid to the recent USG "500th Flight" sponsored by the State Department's Operation Provide Hope, which provided Uzbekistan with over 110,000 pounds of donated medical equipment and supplies in May 1997. Over \$2 million in donated equipment was delivered to TASHMI II. FLOTUS attended the departure ceremony at Andrews Airforce Base. AIHA assisted in the distribution of \$1.6 million of drugs donated to Uzbekistan by Eli Lilly and Schein Bayer pharmaceutical companies.

Personalities:

First Lady of Uzbekistan

Mrs. Tatiana Karimova is a vocal supporter of health care for women and children and health promotion. She is a strong advocate of increasing the role and influence of Uzbek women in the development of Uzbek society. She heads the governmental charity foundation "For a Healthy Generation," which provides humanitarian assistance and encourages local and foreign investment for social programs. She is very interested in an integrated approach to care for women and children and has supported the creation of a "medico-social service system" provided by teams of health care professionals (Dr., RN, social worker) in mobile ambulance units.

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Size: Almost twice the size of the U.S. -- 6.6 million sq. miles
Natural Resources: 30% of the world's natural gas reserves, 20% of coal, 20% of gold, 6% of oil, abundant uranium, diamonds, copper, lead and silver, and one quarter of the world's forests
Population: 147 M (1996); 83% Russian, 17% other ethnic groups
Population by Age: 0-14, 23%; 15-24, 13%; 25-64 54%; 65+, 9%.
Population Growth Rate: 0.7% (1979-1989).
Rural: 26%, **Urban:** 74%, **Capital:** Moscow.
Per Capita Income: \$575 (1996). **Employed:** 44.6%
Religion: Predominately Russian Orthodox, Muslim
Language: Russian **Literacy:** 98%
Life Expectancy: ♂-59.6 yrs., ♀-72.7 yrs. (1996)
Infant Mortality: 19.4/1,000 live births (1987), 22.1/1000 (1980)



President: Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin
Prime Minister: Viktor Stepanovich Chernomyrdin
Foreign Minister: Yevgeni Maksimovich Primakov

Overview of USAID's Programs in Russia

Economic Reform and Private Sector Development: USAID is supporting Russia's transition from a state-controlled economy to a market system based on private property, competition and a functioning business sector. The success of this transition is important for sustained growth, increased employment and improved living standards. With the successful privatization of a large segment of Russian industry, attention turned to creating a legal and regulatory climate in which private business can evolve and to developing the grassroots training and business support organizations needed to stimulate local entrepreneurship. USAID activities foster the creation and growth of new, competitive businesses, promote fiscal reform, support the development of a modern financial sector, and promote the sustainable and non-polluting use of natural resources.

Democratic Institutions: USAID works with Russian counterparts at central, regional, and local levels to strengthen basic democratic systems in five key areas: elections and political parties, independent media, grassroots non-governmental organizations, the rule of law and local government. The Agency provides grants to non-governmental organizations to support the development of free labor unions, independent broadcast and print media, and an expanded political party system. USAID programs also support judicial reform through workshops, training and exchanges on a broad number of issues related to legal reform, including development of bar associations, updated legal education curriculum, and specific initiatives which enable Russians to address the pervasive problems of crime and corruption.

Social Sector Restructuring: USAID-supported activities are designed to demonstrate that adequate delivery of social services can be achieved in a market economy. USAID has focused principally on more effective ways of providing on housing and health care services, both of which are fundamental concerns for all Russians.

Fiscal Year 1996 = \$134.8 million

Fiscal Year 1997 = \$95.7 million

USAID/Washington: Richard Steelman, Russia Desk (202) 712-0518
USAID/Moscow: Richard Lein, Public Information and Outreach (7-095-956-4281 ext. 2646)

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Size: Approximately 240,000 sq. mi. (about the size of Texas)

Capital: Kiev

Population: 51.6 M (1995), 72% Ukraine, 22% Russian, 6% Others

Population by Age: 0-14, 21.4%; 15-64, 66.4%; 65+, 12.1% (1992)

Population Growth Rate: -0.1 (1990-1995)

GDP Per Capita: \$3,651 (1996), **Employed:** 60%

Rural: 32%, **Urban:** 68%

Religion: Ukrainian Orthodox, Greek Orthodox, Catholic, Protestant

Languages: 77% speak Russian & Ukrainian; 33% of Russians are fluent in Ukraine.

Life Expectancy: ♂-62 yrs., ♀-72 yrs. (1996), both sexes combined- 67 yrs. (1996)

Infant Mortality Rate: 13/1,000 live births (1996), 12.2/1,000 live births (1991), 16.6/1000 live births (1990).



President: Leonid Kuchma

Ambassador to the U.S.: Yuri Shcherbak

Overview of USAID's Programs in Ukraine

USAID's primary mission in Ukraine is to help the coalition of reformers to succeed in the fundamental restructuring of the country's economic and political system. USAID supports Ukraine's transition to a market economy based on privatization, capital markets development and economic restructuring, particularly in the areas of tax structure, banking, commercial law as well as trade and investment. Since agriculture is a significant sector of the Ukrainian economy, reactivating and transforming agriculture and the entire food production systems is a priority of USAID's assistance programs. In addition, USAID supports efforts made by the Government of Ukraine to promote the democratic reform process, and protect the most vulnerable members of the population during the economic transition.

Results in Ukraine With the Help of USAID-Funded Technical Assistance

1. More than 6,200 medium and large enterprises and 40,000 small enterprises have been privatized.
2. Two major tax reform laws, the drafting of which was supported by USAID, have been passed by Parliament.
3. USAID-funded farm service centers have helped increase yields on farms by more than 100 percent on more than one million hectares of land.
4. The Government of Ukraine was able to break the national monopoly in the power sector. There now exists 27 local electric distribution companies and 7 generation companies constituting a wholesale energy market functioning with prices set by market forces.
5. More than \$28 million in humanitarian assistance to hospitals, orphanages and boarding homes throughout Ukraine has been supplied by USAID programs.
6. Health care reform has helped improve surgical procedures and reduce costs of providing medical care, decreasing post-surgical hospital stays from 20 to 5 days.
7. USAID projects promote active participation of citizens in political decisionmaking. Political party activists have received training in campaign management and coalition-building, and have been supported in their efforts to participate in issues regarding the constitution and the drafting of new election laws.

Fiscal Year 1996 = \$225 million

Fiscal Year 1997 = \$225.1 million

USAID/Ukraine: Gregory Huger, Mission Director, 011-380-44-462-5678/79/80/81

USAID Washington: Sherry Grossman (202) 712-0542

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Divider Title: _____

L'VIV, UKRAINE-DETROIT, MICHIGAN PARTNERSHIP

Formed in 1993, the L'viv-Detroit partnership is composed of Henry Ford Health System in Detroit, Michigan, and L'viv Oblast Clinical Hospital (LOCH) and the L'viv Medical Institute in L'viv, Ukraine.

The partnership focuses on:

- neonatology;
- urology;
- rheumatic fever;
- emergency care; and
- nursing education;
- hospital administration; and
- physician training in specialty areas.

Selected Program Outcomes

Neonatology: The partners have established a **Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit** to meet the needs of critically ill and pre-term infants being transported to LOCH from throughout the city and oblast. The hospital redesigned the 48-bed unit and established eight intensive care beds complete with cardio-respiratory monitoring, capability for providing mechanical ventilation, controlled intravenous therapy, central blood pressure monitoring and supportive treatment.

The partners developed: (1) a collaborative practice model for physicians and nurses, (2) quality assurance committee, and (3) expanded nursing skills, which will improve hospital efficiency and patient outcomes. A Michigan/Ukrainian citizens group provided infant transportation equipment, and recently Henry Ford worked with Ford EURO to donate an ambulance which will improve safe transport for pediatric emergencies for the entire oblast.

Training: The LOCH has opened the **Neonatal Resuscitation Training Center**, which has trained over 200 physicians, nurses, and midwives with basic life-saving resuscitation techniques. The Ministry of Health is supporting the expansion of the Neonatal Resuscitation Program nationally, by way of a national resolution.

Urology: The partners have introduced modern surgical techniques in transurethral resection (TURP) of the prostate and bladder and in related infection control and nursing practices. These clinical skills have improved patient outcomes and reduced length of stay in the urology department.

Emergency Medical Services: The partners are improving in-hospital emergency care, to enable more timely effective treatment of the acutely ill patients the LOCH receives. The partnership has provided training and equipment to help develop a regional poison control/toxicology center.

L'VIV-DETROIT PARTNERSHIP

EVENT: Walkthrough of Neonatal Resuscitation Training Center and NICU (with possible participation of First Lady of Ukraine)

DATE OF EVENT: November 17, 1997

DURATION: 75 minutes, 11am-12:15pm

LOCATION: L'viv Oblast Clinical Hospital

HOSPITAL DIRECTOR: Dr. Borys Kryvko

CTR DIRECTOR: Dr. Dmytro Dobriansky

Background: The L'viv-Detroit partnership focuses on neonatal care and has two major initiatives. First, AIHA and the L'viv-Detroit partnership The partners have focused their efforts on establishing a **Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit** to meet the needs of critically ill and pre-term infants being transported to L'viv Oblast Clinical Hospital (LOCH) from throughout the city and the L'viv Oblast.

Second, the partners have developed a model **Neonatal Resuscitation Training Center (NRTC)** that was officially opened in January 1997. This is the **original** NRTC which has led to the creation of five additional centers in Ukraine. Donald Pressley and Richard Morningstar were present at the opening of the first "roll-out" center in Kyiv on October 24, 1997.

Equipment and supplies purchased with USAID funds for the Training Center include training manikins, medical supplies, and educational materials. Since the inception of the neonatology program in 1994, the total value of the Detroit partners donations of equipment and supplies to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) and the Neonatal Resuscitation Training Center has been over \$750,000.

Site Description: The LOCH is a large health care facility; however, hospital staff have just hosted the opening of the NRTC attended by the First Lady of Ukraine and other VIPs and are familiar with the needs of a large event.

Event Description: The First Ladies will be met by Dr. Borys Kryvko, Hospital director and given a brief tour of the Neonatal Resuscitation Training Center and the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit conducted by the Center Director and the Head of the NICU, as well as other relevant staff members. Brief descriptions of the training course and the services available at the NICU will be given. FLOTUS will have an opportunity to meet young children (4 yrs) receiving treatment in the hospital and to meet the parents of young infants (1 yrs) whose lives were saved because of the neonatal intensive care unit. The First Lady will also be able to congratulate the Ukrainians on their accomplishments in the auditorium. As the First Ladies exit the building, they may participate in a brief key turning ceremony

by representatives of Ford EURO who have contributed the new ambulance to LOCH.

U.S. Community and Corporate Support: The US partners, with the help of the members of the Ukrainian Village Corporation in Warren, Michigan, who provided an infant transport isolette, have established a transport system for sick infants in the L'viv Oblast. The development of the transport system was significantly supported by the L'viv Oblast Health Department which created new regulations regarding the transport of infants, thereby ensuring that sick infants will be transported to LOCH early in life.

Henry Ford Health Systems, Ford Motors EURO and the Ukrainian Ford dealership have been able to contribute a new Ford ambulance to the LOCH, which will vastly enhance the speed and safety by which critically ill infants can reach the hospital. The Ukrainian Ford dealership is a **model of good corporate citizenship**, even in difficult economic times.

Personalities:

First Lady of Ukraine

Mrs. Ludmila Kuchma is a vocal supporter of health care for women and children and health promotion in general and the L'viv Oblast Clinical Hospital and the Center's concept in particular. She and her staff have visited the NICU and the Training Center and we anticipate that she will be eager to participate in the visit with the First Lady of the United States.

