

Fiscal Year 2008 Mid Year Report October 1, 2007- March 31, 2008

Presented to the
U.S. Agency for International Development
by the Eurasia Foundation

EMT-G-00-02-00008-00

The Eurasia Foundation Network comprises New Eurasia Foundation (Russia), Eurasia Foundation of Central Asia, Eurasia Partnership Foundation (Caucasus), East Europe Foundation (Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova) and Eurasia Foundation (United States). Since 1993, Eurasia Foundation and the network have invested more than \$560 million in local and cross-border projects to promote civic and economic inclusion throughout the Eurasia region.

For more information about the Eurasia Foundation Network, please visit <http://www.eurasia.org/>



Table of Contents

I. Introduction	Page 5
II. Development Update	Page 9
III. Programming Activities	Page 13
IV. Evaluations and Results	Page 27
Appendices	
A. Expenditure Chart by Strategic Objective	Page 35
B. Outcome Statements	Page 39
C. US Government Grants by Country and Strategic Objective	Page 107
D. Non-USG Government Grants by Country and Strategic Objective	Page 139

I. Introduction



Introduction

EURASIA FOUNDATION

Overview

In the first half of the fiscal year 2008 Eurasia Foundation (EF) has made substantial progress in our pursuit of localizing the Eurasia Foundation Network. The establishment in November of 2007 of the Eurasia Partnership Foundation (EPF) in the Caucasus and the East Europe Foundation (EEF) in Ukraine is a landmark for our organization. In three years EF has converted its field offices into four locally chartered, autonomous foundations operating throughout the region, and the Eurasia Foundation Network has come into existence.

These new institutions have capable board members drawn from business, the non-profit sector, and government service, and in only a few months on the job both groups are already operating as efficient boards. Both foundations are led by creative and energetic presidents supported by able staff. These organizations represent a new type of institution for the region, combining local knowledge and leadership with international best practices of program management and financial stewardship, all carried out under the governance of international boards of trustees.

After 15 years of operations, Eurasia Foundation programs are more diverse, and more needed, than ever before. For example, in countries that are more economically advanced, we are leaders in supporting the expansion of corporate philanthropy and helping to protect the rights of labor migrants drawn to local economic opportunities. Across the region we support increased citizen participation in local government and equitable allocation of economic and social development resources. We support local print media capable of insightful coverage of local events. We also support a broad range of initiatives that stimulate the growth of small and medium businesses, whether in the field of innovation, tourism or agribusiness.

Fundraising from non-US government sources has been extraordinary so far this year. At the midpoint of the fiscal year network-wide we have already raised and leveraged more than \$7.5 million. Much of this derives from two major donations – the government of Sweden has committed \$3 million to the Eurasia Partnership Foundation, and the Carnegie Corporation of New York has given us another \$2 million for the Caucasus Research Resource Centers program. In addition, Eurasia Foundation of Central Asia won a grant of \$110,000 from the EU, a first for our network; the East Europe Foundation received a pledge of \$200,000 from a Norwegian firm operating in Ukraine; and New Eurasia Foundation obtained \$125,000 from Russia's largest coal company in an arrangement that could lead to a multi-million dollar partnership.

The Bill Maynes Fund for Future Leaders of Eurasia, whose goal is to support the achievements and further strengthen the abilities of emerging leaders in the countries where we work, has attracted more than \$100,000 in contributions so far, and the inaugural class of fellows has been selected. The experience we have already gained in this effort prepared us to respond positively when the Paul Klebnikov Fund, a memorial to the murdered journalist, approached us with the invitation to administer the fund's programs. Operating these two funds is in line with our strategic aim. We are also in discussions with Give2Asia and the

King Baudouin Foundation of Belgium to join them in a consortium offering donor advised program services worldwide, with Eurasia Foundation covering the Eurasia region.