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NIS-US WOMEN'S CONSORTIUM

Женский Консорциум ННГ-США • Жіночий Консорціум ННД-США

PRESS RELEASE

The *NIS-US Women's Consortium*, a program administered by Winrock International with financial support from the U.S. Agency for International Development, is a growing coalition of 161 women's NGOs and 9 expert advisors in Russia, Ukraine and the U.S. The Consortium was established in 1993 to increase the participation of women in the transition to democracy in the former Soviet republics. In 1996, the Consortium was registered as a local NGO in both Russia and Ukraine. To date, the Consortium's NIS activities have been exclusively in Russia and Ukraine, but membership will be expanded to Belarus and Moldova in 1997 with regional activities conducted from the Consortium's West NIS office in Kyiv.

In the NIS the Consortium provides women's leadership training (including topics such as human rights, conflict resolution, legal literacy, networking, strategic planning, fundraising and political campaigning), seed grants of \$500 - \$5,000 to women's NGOs, technical assistance (proposal writing reviews, institutional advising, use of communications equipment, etc.) and information dissemination (its newsletter, announcements of conferences and professional opportunities, and translations of books such as *Our Bodies, Ourselves*) through its offices in Kyiv and Moscow. Its US networking and communication efforts are based out of the Washington DC office of Winrock International.

In 1997, the Consortium will inaugurate two new exciting programs in addition to the activities above. In Russia, there will be a competitive "site visit" grants program for young women leaders to do mini-internships with successful NGOs working in similar fields. In the West NIS, the Consortium will offer small business training for women entrepreneurs in conjunction with the Counterpart Foundation.

As a transnational bridge, the Consortium facilitates important international cooperation among its members and with the global women's movement. Members have collaborated on projects such as the Russian and Ukrainian language adaptation and distribution of Julie Mertus's training manual, *Our Human Rights*. The Consortium was instrumental in increasing Russian NGO leaders' access to the UN Fourth World Conference on Women and NGO Forum, sending 34 women to Beijing in September 1995 with a grant from the Ford Foundation. The Consortium also responded to outcry from NIS women and obtained a grant from the Eurasia Foundation to provide 8 Russian language interpreters at the NGO Forum, thus enabling thousands of non-English speaking women from the former Warsaw bloc to participate actively in the proceedings. Russian would have been the only official UN language not accommodated at the Forum.

For more detailed information, please contact any of the following offices:

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updated September 1997

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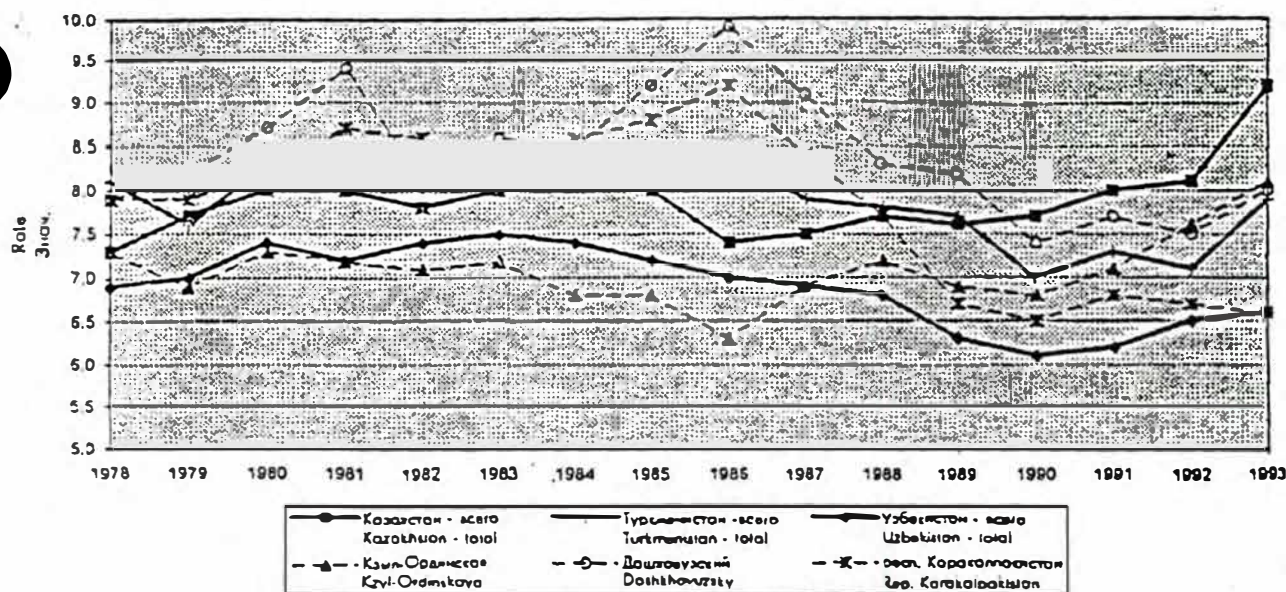
Appendix D

Selected Health Indicators in Kazakhstan and Aral Sea Region

Reference: Health Sector Indicators Available through Government Institutions in the Central Asian Region of the former Soviet Union. ZdravReform Program of USAID, Abt Associates, January 1995

СМЕРТНОСТЬ В РЕГИОНЕ АРАЛЬСКОГО МОРЯ

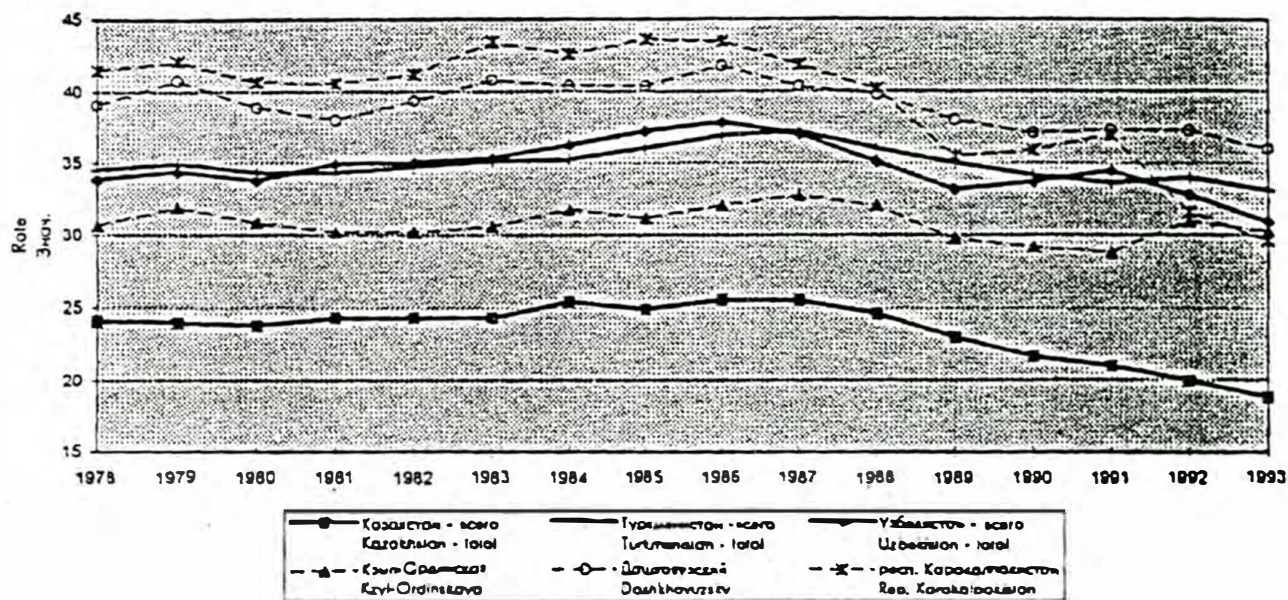
CRUDE DEATH RATES IN ARAL SEA REGION



	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
Казakhstan - всего	7.3	7.7	8.0	8.0	7.8	8.0	8.2	8.0	7.4	7.5	7.7	7.6	7.7	8.0	8.1	9.2
Кзыл-Ординская	7.3	6.9	7.3	7.2	7.1	7.2	6.8	6.8	6.3	6.9	7.2	6.9	6.8	7.1	7.6	8.1
Туркменистан - всего	8.1	7.6	8.3	8.5	8.0	8.4	8.2	8.1	8.4	7.9	7.8	7.7	7.0	7.3	7.1	7.9
Дашкховузская	7.9	8.2	8.7	9.4	8.1	8.6	8.5	9.2	9.9	9.1	8.3	8.2	7.4	7.7	7.5	8.0
Узбекистан - всего	6.9	7.0	7.4	7.2	7.4	7.5	7.4	7.2	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.3	6.1	6.2	6.5	6.6
Респ. Каракалпакстан	7.9	7.9	8.2	8.7	8.6	8.4	8.6	8.8	9.2	8.4	7.7	6.7	6.5	6.8	6.7	6.6

РОЖДАЕМОСТЬ В РЕГИОНЕ АРАЛЬСКОГО МОРЯ

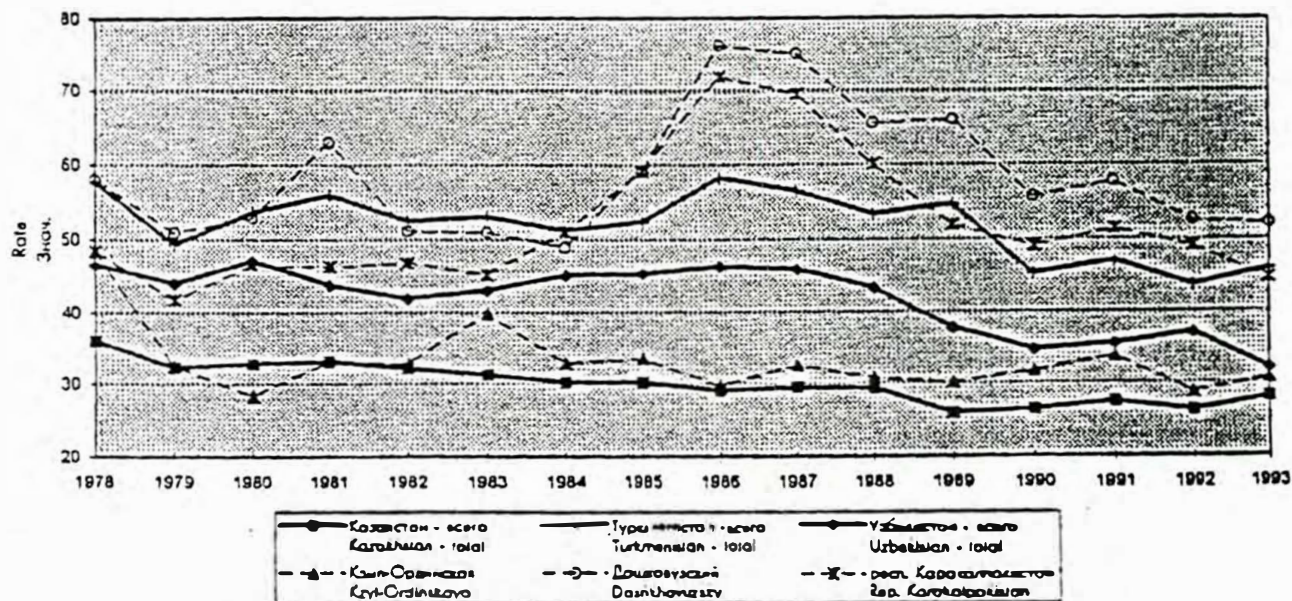
CRUDE BIRTH RATES IN ARAL SEA REGION



	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
Казахстан - всего Kazakhstan - total	24.1	24.0	23.9	24.3	24.3	24.3	25.4	24.9	25.5	25.5	24.8	23.0	21.7	21.0	19.9	18.7
Кызыл-Ординская Kyzyl-Ordinskaya	30.7	32.0	30.9	30.2	30.2	30.6	31.8	31.2	32.1	32.3	32.1	29.8	29.2	28.8	31.0	30.3
Туркменистан - всего Turkmenistan - total	34.5	34.9	34.3	34.3	34.7	35.1	35.2	36.0	36.9	37.2	36.0	35.0	34.2	33.6	34.0	33.1
Дашкхановский Dashkhanovsky	39.1	40.9	38.9	38.0	39.3	40.8	40.4	40.4	41.8	40.4	39.8	38.0	37.1	37.3	37.3	36.0
Узбекистан - всего Uzbekistan - total	33.9	34.4	33.3	34.9	35.0	35.3	36.2	37.2	37.8	37.0	35.1	33.2	33.7	34.5	32.8	30.9
респ. Каракалпакстан Res. Karakalpakstan	41.5	42.1	40.7	40.8	41.2	43.4	42.5	43.6	43.5	41.9	40.2	35.5	35.9	37.0	31.7	29.6

УРОВЕНЬ МЛАДЕНЧЕСКОЙ СМЕРТНОСТИ В РЕГИОНЕ АРАЛЬСКОГО МОРЯ

INFANT MORTALITY RATES IN ARAL SEA REGION



	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
Казахстан - всего Kazakhstan - total	36.0	32.2	32.7	33.1	32.1	31.2	30.2	30.1	29.0	29.4	29.2	25.9	25.4	27.4	26.2	28.0
Кзыл-Ординская Kzyl-Ordinskaya	48.4	32.5	28.3	33.1	32.8	39.8	32.9	33.5	29.7	32.5	30.7	30.1	31.7	33.8	28.8	30.6
Туркменистан - всего Turkmenistan - total	57.3	49.3	53.5	55.9	52.5	53.1	51.2	52.4	58.2	56.4	53.3	54.7	45.2	47.0	43.8	45.9
Дашкховузский Dashkhouzskiy	58.1	50.9	52.9	63.0	51.2	51.0	49.0	59.2	76.3	75.2	65.6	66.1	55.6	57.7	52.6	52.1
Узбекистан - всего Uzbekistan - total	46.5	43.9	47.0	43.8	42.0	43.1	45.1	45.3	46.2	45.9	43.3	37.8	34.6	35.5	37.0	32.0
респ. Каракалпакстан Rep. Karakalpakstan	48.5	41.8	46.5	46.2	46.8	45.2	51.0	59.2	72.0	63.6	60.1	52.0	49.1	51.4	49.1	44.6

Estimated Target Population***Kzyl Orda, Kazakhstan***

Total Population	606,200
Male	301,121
Female	305,079
Under 1	15,057
Under 5	74,564
6-14	136,636
Women 15-49	160,670

Karakalpakstan, Uzbekistan

Total Population	1,397,600
Male	693,200
Female	704,400
Under 1	32,600
Under 5	179,400
6-14	455,400
Women 15-49	332,600

Source: UNICEF 1995

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INFECTIOUS DISEASES & TUBERCULOSIS

USAID's approach to the prevention and control of infectious diseases has four elements:

- (1) working to change the social and economic conditions that allow infectious diseases to flourish and spread (such as poverty, malnutrition, education, lack of sanitation, overcrowding, environmental degradation);
- (2) helping to strengthen health systems so developing countries themselves can control infectious diseases;
- (3) focusing on priority infectious diseases; and
- (4) responding to emergency disease situations.

Globally, USAID's activities have focused primarily on: acute respiratory infections and diarrheal diseases in children; integrating health interventions for the prevention and treatment of malaria; and, as the largest single donor, the control and prevention of HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases. In FY 98, USAID will initiate implementation of an expanded initiative to prevent and control infectious diseases. The four key elements of this initiative will focus on antimicrobial resistance, tuberculosis control, malaria, and strengthening surveillance systems.

ENI is the only bureau that has already started addressing the problem of tuberculosis (TB) and its increasing resistance to drug therapy. Following a general decline in the incidence of TB prior to 1991, rates have risen dramatically since then. With a continuing breakdown of the health system in the troubled economies of the NIS, most countries continue to follow a very cost-inefficient TB control strategy involving active case-finding, regular chest X-rays, excessive skin testing and immunizations, and a well-entrenched, costly sanatorium network. USAID is assisting in the TB control effort in the region through: pilot efforts on directly observed therapy, short course (DOTS); strengthening epidemiological monitoring and surveillance; more rational pharmaceutical management, including appropriate prescribing practices and pharmaceutical procurement; and strengthening health care delivery systems. In FY 98, USAID will modestly increase its support to TB control activities in Russia and the Central Asian Republics (CAR).

Background on BCG and its use in the prevention of Tuberculosis:

BCG (bacille Calmette Guerin) is a strain of bovine tuberculosis with decreased virulence for humans. Studies have shown that vaccination with effective BCG can prevent about 4 out of 5 active cases which otherwise would have developed. Also, vaccinated persons, especially young children, who become ill, develop less severe cases, e.g. localized rather than generalized infections. After vaccination, however, the tuberculin skin test becomes positive. Lower rates of TB in the U.S., compared to developing countries, are the reason BCG is not used here, so we can use the tuberculin skin test for screening.

As a result of policy changes initiated through USAID-funded infectious disease activities in CAR, considerable cost savings can be realized by decreasing the number of BCG vaccinations from four to two and by eliminating annual tuberculin skin testing of children age one through twelve, only testing once at school entry. The funds saved will be needed to procure the combination medications recommended for use under the DOTS protocol.

RUSSIA - GCC & TUBERCULOSIS

Following a decline in the incidence of TB from 1976 to 1991, rates have risen dramatically since then. In the face of a continuing breakdown of the health system in the troubled Russian economy, Russia continues to follow a very cost-inefficient TB control strategy involving active case-finding, regular chest X-rays, excessive skin testing and immunizations, and a very costly sanatorium network. With USAID funding, and within the Gore-Chernomyrdin Health Committee framework, CDC has implemented exchange visits for key Russian officials. Despite lengthy discussions, to date these officials have not been convinced by the U.S. experience with short course therapy, nor by a pilot activity in Russia. Efforts to modernize Russia's approach to TB treatment and control have met resistance. Nevertheless, Russia's Minister of Health Dimetrieveva, clearly recognizes that Russia does have a TB problem and does need to look at the results of DOTS pilot efforts being undertaken by WHO, Soros and other donors at the oblast level in Russia. Further, she has asked the U.S. for financial help, since funding for TB programs is not now within Russia's approved budget.

TB INITIATIVE IN CENTRAL ASIA

Kazakhstan has one of the most serious TB problems in the NIS, with rates increasing 40% over the past 3 years. Similar rates are also found for other Central Asian republics. In response, USAID has a major TB initiative underway in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan. Working through the collaborative efforts of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Project Hope and Abt Associates, USAID hopes to help reform the existing TB diagnostic, treatment and control practices in the region. In 1997, USAID/CAR programmed approximately \$1 million to address the TB problem and in 1998, plans to add additional resources to complete the implementation of the DOTS program (directly observed therapy, short course) in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and expand efforts to Uzbekistan. Since 1993, Project HOPE has operated a successful demonstration in western Kazakhstan. This follow-on program will enable Project HOPE to focus on reform of clinical practices in the treatment of TB, and to leverage funds from the private sector (e.g. Chevron Munaigas Inc.) to procure drugs and other needed lab equipment.

A major emphasis of the Central Asia TB program is to demonstrate reduced costs of TB surveillance and treatment by introducing short course therapy (DOTS) and improved laboratory diagnostics. Other aspects of the program include: strengthening of NGOs and new professional associations (especially the nursing associations) to carry prevention messages to the public in their localities; and continued work by CDC to strengthen the case-based surveillance systems, and to improve national reporting on TB.

As a result of policy changes initiated through USAID-funded infectious disease activities in CAR, considerable cost savings can be realized by decreasing the number of BCG vaccinations from four to two and by eliminating annual tuberculin skin testing of children age one through twelve, only testing once at school entry. The funds saved will be needed to procure the combination medications recommended for use under the DOTS protocol.

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SOROS FOUNDATIONS PROGRAMS FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN: Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan

Overview:

The Soros Foundations are involved in various programs which address the needs of women and children. These include Step by Step, Critical Thinking, Health Education, Visual Thinking Strategies, Child Abuse and Debate, and various health and medical programs. The following will summarize the main aspects of each of these programs. Each of the National Foundations participates in these programs according to local needs and priorities. Therefore we are including below more specific country based information on women's and children's programs and the new Russian Public Health program.

Step by Step:

Step by Step is a comprehensive education program for children, birth through age ten, which introduces child-centered, individualized teaching methods and supports community and family involvement in preschools and/or primary school classrooms. Special emphasis is placed on the long-term replicability of these demonstration schools, through work with Ministries of Education and institutions that train new teachers and retrain experienced teachers. The program has a 5 year developmental framework in each country. The program reaches out to serve the needs of underserved children in the region: minorities, children with disabilities, Roma, refugee children, children living in poverty.

Women's Program:

The purpose of the Women's Program is to promote the advancement of women's human rights and empowerment through education, advocacy and research. A central focus is on the promotion of national, regional, and international cooperation and linkages among women's organizations which oppose gender discrimination. More specifically, there is a focus on common trends in the deterioration of women's status and the violations of women's social, political, and economic rights.

Health Education:

The Health Education Program was developed to provide an innovative approach to teaching health education to secondary school students with the aim of positively affecting their health behaviors. It is a teacher training program which introduces interactive teaching methodologies through a five part health curriculum and a five day teacher training focusing on Alcohol and other Drugs, Human Sexuality, AIDS, Smoking, and Nutrition.

Debate Program:

The Debate Program was established to promote change in an educational methodology

in which the teacher's authority is never questioned, a method of learning which reinforces complacency in the general population. The Debate Program encourages the development of sophisticated communication skills, interest in and understanding of current social and political events, and tolerance for differing ideas. The program introduces formal debate to secondary school students in their native languages. An organized debate occurs between two teams of students who argue opposing sides on a topic within a limited time period. Before the actual debate, students conduct research and prepare arguments on both sides of the issue to be debated.

Critical Thinking Project:

The objective of the Critical Thinking Project is to introduce a core of instructional methods that promote critical independent thinking into primary and secondary school classrooms. A priority of the project is to include Teacher Training Institutes and Pedagogical Institutes from the beginning, with the aim of including these practices in teacher education. The project will work with educators to adapt and institutionalize pedagogical strategies that have been shown to help students think reflectively, take responsibility for their own learning, understand the logic of arguments, debate confidently, and make decisions responsibly.

Child Abuse and Children's Mental Health:

The program aims at building a multi-disciplinary approach to the problem of child abuse. Interdisciplinary teams of professionals put together by the national foundations help to create a professional association or treatment/training center in their country devoted to addressing child abuse prevention and treatment issues and basic child welfare policy.

Visual Thinking Strategies Program (VTS):

The VTS program teaches thinking and communication skills to children through looking at art. The program seeks to influence behavior through the understanding and developing of cognitive skills. The Visual Thinking Strategies curriculum is grounded in 20 years of research about how people of all ages and levels of sophistication think while looking at works of art. The last 10 years has resulted in a curriculum producing change in classroom practice everywhere it has been introduced, as well as contributing to overall school reform.