Program Highlights

In Ukraine, the East Europe Foundation's weekly Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Electronic Bulletin now has more than 3,000 subscribers, and its website (csrukraine.org.ua) is the number one CSR site in Ukraine. EEF continues to co-organize a series of seminars on CSR for regional media. Later in the year, EEF also plans to work with the Ukraine Philanthropists Forum and other NGOs to promote international standards and best practices among domestic foundations and philanthropic corporations.

In light of the snap presidential elections in Georgia, Eurasia Partnership Program (EPF) announced a special grant competition on voter education to prepare the population to make an informed choice at the polls. Three grants were awarded to experienced NGOs to conduct extensive voter education programs focusing on young and first-time voters and ethnic minority voters in the regions. Internews Georgia, one of EPF's partners in this project, focused on training regional TV broadcasters to produce informative news programs and talk-shows devoted to election related topics. Over 23 talk shows were broadcast by the participating TV stations, reaching an estimated 300,000 viewers. A second grant competition was held to solicit proposals on monitoring the upcoming parliamentary elections and two proposals were funded.

In Kazakhstan, the Eurasia Foundation of Central Asia (EFCA) organized an international crafts conference titled "Revitalizing and developing crafts in Kazakhstan" in March 2008 in Astana. The conference had about 80 participants including artisans and representatives from government, business, foreign embassies, international organizations and craft NGOs, from Central Asia, the USA, the UK and Poland. The conference was followed by the first crafts exhibition and fair in Kazakhstan exclusively focused on Kazakhstani crafts.

The conference gained considerable government support and a memorandum of understanding between the government, business and NGO representatives was signed during the conference. This is the first social partnership document signed by all stakeholders to foster artisanship development in Kazakhstan. The conference and fair served to raise the profile of Kazakhstani crafts, with about 1,000 visitors to the fair and around \$25,000 worth of crafts sold, with more being left for sale with Astana retailers. The conference and fair also gained significant media interest, with videos about crafts broadcast 80 times on 5 different TV channels, plus additional print and radio coverage.

The Central Asia News Service (CANS), supported by the U.S. State Department and the Foreign Ministry of The Netherlands, was launched in October 2007. CANS has increased coverage of the region and seeks to improve journalistic standards. By December the service had achieved 4,000 readers a day. Important stories by CANS correspondents include early and widespread reporting of how the energy crisis was affecting remote regions of Tajikistan.

More information on the specific programs of EF's partner foundations can be found in the section "Programming Activities" beginning on page 13, and more details on the sources and uses of non-US government funds raised to date can be found in Appendix D beginning on page 139.

II. Development Update



Development Update

EURASIA FOUNDATION

Summary

During the first half of FY08, EF and its network affiliates raised and leveraged nearly \$7.6 million.

The following table represents the total fundraising from non-US government donors for each region:

Region	FY08 Fundraising*
South Caucasus (EPF)	\$5,517,590
Central Asia (EFCA)	\$430,784
Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova (EEF)	\$513,620
Russia (FNE)	\$824,486
Kyiv School of Economics	\$212,462
Other	\$83,782
TOTALS	\$7,582,724

**The fundraising totals for each region include both direct and leveraged awards.*

Trends in Non-USG Fundraising

- *Significant support to local foundations after localization.* The final two foundations were launched in November 2007. Already, they have received significant support from donors that would not be accessible to the US-based Eurasia Foundation. For example, EPF Georgia received a sizable award from the Swedish government. East Europe Foundation received seventeen separate awards from corporations in Ukraine and Moldova.
- *The more seasoned foundations continue to attract new donors.* EFCA in Kyrgyzstan received the network's first award from the European Union. FNE brought in new support from Russian businesses and local governments.
- *USAID funding continues to decrease, but EF Network is well positioned to take advantage of remaining opportunities.* In addition to core support dropping, USAID funding is dropping across the region as a whole, including funding from grants and contracts. However, EF partners are now better positioned to receive sub-contracts as local organizations.