KAZAKSTAN - 1997 budget \$5,000,000

Soros Foundation-Kazakhstan

ul. Furmanova, 117/20

Almaty, Kazakhstan 480091

tel: 7 (3272) 503-811, fax: 7 (3272) 503-814. tel/fax: 7 (327)-5-811-408

email: gzarubin@pop.glas.ap

Executive Director: Mr. George Zarubin

The foundation in Kazakhstan implements a number of OSI network programs oriented toward children and youth. In 1998, SF-Kazakhstan will continue these programs and facilitate the building of networks among teachers, parents and schools in the outlying regions of the country. Specific program activities include:

Health Education: Since its start in 1997, this program has been extremely well-received in Kazakhstan. It is anticipated that the Ministry of Education will soon adopt Health Education as part of the official school curriculum throughout the country. In 1998, the foundation will be recruiting regional trainers, developing health education curriculum in the Kazak language, and creating an independent NGO which will aim to disseminate the methodology and curriculum of the program further.

Debate: In 1997, the foundation introduced the debate program into a total of 35 schools. In 1998, the program will be further expanded into the regions of Kazakhstan, and introduced at the university level.

Step-by-Step: This program, which is in its second academic year in Kazakhstan, is currently being implemented in a total of 6 schools (28 classrooms). In 1998, the foundation will seek to establish ten new base kindergartens in the country's regions.

VTs: In 1998, the foundation will continue implementation of the Visual Thinking Strategies program, seeking to adapt the curriculum for Kazak language schools.

KYRGYZSTAN - 1997 budget \$4,6000,000 Soros Foundation-Kyrgyzstan

Abdumomunova 205

Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan 720301

tel: (996 3312) 22 38 29 or 22 18 94 fax: (996 3312) 22 38 29 or 22 18 94

email: ahmat@office.soros.bishkek.su

Executive Director: Mr. Ahmat Madeuyev

Soros Foundation-Kyrgyzstan supports a wide range of programs and activities which focus upon early childhood/secondary education. Through its "Transformation of the Humanities" program, the foundation has developed a network of 50 pilot schools which serve as centers for innovative education reform initiatives, including the introduction of such programs as debate and civics education. In 1998, the foundation will be working with the Ministry of Education to disseminate new curricula and methodologies more widely in Kyrgyzstan.

Step-by Step: Currently there are nine model kindergartens spread throughout Kyrgyzstan, four of which also serve as training centers. As of September 1997, Step by Step is also implemented in 16 first grade classrooms in 8 schools throughout the country.

Child Abuse: SF-Kyrgyzstan joined this OSI network program in 1997, and plans to continue in 1998 with continuous training for specialists in this field, as well as with teachers, social workers and law enforcement representatives. It will also support a rehabilitation center for victims of abuse, and wide scale public education efforts.

Children with Additional Needs: Designed to develop an integrated approach to education for children with disabilities in collaboration with the Step-by-Step program and pilot school network. Grants are made to specialized institutions which work with disabled children, and activities in local communities focused upon public education are supported.

Youth Program: In an effort to stimulate independent youth initiatives, open competitions are held for individuals and organizations seeking to start youth clubs (environment, culture, science, etc), school newspapers, volunteer projects, and other such activities. In 1997, more than 350 youth organizations were supported with equipment, training, books and magazine subscriptions.

Debate: The foundation supports the creation of debate centers and clubs, as well as summer camps, and intends to focus in the upcoming year on debate training and tournaments in the Kyrgyz language.

Womens' NGOs:

The foundations in both Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan provide support to women's NGOs through their general civil society/NGO development programs. (See attached list of organizations.)

RUSSIA - 1997 budget \$60,000,000

Open Society Institute-Russia

Bolshoi Kozlovski pereulok 13/17

Moscow, Russia 107078

tel: (7 095) 921 2065 or 928 4632

fax: (7 095) 975 2028 or 288 9512

President: Ms. Ekaterina Genieva

email: egenieva@osi.ru

Since its establishment in 1995, the Open Society Institute - Russia has been active in the areas of secondary and higher education, civil society, journalism, publishing, internet, and arts and culture. Women's and children's programs are implemented within the broader education and civil society programs. In July 1997, the Open Society Institute began planning a new large scale initiative in the area of women's and children's health.

Step-by-Step:

The Russian foundation has participated in setting up Step-by-Step centers in 17 cities across the country: Moscow, Samara, Togliatti, Novokiyubishev, Nizhny Novgorod, Novosibirsk, St. Petersburg, Vladimir, Yaroslavl, Rodniki, Cheliabinsk, Kazan, Novgorod, Staraya Russa, Okulovka, Borovichy, Cheboksary. Spending for the Step by Step program will be over \$2 million in 1997.

Debate:

In the Debates program, over 100 teams have participated in tournaments since 1995; schools in twelve cities have participated in the program. The program was originally based in Moscow, St. Petersburg, Samara and Nizhny-Novogorod and Novosibirsk. There are three main debate centers (St. Petersburg, Moscow and Nizhny Novgorod) with the two others being "satellite" centers." This way the program can remain connected to

each other in such a large country. There are also debate teams in Cheboksary, Sinbirsk, and Novgorod.

Women's Program:

In the Women's Program, the foundation has agreed to translate the text Women's Rights as Human Rights. They also recently supported the Global Survival Network's production of a documentary film, and a follow-up conference on the trafficking of women in Russia and Ukraine.

Support of Women's NGOs: Through OSI Russia's Civil Society program, grants have been made to a number of women's NGOs. (See attached list of organizations.)

Critical Thinking Project:

The Critical Thinking Project is in its early stages-- local teachers are currently being trained in critical thinking methods. Teacher training workshops are taking place in 5 regions-Moscow, St. Petersburg, Samara, Nizhny Novgorod, and Novosibirsk. Teachers are being selected from pedagogical institutes, in-service institutes and retraining institutes. The second workshop is taking place mid-December in St. Petersburg.

Visual Thinking Program:

The VTS is well into its third year in St. Petersburg, Russia. The group of St. Petersburg coordinators, educators, and psychologists now act as a resource team for the other participating national foundations. With over three years of classroom practice, the St. Petersburg VTS Center is in the process of writing and publishing materials on various aspects of the VTS in practice, in addition to providing information on new educational methodologies that are being introduced in Eastern Europe.

Health Education:

The Health Education program was implemented in Russia in 1994 in St. Petersburg, Samara, Nizhny Novgorod, and Novosibirsk. Since Health Education was not traditionally included in the secondary school curriculum in Russia, each of the regional programs, working with the local Ministries of Education has used differing approaches to introduce the course into the school system. Programs have been widely implemented in these four regions. There are plans to expand the program by adding additional components related to the environment, family planning, and conflict resolution. Additionally, it is expected that the Health Education program will be replicated in additional geographic regions in 1998 within the framework of the new Public Health program.

Russia Public Health Program:

The Russia Public Health Program will focus on improving the health of women and children by implementing programs in the areas of women's and children's health care services, health promotion and disease prevention, and health information and education for professionals and the general public. We expect that this new initiative will be operational at the beginning of 1998 and will have a three year budget of \$100 million.

UKRAINE - 1997 budget \$17,000,000

International Renaissance Foundation - Kyiv ul. Artema 46

Kyiv, Ukraine 254053

tel: (380 44) 216 25 96, 216 1324, 216 1253, or 244 7487 fax: (380 44) 216 76 29

email: pokotilo@vidr.kiev.ua
Executive Director: Mr. Viacheslav Pokotylo

The International Renaissance Foundation also implements the full range of OSI network programs for children and youth, including Step-by-Step, Debate, Visual Thinking Strategies and Health Education. In addition, the foundation has a national youth program designed to support youth initiatives in the different regions of Ukraine, including rural communities, as well as facilitating the development of an electronic communications network for youth organizations in the Kyiv region.

Step-by-Step: This program is in its third year in Ukraine, and currently operates in 20 kindergartens and 14 primary schools. The methodology is currently approved on an experimental basis by the Ministry of Education. In 1998, the program will seek to work more with Roma children, as well as children with disabilities. The program also works closely with teacher training/retraining institutes in Ukraine.

Debate: The International Renaissance Foundation has six regional branches, all of which have sought to implement the debate program. The program is also implemented at the university level.

Women's NGOs: The International Renaissance Foundation has a separate Women's Development program which provides start-up grants to women's NGOs and facilitates networking within the women's NGO community in Ukraine. (See attached list of organizations.)

UZBEKISTAN - 1997 budget \$800,000

Open Society Institute - Uzbekistan

Ivleva Street 41

700000 Tashkent

Uzbekistan

tel/fax (3712) 40 68 54; 55 61 60, or 54 82 43 Country Director: Ms. Katherine Mooney

email: kmooney@osi.silk.org

As the foundation in Uzbekistan is relatively young, they have supported only several projects in the area. These have included a program for human rights and civics education in secondary schools, and the Bukhara branch of the Business Women's Association.

SOROS Activities in Russia:

Over the past five years, SOROS has been very active in a number of sectors including public access Internet, training for tax and accounting and health care and education.

Internet:

Information sharing and dissemination is a key to continued orientation of the Russian populace throughout this vast country. SOROS has been instrumental in providing hardware and software packages to universities and government operations. These installations are located in such places as Novgorod, Khabarovsk and Yekaterinburg. The capacity of the systems is such that other government and donor activities are able to access for our purposes. As such, the SOROS installation in Novgorod will be a part of the Regional Investment Initiative. The same is anticipated at the location in Khabarovsk.

Training on tax and accounting standards:

The Open Society Institute is a SOROS funded organization that has received a state of the art computerized training complex. These facilities have been used for training programs aimed at tax administration officials from the State Tax Service (federal and regional personnel), Ministry of Finance and municipal tax authority. The facilities have also been used for the training of international accounting standards for Russian accounts.

Health Sector Activities. The larger \$100 million program is still in the development stage; maternal and child health, medical education and information are the major areas of focus. USAID/Russia participated in several meetings organized by SOROS to discuss priority areas for intervention and best approaches in Russia. The \$10 million (budget not sure) TB initiative to upgrade laboratory capabilities and implement the WHO DOTS program in several oblasts has also not yet begun.

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Divider Title: _____

Overview of Reproductive Health-Contraceptive Alternatives

Since the collapse of the Soviet Union, women, in particular, suffer from struggling economies and the deterioration of social services. In this environment, women are reluctant to bear children and raise families, resulting in decreasing birth rates. Abortion continues to be the primary method of fertility control throughout the NIS, resulting in high maternal mortality and morbidity rates from complications. To counteract excessive reliance on abortion and to expand contraceptive methods, USAID began family planning programs in the Central Asian Republics in 1993, and in Ukraine and Russia in 1994.

Use of modern contraceptive methods varies across countries in the NIS. Because statistics are unreliable, USAID has supported surveys in Kazakhstan, Krygyzstan (data not yet available), Russia and Uzbekistan and one is planned for Ukraine. Currently married women surveyed, reported using modern methods ranging from 46% in Kazakhstan to 60% in Russia. In all NIS countries intrauterine devices (IUDs) are the most popular modern method, probably because they have been available for decades. Health providers and the public distrust oral contraceptive pills because of misinformation and past experience in the 1960s with high dose pills. Condom use is low (Kazakhstan 3.7% and Uzbekistan 1.4% compared to 40% and 33% for the IUD, respectively). Voluntary surgical sterilization is not available or is considered unacceptable for family planning purposes.

Although contraceptive use is rising and abortion rates appear to be falling (many abortions may not officially be registered), there is a clear need for improved information and services to women, men and adolescents. Sexual activity is initiated at a young age. Throughout the region, sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) are increasing dramatically and HIV is steadily rising; yet, there is reluctance to confront these rising rates with public education and services. The situation is particularly troubling since strong government concern exists about decreasing birth rates which are often blamed on the introduction of family planning services.

USAID's Response

USAID's family planning activities include: establishing model clinic sites where patients receive both contraception and counseling on various methods; training the local trainers of service providers; providing correct information to the public through radio and television; improving service delivery practices; and policy initiatives to raise awareness with policy makers on women's health issues and to institute changes at a national level. Through these activities, several thousand service providers, including clinicians, pharmacists and OB/GYNs have received training in family planning counseling, contraceptive technology, infection prevention and delivery skills. Thousands of copies of family planning materials have been translated and provided to health providers and clients. Over 25 demonstration sites have been established throughout the region and are currently expanding to other areas of each country. Since 1993 contraceptive marketing activities in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan have increased the availability of affordable, quality contraceptives in private pharmacies through the "Red Apple" program and has contributed markedly to the retraining of pharmacists and physicians in contraceptive technology. This program has also been a major factor in privatization of the pharmacy sector in Kazakhstan.

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POLITICAL PARTY BUILDING/ELECTION WORK IN THE NIS

USAID's intermediaries for political party building and election-related activities in Russia, Ukraine and Central Asia are the National Democratic Institute (NDI), the International Republican Institute (IRI), and the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES). We have been working with all three since our NIS programs began in 1992.

-- **NDI.** NDI's chief activity in Russia has been the strengthening of Yabloko, the largest non-government, democratically oriented party in the State Duma. NDI runs training seminars and provides technical assistance to Yabloko's party organization, both in Moscow and in the regions--in party organization, recruitment of volunteers, media coverage, campaign management, and get-out-the-vote activities. Across the NIS region, NDI also organizes workshops for citizen groups seeking to increase their participation in the political process (e.g., Committee of Voters of Ukraine) on such topics as basic NGO organizing techniques, get out the vote, and recruiting volunteers.

-- **IRI.** IRI has adopted a very successful training-of-trainers approach in Russia, aimed mainly at Our Home is Russia (Nash Dom), the government party headed by Prime Minister Chernomyrdin. IRI has trained Nash Dom staff in modern party-building techniques to the point where Nash Dom now runs its own internal political trainings for its branches around the country. In Ukraine, IRI has trained a range of pro-reform political party activists in ten key regions in campaign management, coalition-building, fundraising, and voter contact and turnout.

-- **IFES.** Across the NIS region IFES works with government election commissions, training their personnel in techniques of efficient and transparent election administration and assisting in drafting of new election laws. Once legislation is passed, IFES helps election commissions mount voter education campaigns, including public service announcements, radio and television talk shows, distribution of printed materials (posters, flyers, advertisements), and town meetings. On election day, IFES personnel are usually in the thick of things, advising election commissions on a minute-by-minute basis.

USAID-sponsored party-building and election activities in the NIS have had mixed results to date, largely due to two major constraints:

-- Politics still carries a negative connotation, in the public's perception--a legacy of the communist era. Many citizens continue to view politics as a dirty, unappealing business, which has inhibited our efforts to attract wide public participation in political campaigns and election activities.

-- Political parties remain largely personality-driven factions, not broad-based organizations with wide appeal. These factions have very little depth, because until very recently, they have failed to reach out to constituents at the grass-roots level. There remains a critical disconnect between what citizens perceived as their needs and what parties purport to provide.

To deal with these issues and to enhance the effectiveness of political process programs, USAID is increasingly targetting its party building activities at the local level, to help nascent parties forge links with other social actors, including NGOs, community organizations, labor unions, etc. In addition, USAID is broadening its already-significant NGO support activities to include voter education groups and other politically-linked citizen organizations.

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Democracy Program in Central Asia

The objective of USAID/CAR's Democracy program in Central Asia is to increase citizens' participation in economic and political decision-making. This program is built on 3 pillars: increasing citizens' participation through NGOs, increasing availability of information to them via the independent media, and increasing government responsiveness and accountability to its citizens.

1. CIVIL SOCIETY: Implemented primarily through Counterpart Consortium in all five Central Asian countries, USAID's civil society program, the backbone of the Mission's Democracy program, is training NGOs in various areas, such as fund-raising, membership building, media relations, board of directors and government advocacy. This is intended to increase their effectiveness and sustainability. USAID also makes small grants to a selected few.

When the Central Asian countries gained independence, only a few NGOs existed. Today, largely as a result of this program, there are well over 1000 NGOs in the region, few of which would have blossomed without assistance from USAID, the principal donor for NGOs. Their numbers continue to increase dramatically. USAID is now focusing on increasing NGOs' willingness and ability to advocate their policy agendas with government. Last year in Kyrgyzstan, for example, due to pressure from the Private Farmers' Association, the Parliament held the first open hearings in Central Asia to discuss how proposed legislation would affect farmers. In coming years, USAID will also be focusing more on increasing NGOs' sustainability, including improving the laws governing NGOs, which impede their achieving such.

USAID's civil society program also targets artisan groups, many of which are comprised predominantly of women. The program is helping to improve their product lines, marketing expertise, and management skills including the incorporation of democracy concepts in their internal operations. These groups are also learning how to use local, regional and international artisan fairs to great advantage. The program's impact is clearly visible. Overall, exports of artisan goods are increasing significantly, and the groups, which often pressure governments for favorable treatment, are learning important democracy skills in the process.

Working through ABA/CEELI, USAID is also targeting supporting legal and judicial associations. Due primarily to ABA assistance, there are now such associations in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. The one in Shymkent, Kazakhstan is particularly active; it has helped start a monthly newsletter for lawyers, is in the process of establishing a law library, and is helping local lawyers review draft legislation before Parliament and submit comments thereon.

2. INDEPENDENT MEDIA: Implemented primarily through Internews, USAID's independent media program is focused primarily on independent TV and radio stations. It is increasing the availability of news on independent TV and radio and improving the stations' financial viability and the quality of their programming.

Central to this effort is Internews' extensive training program, under which personnel from the various stations learn more about improving presentations, redesigning studios, maintaining ethical standards, and learning how to manage a private enterprise. With a few minor exceptions, USAID is the only donor assisting such stations.

In 1992, there were no independent TV or radio stations in the region. Today, due largely to

such assistance, there are approximately 100 independent TV stations in Central Asia, and in most countries their numbers continue to increase. But none of them are being propped up by USAID; were USAID assistance to cease, all would continue.

While self censorship is widely practiced, a few stations are constantly testing the limits of what they can show. In Uzbekistan, for example, talk shows on touchy subjects (prostitution, etc.) that would never have been aired a few years ago are now being produced and shown locally.

USAID is also increasing citizens' sources of information by assisting NGOs throughout Central Asia in developing newsletters, and it has helped establish law libraries in all but Turkmenistan. Among other things, these libraries are becoming repositories of draft legislation, which local NGOs and attorneys can use to critique proposed changes in the law.

3. GOVERNMENT RESPONSIVENESS AND ACCOUNTABILITY: Elections are scheduled throughout the CAR in 1999 and 2000, and USAID is seeking commitments from governments throughout the region (except Turkmenistan) that they be genuinely contested and competitive. USAID, through IFES, is preparing for these elections by working closely with various election commissions and NGOs. Changing existing laws is very important, and getting the commissions' support for such is critical. Everywhere in Central Asia, for example, the laws require that over 50% of registered voters cast their ballots for an election to be valid. Because of this, officials are tempted to overlook irregularities, thus discrediting the results.

To help pinpoint other problems, during the past several years USAID has conducted public opinion surveys throughout the region. Governments, keenly interested in the conclusions, have often been surprised by them. Among other things, the surveys reveal that most citizens view voting as a meaningless task; many also still don't understand NGOs and, in general, feel poorly informed.

To address these problems, USAID is helping to conduct voter and civic education programs as well as, through a constituency-building effort, building support for ongoing reforms. USAID is also training election officials and candidates in how to conduct elections and campaigns. In 1997, due largely to USAID's initiative and USIS's expertise, the first TV debates in Central Asia for a parliamentary seat were conducted in Kazakhstan (and later in Kyrgyzstan). Candidates and moderators were trained in how to conduct such debates. USAID is developing a training film of the debates which USAID and implementing organizations will use in coming elections to foster use of debates.

Through NDI and ABA/CEELI, USAID is working with the parliaments in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan to help them become more transparent in their operations and responsive to citizens and, in particular, improve their ability to review and draft legislation. Various training programs and workshops have been conducted in legislative drafting, using the press effectively, improving constituent relations, etc. The Parliament in Kyrgyzstan has, in particular, come a long way in shedding its rubber-stamp image. Due in large part to USAID assistance, the legislature there now conducts open hearings as part of its procedures. The Kazakhstani Parliament has made some initial steps in this direction; USAID's goal is for open hearings to become common practice there as well.

Strengthening Political Processes and Democratic Parties

Russia's democratic, multi-party system has matured dramatically since 1991. Elections have occurred as scheduled. Parliamentary and presidential elections in 1995 and 1996 were declared free and fair by both Russian election commission officials and international observers. A multi-party system exists. Parliamentary elections resulted in a legislature that is capable of vetoing executive branch decisions. Nevertheless, significant challenges remain, particularly in the area of party-building. Parties continue to be "personality" driven, are not organized around platforms or ideologies, have weak organizational structures, and have poor linkages between their organization and their factions in the State Duma and Regional parliaments. Citizens remain suspicious of parties and party identification among voters remains weak. To address these issues, USAID has made substantial investments since 1993 to strengthen political parties and processes in Russia.

Electoral System Development. The International Foundation for Election Systems (IFES) is strengthening the capacity of the Russian Central Election Commission (CEC) and regional election commissions to administer free and fair elections. IFES support fosters: openness and transparency in the electoral process; better administration of and compliance with election law and regulations; stronger voters' rights; and more informed voters.

Political Institutions in a Democratic Society. The International Republican Institute (IRI) supports sustainable development of political institutions essential to democracy, focussing on political party development and campaign training, parliamentary training, and increasing the role of women and youth in politics and the political process. It is working to develop the capacity of several Russian organizations to continue this work independently.

Political Participation: Parties and Local Governments. The National Democratic Institute (NDI) program is broadly aimed at increased citizen involvement both in the electoral process and in governance. NDI emphasizes three outcomes: (1) encouraging fledgling political parties to structure genuine political competition by identifying and aggregating the interests of citizens and by presenting and clarifying political choices; (2) enabling civic organizations to promote the openness and accountability of governmental institutions; and (3) fostering communication and consensus building among various political groups, thereby enhancing the capacity of representative institutions to make decisions which reflect citizens' interests.

Development of a Democratic Political Culture. The Moscow School of Political Studies (MSPS) supports a growing network of democratically minded young Russian political, administrative, intellectual and business leaders in Moscow and in the regions. Through intensive seminars, MSPS increases understanding of how modern liberal economic and political systems operate, encourages discussion of how these systems can be adapted to Russia, promotes closer cooperation between Russian public figures of different political persuasions, and encourages regular working exchanges between Russian and foreign public figures.

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Data on Children/Orphans in the NIS

UNICEF reports that ministries that even have or keep statistical information do not report the entire story. The stats come from the Ministries of Education, Social Welfare, Labor, Health, etc., and UNICEF does some cross checking for accuracy, but it still thinks it does not have more complete information - which leads us to conclude that there is significant underreporting. No country in the former Soviet Union has any information on homeless or street children. One local NGO in Ukraine (Rita knows about it) says there may be as many as 12,000 homeless children in Kiev. Other NGOs there report the figure may be as high as 40,000.