Highlights by Region

Caucasus

- **EPF Georgia** won nearly \$3 million in institutional support from the government of Sweden.
- **EPF Azerbaijan** was awarded a \$200,000 grant from the Norwegian Embassy in Baku to manage their small grants portfolio.

- **The Caucasus Research Resource Consortium (CRRC)** secured \$2 million from Carnegie Corporation of New York to support the program for the next two years. CRRC has positioned itself as the lead survey group working with international donors, winning awards from the National Democratic Institute (NDI), Transparency International and the British Government.

Central Asia

- **EFCA Kazakhstan** received \$99,000 from the Tatishev Foundation, the corporate foundation of Bank TuranAlem, a Kazakhstani bank.
- **EFCA Kyrgyzstan** won \$110,552 from the European Union's TACIS program for a program to promote democratic processes in Kyrgyzstan. This is the first award that the EF Network has received from the EU.

Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova

- **EEF Ukraine** received over \$230,000 from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) to continue two projects: Local Economic Development (LEAD) and Local Economic Partnerships (LEAP).
- **EF Ukraine and Moldova** secured nearly \$60,000 in leveraged funding to support CSR seminars.

Russia

- **FNE** received \$125,000 from the Siberian Coal and Energy Company (SUEK) to develop social development programs in the regions where SUEK works. This effort may lead to additional funds from SUEK which could total as much as \$4 million.

Other Non-USG Fundraising

Bill Maynes Future Leaders of Eurasia Fund

- As of March 31, 2008 the fund named for EF's longest-serving president who passed away in 2007, has received nearly \$100,000 from more than 60 donors for this new fellowship program designed to enhance the skills and contacts of leaders from the region. The arrival of the first Fellows is planned for fall 2008.

US Government Awards

In addition to the non-US government fundraising listed above and the \$11.4 million expected in core funding, EF has raised **\$1.5 million** in targeted project funds from the US government.

This total includes the following awards:

- \$1,320,666 from USAID through a sub-contract to TSG to promote trade in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan.
- \$228,161 from USAID for an Islamic Education program in Kyrgyzstan.

III. Programming Activities



Programming Activities

EURASIA FOUNDATION

Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova

Belarus

Registered in 2005 and operational since April 2006, the New Eurasia Establishment (NEE), a wholly owned subsidiary of the Eurasia Foundation, successfully convinced the Ministry of Economy to allow it to operate tax free in Belarus. EF also continues to support cross-border programs benefiting Belarus from its Kyiv Regional Office.

In the first half of FY08, NEE and the Eurasia Foundation spent \$668,458 in USG funding on programs benefiting Belarus through grant and operating program activities. The following are among EF's accomplishments in the first half of the year in Belarus:

As a result of the capacity building and other resources developed by **Development of Legal Advocacy in Belarus through Student Legal Clinics and other NGOs** program, legal clinics throughout the country are now providing free legal services (including legal aid and awareness) to the most vulnerable groups of citizens, including pensioners, women and new mothers, students, the very poor, and prisoners and their families. In addition, there is a new cadre of future lawyers and a community of competent law students who are eager to defend legal and constitutional rights of citizens and are promoting social responsibility within the legal community. In 2008 NEE supported the legal clinics in Brest and Grodno; contracts are being prepared for Gomel, Vitebsk and Polotsk State Universities to provide legal assistance and promote legal awareness among vulnerable populations in target regions.

The involvement and participation of Belarusian NGOs in the **Processes of Development and Implementation of Agenda-21** project was completed in the first half of the year. Agenda 21 is a plan of action developed by the United Nations in regards to sustainable ecological development. NEE sought to develop the capacities of local Belarusian NGOs to increase public involvement in decision making processes and in addressing various environmental issues and the development of environmental development agendas. The project also piloted various models of public participation, and helped stimulate greater cooperation between communities, local scientists and local authorities. The project participants have also distributed experience and knowledge on effective solutions of ecological and social issues on local and regional levels among other parts of the country.

Through our **"Rural Laboratory"** project, NEE created a training program on village tourism and developed a team of experts to conduct trainings throughout the country for potential tourism providers. The project's implementers supported rural tourism business associations and initiatives like public councils with strategic planning, institutional development, and expansion of their memberships.

NEE selected a group of five business education professionals in Belarus to participate in training in Great Britain as part of the **Introducing Contemporary Case-Study Method into Belarus Business Education Curricula**. The training was focused on methodologies

used in preparing case studies and developing teaching materials. Upon concluding their training, the experts conducted three workshops for other business education professionals in regions. The project was implemented in partnership with the School of Business and Management of Technologies, Grodno State University and Vitebsk State University.

“Conferences on Business and Economic Education” This project is a partnership with the Belarusian State University of Informatics and Radioelectronics, the Association of Business Education and the BSU School of Business and Management, and Gomel-based University of Trade and Economy, funded by USAID with in-kind contributions from the institutions. One international conference, entitled “Societal Economic Development: Innovations, Digitalization, System Approach”, resulted in partnerships between Belarusian and European schools being expanded and strengthened. These schools are also now engaged in new topics, particularly regarding the values of the free market economy.

Moldova

In the first half of FY08, the Eurasia Foundation spent \$308,015 in USG funding on programs benefiting Moldova. In Moldova, programmatic accomplishments include:

EF’s support of **non-partisan monitoring and voter education** led to relatively free and fair elections in the Gagauzia Autonomous Region. The Gagauzia elections are often a bell-weather for how the government will behave during subsequent elections. In partnership with the League for Defense of Human Rights (LADOM), EF supported the work of 140 short-term observers.

In addition to election interventions, EF is working to strengthen **independent print media** with co-funding from the Dutch foreign ministry. In partnership with the Independent Journalism Center, EF is supporting a project to create an Audit Bureau of Circulation. EF is also working with the Association of Independent Press to establish an independent press council.

EF continues to work on **Preventing Corruption for Better Governance** and awarded five grants for national and local anticorruption initiatives implemented by NGOs. A new anti-corruption curriculum and training program was developed for and approved by the Comrat State University.

Ukraine

In the first half of FY08, the Eurasia Foundation spent \$1,031,530 in USG funding on programs benefiting Ukraine. EF’s accomplishments in Ukraine from first half of the year include:

As part of our **Corporate Social Responsibility** program, a series of seminars for journalists were conducted in partnership with Expert magazine. The goal of the seminars was to promote a culture of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in Ukraine by training and educating journalists about CSR, its importance to their communities, and how to report on it in a balanced fashion. This project was based on a one-day seminar consisting of four sessions with 40 journalists and editors from Kyiv and Zhytomyr oblasts. This seminar was held on February 20th in Kyiv. The sessions were highly interactive, based on practical case studies, and led by top experts from Ukraine. Project organizers selected journalists via a competition. Organizers planned the seminar in partnership with the largest socially responsible corporations (local and international) acting in the region, such as Tetra Pak, Foxtrot, Intel, NadraBank, etc. Representatives of those corporations also actively participated at the seminar.

In early February 2008 EEF announced a nationwide grant competition to find partners among local governments and NGOs as part of the **Local Economic Partnerships** program. An application package for local governments who wished to enter the program was prepared and widely disseminated. EEF's information campaign to support LEAP 3 was very effective, attracting more than 250 project concepts from all over Ukraine by the February 29 deadline. Such an outstanding number of proposals received confirmed huge interest among local governments. Analysis of the content of the proposals revealed that the most important topics for local communities include: improving municipal services, introducing e-governance initiatives, fostering condominium development, improving energy-efficiency, testing innovative waste management systems, modernizing water supply and sewage systems, and improving social services.