So far, UNICEF will stand by its figures for 1994. In conversations with UNICEF in Florence, Italy, staffers there have passed along later figures. Until 1996, nobody had any figures at all for Kazakstan.

for 1994:

Russia	ORPHANS		102,593
	FOSTER	CARE	225,000
Total			327,593

Ukraine	ORPHANS		33,000
	FOSTER	CARE	59,400
Total			92,400

N.B. UNICEF also provided information on Azerbaijan, and Belarus.

for 1995:

Russia	CHILDREN IN HOMES	106,094	
	CHILDREN DISABLED	231,433	(on public care)
	CH IN FOSTER CARE	252,540	
Total		590,067	

N.B. No figures for Ukraine for 1995

for 1996: (first attempt at stats from any CAR republic; UNICEF says it has offices in the region)

K'stan	CHILDREN IN HOMES	2,235	
	CHILDREN DISABLED	3,078	(on public care)
Total		5,314	

N.B. No figures for Russia and Ukraine for 1996.

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BRS Assigned Document Number: 002528966

Entry Date:	23 Oct 97	AFS Number:	LD2310215797
Classification:	UNCLASSIFIED	Status:	PUBLISHABLE
Language:	Russian	Country:	RUSSIA
Number of Takes:	0	Take Number:	0
Precedence:	PRIORITY	Document Date:	23 Oct 97
Category:	PUBLISHABLE		

City/Source of Document: Moscow Informationsionnoye Agentstvo Ekho
Moskvy

Subject: Yeltsin Radio Address on Children's Welfare

Reference: LD2310171297 fyi -- yeltsin's 24 oct radio address to be
on children

Source Line: Moscow Informationsionnoye Agentstvo Ekho Moskvy in
Russian 1625 GMT 23 Oct 97

FULL TEXT OF ARTICLE:

1. [Radio address to be made by Russian President Boris Yeltsin at 0500 GMT on 24 October -- embargoed until 0500 GMT, 24 October]
2. [FBIS Translated Text] Dear Russians: Lately, I had to speak a great deal about what has been widely aired: political problems, the budget, about relations between the Duma and the government. One cannot, unfortunately, avoid this. There are, however, other problems. Yes, they are not linked to a political routine but this does not make them any less important. It is for this reason that today I want to speak about children, about our little fellow citizens, about whom we say almost as a matter of habit that children are our future.
3. What does a child need in order to feel happy? On the whole, not a great deal: mother in a good mood, interesting toys and books with colorful pictures. It is nice to see strong, smiling, and happy children, those who live in comfort surrounded by love and care. I am, however, very worried about those children in whose eyes one sees anxiety, fear, or even despair, those children who don't have books or toys, and whose parents don't take them to the sea-side. There are, unfortunately, many such children. Far too many.
4. The state today is increasingly renouncing the role of a petty

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guardian over the people, the constant and importunate interference in their private lives. This is understandable. In creating a free economy, we consciously departed from the rigid regimentation and regulation of all aspects of life, and failed to notice how the state was increasingly becoming indifferent to the fate of its children. It is impossible to go back to the time when children were led by pioneer and Komsomol leaders. In tackling pressing economic and political tasks, we are all the time, as it were, setting aside children's issues for later, until better times, as it were. No one, however, has relieved us from caring for the weak and the defenseless, no one has relieved the authorities from responsibility for social duties. Of course, it is possible to say that we don't have sufficient resources for everything -- wages for the state employees, investment in industry and agriculture, and military reform. When it concerns thousands upon thousands of children, however, such explanations cannot be either understood or accepted. How could we permit it that today there is a whole army of homeless children in the country, those who are not with their parents at home during the night but in basements, hatches, and in attics? Poverty, absence of parents, or cruelty force children out of their homes and force them to wander around the country. It is difficult to calculate how many homeless children there are in Russia but it is known that they number hundreds of thousands.

5. Another terrible thing has caught up with us -- drug addiction among teenagers, and we have not had time to even prepare for this. The result of all this is an increase in child crime. Teenagers commit 200,000 acts of crime every year.

6. It cannot continue like this, we urgently need to change the situation. This has to start from the state. Today, children's issues are in one way or another being dealt with by more than ten different agencies, government and parliamentary commissions, and other bodies. They are all in some sort of way involved in the implementation of many programs for children and teenagers.

7. But at the same time, there is not a single structure which someone can ask about the end result. Officials put the blame on each other, but things move forward unforgivably slowly. What is happening is that too many cooks are spoiling the broth, and that has to be stopped. I would like to warn you -- anything to do with children is the President's priority and I will galvanize into action those whose job it is to be responsible for the health, safety, education, and decent life of the younger generation of citizens of Russia. A lot depends, of course, on the legal base.

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In 1992, Russia signed the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, but the Duma is only now planning to examine the draft law on the basics of state policy on the rights of the child. The same applies to the law on measures to prevent neglect and lawbreaking by minors. This work must in no way be delayed.

8. Other normative documents must also be put in order, and the system of benefit payments to those with children must be sorted out. For some, these benefits are a substantial addition to the family budget. But today an identical sum is paid out for each child irrespective of the incomes of the parents. Benefits are paid out for my grandchildren, although they would be more useful for some other less well-off child. That is obvious. In welfare policy, aid should not be abstract, divided equally among the population, but strictly targeted. Wealthy people will be able to feed their children without state support. At the same time, benefits for those in need should be increased and paid out on time without delays.

9. The health of our children is very worrying, too. We know that many serious illnesses can only be cured at an early age. Later on, it is too late. At this point I would like to warn the Health Minister to deal firmly with every case of refusal to give emergency help to sick children, and punish without mercy those who are effectively ruining the fate of our little citizens.

10. Russian people have always been responsive to the pain and suffering of children, and they have helped in unison. Why is it that today we have become so callous, as if we don't even notice those who need our care and sympathy? Meanwhile, there are people in Russia who are now providing real help to children's homes, clinics, and to disabled children. They are paying for expensive operations and supporting talented children from poor families. We don't even know most of them, in fact they don't show off especially. I would like to take this opportunity as the president to thank them with all my heart.

11. Dear fellow citizens, we have plenty of people to lobby the interests of financial corporations, industrialists, and agrarians, but the interests of children are clearly not defended enough today. I could publish a decree, punish the minister, or replace a state official, I could demand the immediate allocation of funds to buy something, provide equipment or build something by a certain date. But solving problems does not end with that. Even the president,

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however much power he has, cannot force anyone to care for, respect, help, or look after, let alone love children. If our kids can feel warm, comfortable, and safe then everyone else will feel good. And then we will be able to look to the future calmly and confidently.

12. Thank you for your attention.

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Independent Media in Kazakhstan

The ongoing frequency tender process in Kazakhstan has severely set back private broadcasting in Kazakhstan and silenced voices critical of the government. Of 41 non-governmental TV stations which were broadcasting on 1 Jan 1997, 30 are currently broadcasting, but only 24 of them remain non-governmental. While it is likely that private broadcasting will recover, its voice will be considerably muted during the important period of 1997 to 1999 and will be much weaker during the run-up to the elections in 2000 than it would have been.

The tender process has seen a number of irregularities. While the licensing procedure is in principle a good one, the result has been that very few private stations have been able to apply for and receive a license, and those that did have in many cases had to change frequencies. The goal--to regularize private broadcasting in the country--is laudable.

The procedure, however, has two main faults. First, the GOK set the rates for frequency applications and awards at an unjustifiably high level, resulting in most stations in the regions being unable to even apply. Second, the criteria for awarding the license have been unclear and unevenly applied. Third, while it was not included in the provisions for the tender, the frequency commission decided a frequency cannot be awarded if there is only one applicant for it. Therefore, in a city where only one station can afford a frequency, no frequency has been awarded.

Some private stations--principally those which were most actively critical of the government and have been refused new licenses under the tender process--are preparing to file a court case against the government challenging the constitutionality of the licensing process. They are asking for substantial damages from the government.

As the independent television and radio scene in Kazakhstan has been severely shaken by the frequency tender, USAID is reviewing its broadcast media assistance program. USAID is currently undertaking a broad assessment of the independent television and radio stations to determine what kind of assistance is necessary to get stations back on the air and producing independent news. As USAID's goal is to provide a source of independent news to the greatest number of people, the bulk of its resources will be concentrated on stations which have the broadest reach and the highest quality news.

In early December, USAID is inviting media law experts and independent television and radio representatives to Almaty to hold a media law workshop. The goal of the workshop is to make recommendations to the GOK on how to revise its frequency auction procedures. The GOK recognizes that the procedures need to be revised and said it will review recommendations from the television and radio stations. By approaching the problem from the ground up with technical assistance to the stations and from the top down with the government, USAID hopes to resume the growth of independent media in Kazakhstan.

Independent Media in Kyrgyzstan

While USAID saw little progress over the past few years among the independent television stations and great difficulties for the press, the state of independent broadcast media in Kyrgyzstan is improving. There are now thirteen independent television stations and nine independent radio stations broadcasting. They cover an increasing number of regions in Kyrgyzstan.

Problems with the press remain, as the print media do almost daily battle in the courts with the Government of Kyrgyzstan. Slander and libel laws are wide open, including insult, for which the truth is not a defense. As long as something in the press offends someone, that person has grounds to sue. Libel and slander are criminal offenses, rather than civil offenses as they are in most other countries. This puts the press in a precarious position when seeking to expose wrongdoing or other issues which could be interpreted as insult.

For its part, however, the printed press is frequently irresponsible. Many newspapers do not agree to the need to document their facts and feel free to print anything just because they heard it. As long as the press continues to act this way, the parliament is unlikely to grant them a more lenient law.

The broadcast media, with assistance from USAID and UNESCO, are working to solve these problems. The media formed an association which represents independent television and radio stations. The association created an ethics code for all members. In September, they held a media law seminar, at which they worked with members of parliament and a representative of the President's Frequency Commission to discuss media law and broadcast frequency issues.

The result of this conference is the first opportunity ever for representatives of the media to be present in parliament during discussion of laws that affect them. The media representatives also presented the parliamentary Committee on Mass Media with a list of proposed modifications to the current draft laws, as well as a proposal to create a communications commission for Kyrgyzstan.

USAID supports a revitalized Internews independent broadcast media assistance program. Internews meets regularly with every station in the country and provides week long journalism residencies to stations which need this help. The stations work with their resident trainers to develop news programs which they can use to participate in the national news exchange. Internews provides this news exchange in order to encourage stations to produce quality news pieces, and to spread regional news around the country.

In order to increase information flow and lobbying activities among the broadcast media, USAID and Internews set up a country-wide email discussion group, through which independent television and radio stations can discuss political, legal and technical issues. USAID looks forward to watching the development of a politically and technically active and accurate independent media in Kyrgyzstan.

Independent Media in Uzbekistan

The number of non-governmental television stations in Uzbekistan has increased three-fold over the past three years despite many obstacles. There are about 30 non-governmental television stations operating in Uzbekistan. There are no private radio stations yet, but four groups received broadcast licenses in September, 1997 and may begin to broadcast soon. While there is not a broad, overt effort on the part of the government to hinder or clamp down on non-governmental broadcasting, the stations in Uzbekistan are described as "independent, but not free."

Stations certainly practice self-censorship and are frequently pressured by the local government, or other organizations, to show or not show a certain program. Operating costs are rising at the hands of the local governments and, due to the government-created difficulties associated with importing television transmitters, most stations must continue to rent government-owned transmitters. As a result, the potential for political control remains high.

On the other hand, the number of non-governmental television stations in Uzbekistan is increasing at a faster rate than in any other Central Asian republic. The stations, particularly those far from the capital, are showing daring, and even controversial news. This summer one station did a report about the cotton harvest which showed how businesses and schools were closed and women and children were forced out into the fields to pick cotton. The mayor of the city was dismissed, though it is unclear to what extent his firing was influenced by the report.

Another station recently reported on a local gasoline station over-charging area customers. The manager of the government station was also dismissed.

In order to help the stations improve the quality of their news and increase their self-sustainability, USAID, through Internews, maintains a lively program of training workshops on television journalism, station management and advertising. Internews produces a biweekly news exchange which allows stations around the country to broadcast news from television stations in other regions. This is the only source of news about cities outside the capital.

USAID also provides a weekly feed of three hour quality documentary programs, which helps the stations attract viewers and advertising dollars, as well as comply with intellectual property rights laws. Internews recently held a competition among the television stations, by which it will distribute six low-end editing suites and cameras. USAID is pleased to see the growth in the number of television stations in Uzbekistan and to see the provocative news programs which they are broadcasting. This program contributes to increasing the availability of information, by which to increase citizen's participation in economic and political decision making.

USAID Independent Media Program Summaries For D. Pressley FLOTUS briefing

INTRODUCTION

An independent and unrestricted press is an important contributor to a well-informed and politically-involved citizenry. Scores of independent newspapers, radio stations, and local TV stations now exist across Ukraine, but independent media still face considerable obstacles.

Independent Media Program Objective:

- Increased flow and improved quality of objective news and information available to citizens through print and broadcast media, libraries, the Internet, and other resources.

BUDGET

FY 1996: \$2.8 million

FY 1997: \$1.6 million

FY 1998: \$2.0 million

USAID GRANTEES AND ACTIVITIES

Internews. Internews-Ukraine is assisting in the development of a pluralistic mass media in Ukraine, encouraging journalistic reform, helping raise journalists' professional standards, and increasing the flow of information in and out of Ukraine. To achieve these objectives, Internews has established television and radio production facilities, training facilities, and an information center. The Internews-International Media Center (IMC), founded in 1993, became the nucleus of a new independent TV network that continues to air the ground-breaking daily news program "Vikna."

IREX/ProMedia. The Information and Press Center (IPC), operated by the International Research and Exchange Board (IREX) under its ProMedia program, consists of a multi-media library allowing journalists free access to the Internet, Lexis-Nexis, and Ukrainian language databases, as well as a photo laboratory where photographs can be produced and made available electronically to newspapers all over Ukraine. The facility also has a classroom, equipped with computers for training in basic computer skills as well as in newspaper design and page layout. The classroom and library will be available for press conferences, lectures, and meetings of journalists and organizations that support a free press.

Eurasia Foundation Media Viability Fund (MVF). MVF is a joint initiative of Eurasia Foundation and the Media Development Loan Fund (MDLF) that makes low cost loans and provides technical assistance to independent newspapers, magazines, and radio and television stations in the former Soviet Union. MDLF, a consortium of donors including the Soros Foundation, provided matching funds for the loan fund, the recipients of which receive technical assistance administered by Eurasia. MVF has identified several projects in the Lviv which are candidates for loans and assistance that will provide an independent printing press and support an independent distributor of newspapers.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The ground-breaking daily television news program *Vikna*, produced with support from a USAID grantee, set high standards for independent television news. *Vikna* and other informational programs are now shown nationwide on an independent TV network that evolved from a USAID media project.
- TV, radio, and print professionals are receiving training in business management, investigative journalism, and other technical areas, and a loan fund has been established to support the development of self-sustaining and independent media-related enterprises. The loan fund, a joint USAID (through Eurasia Foundation) and Soros initiative, will soon initiate support to Lviv media support organizations, such as an independent printing press and distribution network.
- Independent regional TV stations receive high-quality informational programming and technical assistance through USAID's media programs.
- A USAID-funded press center is providing journalists with access to a wide range of resources including Internet, legal databases, and Ukrainian and Western wire services.
- Through the Public Education Program, USAID has developed a network of 25 Press Clubs throughout Ukraine where journalists meet on a regular basis with GOU officials to discuss various issues of privatization and economic reform. The weekly meetings at the Kyiv Press club are covered in newspapers, radio, and TV news programs, allowing GOU officials to reach a large audience while promoting government accountability.

Strengthening the Independent Media

Information processed through the independent media has played a key role in ensuring a well-informed population that openly participates in political decisions. Since 1993, USAID has provided over \$20 M in support of independent media in Russia.

Building Infrastructure to support Independent Press and Television. The Media Development Program (MDP is implemented by Internews and The Center for War, Peace and the News Media at New York University) works to improve the legal, educational, and market infrastructure necessary for a thriving independent Russian media, working via partnerships with U.S. organizations or by direct funding to Russian organizations. MDP has facilitated improvements in media regulation, upgraded standards in professional training, and strengthened ties among media professionals by supporting media industry associations. Business support activities have helped media outlets gain control over production and distribution as well as attract advertising revenues, especially to the regional media. As a result, MDP has expanded access to independent sources of information, including information used in business decisions.

Strengthening Independent Television. Internews supports emerging independent regional commercial TV stations, and has already helped to raise their audiences from zero in 1991 to over 30% of the Russian viewing public by 1997. This activity provides training, small equipment grants, and professional consulting tailored to the needs of individual regional stations. With Internews assistance, regional independent stations launched and developed the Independent Broadcasting System (NVS), a national network with a current satellite-transmitted line-up of seven hours of daily programming broadcast by 80 stations in 120 Russian cities and towns, reaching a potential audience of about 50 million viewers. Internews assists over 100 stations with technical and substantive information via a list server and Internet connections.

The Russian National Press Institute. Since 1992 the National Press Institute (NPI was formerly the Russian American Press and Information Center, RAPIC) has served as a comprehensive and preeminent Russian media assistance entity. Based in Moscow with regional centers in Novosibirsk, Rostov, St. Petersburg, Nizhny Novgorod and Yekaterinburg, NPI/RAPIC promotes the democratization, marketization, and professionalization of the Russian media. NPI press conferences provide forums for public events by NGO's and other newsmakers. Additional NPI activities include the defense of journalists' legal rights, broadening freedom of information, Internet and professional journalistic training, and targeted management consulting to help independent newspapers boost advertising revenues and enhance management practices.

Media Viability Fund. This joint Eurasia/Soros program provides technical assistance and low cost loans for equipment to independent newspapers initially in two regions in Russia. Activities include business and management consulting as well as the provision of loan capital for needed equipment (including prospectively modern, reconditioned printing presses, computers, and delivery trucks), allowing print media to increase their independence from state-owned facilities.

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THE EURASIA FOUNDATION-PROGRAM AND APPLICATION GUIDELINES

The Eurasia Foundation, established in 1993 with a major grant from the US Agency for International Development (USAID), promotes democracy and market economies in the New Independent States (NIS) of the former Soviet Union. The principal aim of the Foundation is to respond quickly and flexibly to needs of NIS organizations with small grants. The Foundation generally does not administer its own programs, but instead finances projects designed and submitted by applicants. Occasionally, the Foundation manages larger programs in priority areas in which there is an important unmet need. The Foundation currently administers three such programs, in small business lending, economics education and media.

The Foundation works from offices located in Almaty, Kyiv, Moscow, Saratov, Tbilisi, Tashkent, Vladivostok, Washington, DC and Yerevan. Each office is staffed by both Americans and NIS citizens. Each field office is responsible for a grantmaking portfolio and establishing a programmatic strategy for its region. Field offices also take an active role in monitoring and evaluating Foundation grants and programs. The Washington, DC office is responsible for overall planning and management of the Foundation's programs, as well as grantmaking to non-NIS organizations. In its first three years of operations, the Foundation awarded over 1700 small grants, more than 75 percent of which were made directly to NIS organizations through the Foundation's field offices. The Foundation awards grants totaling approximately \$17 million per year.

As a matter of policy, the Foundation actively seeks private donor participation in its programs through cooperative funding and direct contributions. Thus far, for every Foundation dollar, over two dollars from other private and government sources have been invested in Foundation projects.

The Eurasia Foundation follows non-discriminatory policies in its hiring and grantmaking and supports pluralism and equal opportunity in its overall program.

The Grantmaking Program

The Foundation's mandate is to make small grants on an on-going basis which: facilitate the transition from centrally planned to market economies; encourage improvement of public service delivery and greater citizen involvement in civic decision-making; and improve the flow of information available to NIS citizens. An underlying theme of many Foundation-supported programs is improving management in NIS organizations, be they in the private, public or non-profit sectors.

Program Areas. Within this broad mandate, the Foundation's grantmaking generally falls within eight program areas, although Foundation grantmaking is not exclusively limited to support in these areas. The Foundation actively encourages new and innovative ideas within the broader scope of economic reform and democratic institution-building, as well as proposals which include elements of several of its program areas.

- **Business Development.** Projects support the growth and development of the private business sector, particularly small businesses. Foundation grants have supported such initiatives as training and counseling for entrepreneurs, information dissemination on topics of importance to businesses, promoting non-profit business associations, trade and export promotion, and legal and policy reforms aimed at improving the environment for private business.
- **Business Education and Management Training.** The Foundation supports long- and short-term training in the NIS in business and management. Projects have included development of teaching programs in universities and secondary schools, development of curricula and

teaching materials, specialized short-term training in business topics, and training for managers in specific industries such as banking, real estate and agribusiness.

- **Economics Education and Research.** The Foundation supports economics education and research programs which will improve economic policy making in the NIS. The types of activities supported by the Foundation include faculty training and development, development of curricula and teaching materials, policy-related economic research and public economics education.
- **Electronic Communications.** The Foundation supports programs which help ensure a free flow of information to NIS citizens through easy and affordable access to the Internet. The Foundation supports programs which: provide access to the Internet for non-profit NIS organizations; develop new on-line resources in NIS languages; provide training for users and administrators of Internet services; and produce resource materials on information available through the Internet.
- **Media.** The Foundation supports efforts which boost the financial and editorial independence of media organizations, train journalists and editors of the independent media, explore and reform press laws and examine policy issues relevant to media freedom.
- **NGO Development.** Grants support a strong and independent "third sector" of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) which help build democracy by providing citizens with a forum for collectively voicing their views and lessen the pain of economic transformation by providing alternative vehicles for the delivery of critical social services. The Foundation supports programs which advance the development of the NGO sector as a whole, including improving management of NGOs, developing local philanthropy and improving public awareness of the NGO sector. The Foundation does not support the organizational development of individual NGOs.
- **Public Administration and Local Government Reform.** Grants support projects aiming to improve management capacity at the national, regional and local levels (with a particular emphasis on local government reform), explore innovative directions in the delivery of public services, promote regional economic development and expand mechanisms which provide feedback from the population to governing bodies. The Foundation also provides support for advising and research programs directly relevant to public policy making.
- **Rule of Law.** The Foundation supports programs which promote the rule of law in the NIS, including development of progressive legislation in Foundation mandate areas, promoting basic civil rights before the law, encouraging public participation in the legislative process, improving access to information on laws, regulations and decrees, and supporting alternative means of dispute resolution.