The goal of the **Local Economic Development LEAD** program is to stimulate regional economic growth by supporting local initiatives aimed at micro and small enterprise development. EEF announced a grant competition for Vinnytsia, Chernivtsi and Ternopil oblasts at the end of January 2008. To advertise the competition and inform potential applicants about the program and its objectives and requirements, EEF used various channels, including the Internet, print media and public information sessions. By February 25, 2008, the competition had attracted 21 proposals from three oblasts which were thoroughly reviewed by the members of a review committee comprised of independent experts in SME and regional economic development. The independent panel of experts helped to pre-select 10 proposals. In March 2008, representatives of the OSCE PCU and EEF visited these NGOs to assess their competence and ability to implement proposed projects. During these meetings, EEF and OSCE PCU representatives also met with local government representatives to ensure that they will actively support the project.

Eurasia Foundation Central Asia (EFCA)

Kazakhstan

In the first half of FY08, EF and EFCA spent \$170,146 in USG funding on programs benefiting Kazakhstan. Program highlights in Kazakhstan include:

The Kazakhstan **Artisan Business Development Program** (KABDP) program is aimed at developing handicrafts as a viable profession among rural and urban inhabitants of Kazakhstan, through a series of grant and non-grant activities. The program is in its second year of implementation. EFCA organized the international crafts conference "Revitalizing and Developing Crafts in Kazakhstan" in March 2008 in Astana. The conference had about 80 participants including artisans and representatives from government, business, foreign embassies, international organizations and craft NGOs, from Central Asia, the USA, the UK and Poland. The conference was followed by the first crafts exhibition and fair in Kazakhstan exclusively focused on Kazakhstani crafts.

The conference gained considerable government support and a memorandum of understanding between the government, business and NGO representatives was signed during the conference. This is the first social partnership document signed by all stakeholders to foster artisanship development in Kazakhstan. The conference and fair served to raise the profile of Kazakhstani crafts, with about 1000 visitors to the fair and around \$25,000 worth of crafts sold, with more being left for sale with Astana retailers. The conference and fair also gained significant media interest, with videos about crafts broadcast 80 times on 5 different TV channels, and additional print and radio coverage.

The **Open Budget** program is aimed at increasing civic engagement in the processes of planning, implementing and evaluating government budgets in order to increase the effectiveness of public services to local populations. The city council of Petropavlovsk adopted recommendations of an EFCA Open Budget grantee, the Petropavlovsk Regional Association of Housing Cooperatives, for improving the municipal housing program. The grantee recommended that low-income families should receive social housing assistance if the expenses for housing services exceed 15% (previously it was 20%) of their overall monthly income. This resulted in 600 more low-income families gaining social housing assistance in the amount of 8,000 KzT (~\$70).

Recommendations issued by another EFCA program grantee, in Taldy-Korgan, were also adopted by the city council. The recommendations adopted by the city department of education involve the evaluation of orphans rights related issues and their needs. The grantee is working with the city council on further recommendations to improve the municipal social orphans program.

The Enbekshikazakh Local Community Foundation, developed through direct support from EFCA to promote **Community Engagement and Initiatives**, issued a sub grant to the NGO Kamkor to support children with mental disabilities, and provided technical and grant management support. Kamkor opened a rehabilitation center for disabled children in Issyk. The center is equipped with special equipment for disabled children, and staffed by trained medical and pedagogical personnel. The center provides medical and psychological support and consultations for parents – services previously unavailable in the district.

EFCA's **Labor Migration** program's goal is to increase the legality of status and treatment of labor migrants in Kazakhstan by assisting predominantly Uzbek labor migrants to gain legitimate job placement, promoting a legal environment that better addresses the needs of labor migrants and Kazakhstani society, and helping labor migrants to access existing rights. The program is in its third year and is implemented through a network of regional partner organizations.

On January 22, 2008 EFCA held a press conference in Almaty to award winners of its journalism competition on labor migration and disseminate results of its labor migration program in 2007. This event was widely covered in the Kazakhstani media and was attended by three information agencies, eleven TV and radio stations, ten newspapers, and two business magazines. Eight newspapers published articles and nine TV stations and one radio station broadcast the press conference. The success of the event demonstrated the increasing public interest in labor migration issues.

Kyrgyzstan

In the first half of FY08, EFCA spent \$201,791 in USG funding on programs benefiting Kyrgyzstan. Highlights include:

The Bishkek office continues running its successful **Labor Migration Initiative**. To assist migrant workers from Kyrgyzstan's rural regions, EFCA and the British Embassy in Kazakhstan created a regional network of labor migration centers. The network serves as a resource for legal consultations, technical assistance and information about job opportunities. Since October 2006, over 1,600 workers have been added to a database that enables center staff to track workers outside of Kyrgyzstan and ensure their safe return and fair treatment. Almost 2,000 labor migrants have been seen in legal consultations and more than 300 have found employment through the center. Rather than encouraging migration to

Russia, the Kyzyl-Kiya center will focus on finding opportunities for workers within the Kyrgyz Republic. The center will also collaborate with three local professional schools to hold short-term courses for migrants.

A three-month course was conducted for our **Conflict Resolution Through Creating Employment Opportunities** program. The courses focused on the three most popular occupations with good job opportunities in Kyrgyzstan and the Russian Federation: metal turner, milling-machine operator and plasterer. Training was provided to teachers in two vocational schools in Kyzyl-Kiya, Batken Oblast where they will be tested.

On November 20 - 21 the second workshop on Grant Management was held for the 11 grantees of our **Income Generation for Vulnerable Groups** program in EFCAs Osh and Bishkek offices. EFCA built their capacity to identify and mitigate risks, conduct advocacy and public relations activities, monitor and evaluate their work and to produce financial reports. After signing contracts with EFCA on November 21, 2007 the first tranches were transferred to the grantees. Project activities started according to plan. Grantees have been working on logistical issues, providing support to target groups, working with the local administration and media and disseminating project information among the population. On November 22, 2007 a press-conference at the commencement of the project was held in the AKIpress news agency in Bishkek. Representatives from EFCA, the Royal Netherlands Embassy in Almaty, USAID and the grantees participated in the event.

The EFCA Osh Office started two pilot projects to improve the conditions for vulnerable groups in the Ferghana Valley. The projects are focused on enhancing the capacity of institutions that are working with vulnerable groups. As a result of the project, local institutions should be able to meet their own operational needs through fundraising and community participation. The results of the project will serve a basis for the program to support vulnerable groups, and allow the EFCA staff to explore new directions and mechanisms to help beneficiaries. 'Blagodot' and 'Kosh-Araket', two local NGOs were awarded a grant for implementing this program.

The Central Asia News Service (CANS) website, www.ca-news.org, was successfully launched on October 22, 2007 and registered on all search engines (Google, Yahoo, Yandex, etc).

- On average, 100 news items per day were published, of which 20 were from Uzbekistan.
- A section to allow readers' comments was added.
- In November 2007, a media specialist, conducted training for CANS editors to improve the quality of journalistic and editorial work. 26 correspondents from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan have been recruited, each providing up to 5 articles per day.
- Eight correspondents underwent trainings on international standards of journalism.

In February of 2008, the Foundation began the program, **Integration of Islamic Education into Civil Society in Kyrgyzstan**. The two-year project will reinforce international religious freedom standards while promoting the integration of Islamic education institutions and their students into wider civil society. The project will work with the Islamic education system to include secular courses, and improve education standards. It will establish links between Islamic institutions and civil society, business, and government. The project aims to equip graduates of Islamic Education institutions with the skills to have a positive impact on the wider community, thereby challenging existing stereotypes of Islam and bridging the gap between the Islamic world and wider civil society in the Kyrgyz Republic.

Tajikistan

In the first half of FY08, EFCA spent \$88,453 of USG funding on programs benefiting Tajikistan. Highlights include:

EFCA's Media Coordinator provided consultations to the correspondents of the **Tajik Regional Correspondents Network (TRCN)** on reporting techniques. Correspondents submitted 89 articles for review by the EFCA media coordinator; 75 of them were published by local newspapers.