Due to limited funding and alternate sources of support for these activities, the Foundation **DOES NOT** support: scholarships for study abroad; health care-related programs; humanitarian aid; cultural events; psychological programs; historical research; scientific-technical training and research; or the environment (except as related to economic development or improving management of non-governmental organizations). The Foundation does not ordinarily make grants for free-standing international conferences, and only occasionally provides limited support for the travel of NIS citizens to participate in conferences outside the NIS. The Foundation does not normally make grants for general organizational support, but instead provides funding for specific program activities outlined in project proposals. Modest sums may be requested for equipment purchases, as long as the organization can demonstrate that the equipment requested is necessary for carrying out specific program activities.

Grant Size. Foundation field offices are delegated authority to make decisions on grants of up to \$25,000 independently from the Washington office. The average size of grants made by

Foundation field offices is between \$10,000 and \$18,000, and grants to partnership programs from the Washington office average about \$60,000. The Foundation occasionally makes grants in the \$100,000 to \$150,000 range and, in limited circumstances, may consider larger commitments. Grant seekers are encouraged to launch their efforts modestly and gradually build on achievable results. Eventual self-sustainability should be taken into consideration from a project's inception.

Targeted Initiatives. Apart from regular open-door grantmaking, the Foundation sometimes chooses to emphasize certain regional or topical priorities. To this end, Foundation field offices occasionally sponsor geographically and topically focused grant competitions. Unlike open door grantmaking, there is often a deadline for submission of competition proposals. Grant seekers should contact the nearest field office for information on priorities in each region and upcoming targeted initiatives.

Partnership Programs. In order to complement and augment the small grantmaking programs of its field offices, the Eurasia Foundation awards grants to US organizations for partnership projects in the NIS through its Washington, DC office. Through these initiatives, US partners provide expertise not already available in the NIS and transfer critical skills to NIS organizations. As lasting conduits for the exchange of information and expertise, partnerships are an essential ingredient to strengthening grassroots linkages and improving relations between the US and NIS.

Partnership grantmaking continuously evolves to reflect the changing regional priorities established by each field office. NIS partners play a substantive role in preparing and implementing partnership projects, ensuring that plans are well-adapted to NIS needs and that foreign partners are adding significant value to on-going efforts in the NIS. In most cases, the Foundation prefers the role of foreign partners to decline over time, as programs are more likely to become sustainable when full responsibility shifts to local management.

Recoverable Grants. If the project has a strong capacity to generate revenue, the Foundation prefers to provide support in the form of a recoverable grant, where full or partial repayment of the grant is required. Recoverable grants must meet the Foundation's standard grantmaking criteria and must additionally demonstrate financial feasibility. Recoverable grants are only awarded in cases where financing on suitable terms is not available from other sources.

Grantmaking Criteria

The Eurasia Foundation applies the following general criteria to its review of grant proposals:

- Does the project fall within the Foundation's mandate?
- How does the project support the Foundation's priorities for the region?
- Will the expected results of the project result in sustainable and positive change?
- Is the program needed in the region?
- Is the idea original or unique?
- Does the project build on the work others are doing?
- Does the organization cooperate with similar programs in its region?
- Does the program have a realistic and clear implementation plan?
- What are the qualifications of the project implementors to achieve the desired results?
- How many people will benefit from the project?
- Does the project meet its goals in a cost effective manner?
- What are the mechanisms for evaluating the results of the project and incorporating these results into future program decision making?
- What are the plans for ensuring sustainability of the activity after the grant period has ended?

Eligibility. The Foundation's charter allows it to support US 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations or comparable institutions, as well as universities and government entities. It may also support initiatives by private for-profit institutions if the project itself is not-for-profit and does not serve

the commercial interests of the private entity. The Foundation only makes grants to registered legal entities. Organizations which receive Eurasia Foundation grants must meet the Foundation's standard for financial accountability.

Application Procedure

To achieve its goals of rapid and flexible funding of qualified programs, the Eurasia Foundation encourages grant seekers to submit proposals at any time. Except in the case of grant competitions, there are no deadlines for applications. The Foundation strongly encourages applicants to start by submitting a 2-3 page letter of inquiry describing the objectives of the program, so that Foundation staff may determine whether the project falls within present priorities. Program staff will respond to letters of inquiry rapidly, either encouraging the grant seeker to submit a proposal or informing the grant seeker that the proposed program does not currently fall within the Foundation's priorities.

There are no application forms. Proposals may be submitted in English or in any NIS language. Proposals submitted in a language other than English or Russian should be accompanied by an English or a Russian translation. Grant seekers should supply only one copy of the proposal. If the proposed grantee institution is registered in the US, the proposal must be submitted to the Washington office. If the proposed grantee is registered as a local NIS organization, the proposal should be submitted to the field office responsible for the region in which the grant seeker is located. A listing of Eurasia Foundation offices and the territories they serve may be found in the attachment to this brochure. Grant seekers in the NIS are encouraged to contact the relevant field office directly for any additional application materials that may be required by that office.

In preparing a grant proposal, grant seekers need not prepare an elaborate document, but should include the following information where applicable:

Basic Information about the Organization:

- name of organization;
- name and qualifications of project director and accountant;
- address, telephone number, fax number and electronic mail address of the organization;
- a copy of the organization's charter and certificate of registration;
- contact information on any partners cooperating on implementation of the project.

Project Description:

- statement of the problem to be addressed by the project;
- description of project goals and objectives;
- description of program activities;
- expected results and beneficiaries of the project.

Project Design and Evaluation Plan:

- strategy for achieving project goals;
- timetable/work plan for implementation of the project;
- description of participant selection process;
- plan for evaluation of proposed project;
- description of the qualifications of the applicant to administer the program (including resumes for any staff who will be working on the project).

Budget:

- line item budget for the requested amount (including in-kind contributions and contributions from other sources);
- a detailed budget narrative which explains uses of funds and how estimates were determined;
- standing of applications with other funding sources.

Proposed partnership programs should also respond to the following:

- What is the history of the partnership and how was the project idea conceived?
- How has each partner contributed to the development of the project and what is the role of each partner in realizing project goals?
- Why is a partnership necessary?
- How will the project enhance the NIS partner's capacity to achieve its long-term goals?

The proposal will be considered promptly by Foundation staff. It is the Eurasia Foundation's policy to complete preliminary review within six weeks. At that time, it will either notify the applicant of a decision or request further information about the program. Requests for additional information do not imply that the Foundation will or will not support the program. They simply indicate that additional information is necessary to complete the review. Completion of final review will depend on the strength of the original proposal and the speed with which grant seekers respond to requests for additional information.

When a proposal is selected for funding, grantees sign a grant agreement with the Foundation which outlines the grantee's responsibilities in carrying out the project, a final budget and a timetable for grant payments and reporting. All NIS grantees are required to attend a grants management seminar on financial and programmatic reporting requirements at one of the Foundation's field offices. Failure to attend the grants management seminar may result in withdrawal of the grant award.

Evaluation and Monitoring of Foundation Programs

The Foundation conducts thorough evaluations of the programs it supports. Monitoring and evaluation fulfill three purposes:

- 1- to ensure that grant funds are being spent effectively and in accordance with the grant agreement;
- 2- to study the results of grants made by the Foundation and to incorporate lessons learned into future grantmaking; and
- 3- to determine the overall impact of Foundation support and to build on the results of what has been accomplished with the existing portfolio of grants.

The minimal level of evaluation conducted by the Foundation requires that grantees provide quarterly narrative and financial reports on program progress and expenditures under the grant. Final narrative reports should evaluate the program using evaluation criteria set forth in the grantee application. Grantee reporting is complemented by periodic site visits of Foundation staff to grantees. Through these mechanisms, Foundation staff are able to monitor grant activity closely in each region.

Additionally, the Foundation strives to conduct formal program evaluations of at least 15 percent of the grants it supports. For these in-depth evaluations, the Foundation selects an independent evaluator who travels to the grant site to meet with individuals or groups involved in the grant as implementor, consultant or client. On the basis of these discussions, evaluators provide the Foundation with a full report on the project, which becomes part of the grantee's file. All evaluation reports and other project information are kept in strictest confidence by the Foundation. Evaluations are conducted as a matter of policy, and indicate neither poor nor exemplary performance by the grantee.

Foundation staff also conduct on-site financial reviews of approximately 15 percent of grantees. NIS organizations receiving grants of \$25,000 or more are also required to undergo an independent audit on the use of program funds.

Foundation Administered Programs

To complement its grantmaking program, the Foundation seeks opportunities to take a leadership role in mobilizing private and government resources to address critical needs not being met by other assistance programs. The Foundation currently manages three special initiatives which leverage significant amounts of private and government support:

- **The Small Business Loan Program (SBLP):** The Eurasia Foundation operates small business loan programs in selected regions as a complement to grant-funded training and technical assistance programs. These programs work through local commercial banks to provide access to capital on suitable terms for small business growth. In addition, the program seeks to establish models of western-style credit analysis and lending systems in local banks. For more information, please contact the Washington, DC office or Small Business Loan Program Offices in Kyiv and Yerevan.
- **The Economics Education and Research Consortium (EERC):** The EERC was created to improve economic policy making through programs aimed at raising the level of the economics profession in the NIS. In Ukraine, the EERC supports the development of a Master in Economics Program at the University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy. In Russia, the EERC supports small research grants and a series of complementary activities which help build a professional community of Russian economists. Partners in the EERC program include: the Open Society Institute (Soros), the World Bank, the Ford Foundation, the Starr Foundation, and the Pew Charitable Trusts. Grant seekers in Russia interested in receiving grant support for economics research should contact the EERC office in Moscow (contact information included below). In Ukraine, interested parties should contact the EERC Program Office in Kyiv.
- **The Media Viability Fund (MVF):** A joint initiative of the Media Development Loan Fund and the Eurasia Foundation, the MVF will make low-cost loans and grants to support independent print media in the NIS. The MVF will target its efforts at specific geographical regions. In this way, several media organizations can benefit from a loan and other technical assistance resources directed at addressing critical financial, editorial and managerial needs. Upon successful completion of three or four pilot projects in Russia and Ukraine, the program may be extended to other regions in the NIS. For more information, please contact the MVF Program Office in Moscow.

For Additional Information

Please refer to the Foundation's World Wide Web page at <<http://www.eurasia.org>> for additional information, including a searchable database of the Foundation's grants and information on current competitions and special projects.

Eurasia Foundation Offices:

Washington, DC

Serving: organizations legally registered outside the NIS and regional programs

Program Office

The Eurasia Foundation

1527 New Hampshire Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20036

Telephone: 1-202-234-7370

Fax: 1-202-234-7377

Electronic Mail: eurasia@eurasia.org

Central Russia and Siberia Regional Office

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Bishkek "announceables" proposed by USAID/CAR (Bishkek)

Attached are two "announceables", forwarded to us by the USAID office in Bishkek at our request. You may have these from Ambassador Morningstar's office already.



Counterpart Consortium
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Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic
107 Klevskaya St., 5th floor
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CJ:

The following grants for NGOs in Kyrgyzstan were approved on Oct 5, 1997 and will be implemented over the next year:

- NGO "Maksat" for \$2100 for ecological protection and environmental education for youth
- "Sanitas" for \$14,860 to conduct preventive measures concerning substance abuse and smoking by creation of a resource center and other support activities
- Ak-Ilbirs for \$3,100 to provide recreation opportunities for the disabled in Kara-Balta

Approved on November 6, 1997 and to be implemented over the next year:

"ESMIK" for \$4,250 for the development of radio and TV programs about NGOs

- "Tree of Life" for \$6000 for the development of a sexual education program for youth
- Job Training for disabled youth for \$3,250 for support/awareness for both parents of and disabled youth
- "Umut" Job Seekers for \$4,350 for education and training of refugees including job placement
- Chui Valley Housing Association for \$6,000 for public campaign and seminars on the development of condominium associations