In order to improve the environment for the development of business in Tajikistan, EFCA is implementing the **Small Enterprises Legal Facilitation (SELF)** program. The program seeks to increase business confidence in the legal system by building the capacity of lawyers in Dushanbe to protect the rights of small businesses and improving relevant legislation. The Center provides on average five free legal consultations to small businesses per day. As a result of the efforts of the project, 7 strategic litigation actions have been initiated based on consultations with over 560 business owners. Additionally, 3 seminars were conducted with business representatives, mass media representatives and lawyers about the potential and importance of strategic litigation in enabling businesses to protect their rights.

The Support to Tajik and Arghan Artisan program seeks to alleviate poverty among female artisans in Tajikistan and Afghanistan. EFCA has been implementing a series of activities to enable them to realize the full economic potential of their work. Specifically, it seeks to improve their business skills, the quality of their goods and to improve their access to national and international markets. Completed tasks include:

- Needs assessment with female artisans on Tajik-Afghan border to identify participants for training for trainers (ToT). The fifteen craftswomen selected from Tajikistan and the five from Afghanistan participated in a two-day training workshop.
- EFCA published and distributed 100 training manuals with information on design, production techniques, and crafts' historical and cultural backgrounds as well as distributed information materials on the economic potential of craft production.
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- EFCA created a database of craftsmen in the five districts of Tajikistan bordering with Afghanistan.
- As a result of joint events, an informal and formal artisan support network has been formed. This enabled the twenty project participants to support each other, other artisans in their community and those nearby. Many women were able to find partners for future cooperation.

New Eurasia Foundation (FNE) - Russia

In the first half of FY08, the New Eurasia Foundation spent \$174,842 in USG funding on programs benefiting Russia. Highlights include:

Having completed their training the participants of the project **Strategic Development Managers for Russian Regional Universities** have designed 38 university development projects. These projects include "Innovative Analytical Centre for High-Tech and Consulting Services", "Assessment of public usefulness of a university in the process of strategic

management”, “Development of a system of motivation of student research activities”, “Creation of an education quality assurance system”, “Transition to the two-level education system” among others.

As part of FNE’s **Development of Housing Self Management** program, 223 regional events were attended by more than 5,000 people as part of the project “Establishment of a Network of Housing Education Schools”. The network member-organisations provided more than 6,000 legal consultations using the free housing consulting model designed in the course of the project. Additionally, the municipalities of Perm, Nizhniy Novgorod, and Tver have each adopted a program designed to introduce mechanisms of effective and efficient management of multifamily apartment buildings.

The **Development of Migration Processes** program, seeks to develop network based communication between local authorities, businesses, and NGOs to address migration related problems in Russia and countries of the CIS countries. The migration support and information centers established in Russia (Volgograd, Yekaterinburg, and Stavropol) and the CIS (Armenia, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan) as part of the “Migration Bridges” project have provided comprehensive assistance to migrants and the host communities. The centers created employment databases for migrant job-seekers and potential employers and implemented a series of activities designed to reduce potential ethnic tension. Assisted by these centers, migrants become more aware of the rules, document requirements, and other conditions necessary to work in Russia. In turn, employers are better informed of the labor skills of the migrant workers and become aware of the steps that are necessary to legally hire migrants.

In March of 2008, using the funds donated by the Siberian Coal and Energy Company, as part of the **Territorial Development** program, the foundation completed designing social development programs for five territories in which the company operates. Nearly 30 of Urdmurtia’s industrial enterprises have taken part in the “New Management Technologies – New Development Quality” project; over 50 people underwent training in investment project design; 10 investment projects designed in the course of the training sessions subsequently received financial support through government-sponsored competitions; the number of project proposals submitted by enterprises seeking target funding has increased tenfold since 2006.

During the reporting period FNE designed eight regional qualifications improvement programs as part of the “**Active Youth for Active Communities**” project. The programs consist of several training modules. They were designed and adapted to the peculiarities and requirements of the pilot territories of the “Active Youth for Active Communities” project.

Eurasia Partnership Foundation (EPF)

Armenia

The **Regional Print Media Program**, which is wrapping up this year, brought about professional and organizational changes in the sector: 28 print media outlets (out of 45 operating outside the capital city) went through intensive training courses on all levels of newspaper operations; six grants print media outlets in four regions received grants and conducted market research, developed marketing and PR strategies, organized public hearings for their communities, printed inserts to their newspapers, increased publication and

organized trainings for other local journalists. Five grantee newspapers also now maintain websites, which include web versions of their newspapers and other community information.

EF has placed increasing emphasis on **Labor Migration** in Armenia. In October 2007, the Foundation established seven Migration and Return Resource Centers (MRRCs) to help Armenian labor migrants understand their rights and the realities of working abroad. Each center offers counseling to migrants and their families, and information on organizations at home and abroad that provide social assistance to migrants and returnees. EPF is also conducting a labor migration study which has helped the MRRCs develop the skills to study migration trends in their areas. EPF led the MRRCs through a round of data collection and analysis to be used in better targeting their assistance programs for labor migrants in their communities.

During the first year of EF's two-year, \$280,997 **anti-corruption program** funded by the United Nations Democracy Endowment Fund (UNDEF), EPF awarded grants to five media outlets and three NGOs for anti-corruption projects; held four two-day trainings for 15 journalists and managers from 11 media outlets on media legislation, investigative reporting, monitoring government activities, and international best practices for anticorruption reporting; and held four two-day training courses for 22 NGOs on the use of Armenia's Law on the Freedom of Information in combating corruption, civic monitoring of government programs and legislation, budget analysis, and international best practices in civic monitoring.

Azerbaijan

As a result of EPF's **Azerbaijan Youth Fund Program**, 35 youth (aged 17-30) gained practical experience in implementing a small grants program for young people in their communities. 28 micro grants were distributed in total, implemented by 79 young leaders with approximately 280 young people as beneficiaries of the projects. Projects ranged from music competitions to a youth newspaper to an all-girls café. These projects also created 20 new jobs, 50% of which were filled by young women. 17 committee members received new or improved employment opportunities as a result of their experience and skills built through the program.

EPF's **Corporate Social Investment (CSI) Program** facilitated the growth of strategic corporate philanthropy among local businesses in 2007. Over 40 local companies were introduced to the concept of CSI and have been engaged in ongoing assistance from EPF on developing comprehensive social investment strategies and identifying strong local partners. The program organized "best practice" study tours to participating companies in order to expand the network of partners among the business sector and to share information. EPF also distributes a monthly e-Bulletin on CSI — a first for Azerbaijan — and provides direct consultation to companies aiming to implement or improve their CSI strategies.

Through the **Municipal Management and Budget Transparency Program** the Municipal Performance Management System (MPMS) was developed by EPF, experts on local government and local and partners. The MPMS is a set of over 100 indicators designed to track and measure a municipality's ability to provide services to its population. The indicators are based on extensive research into international best practices in the monitoring of local governments and upon existing legislation in Azerbaijan. In 2008, the MPMS program will be implemented in 10 municipalities with generous support from the Norwegian-based energy producer StatoilHydro A/S.

The **Support for Educational Reform** Program developed a model of public involvement in school management, transparent accumulation and expenditure of extra-budgetary funds and financial planning. As a result of the initiative, one school in Baku established a "Parent's

Fund” endowment program with interest being used for school improvement. Parents are directly involved in overseeing the processes of planning and expenditure of these extra-budgetary resources. To date, the Fund has raised nearly \$20,000 in contributions. The World Bank’s Program Implementation Unit at the Ministry of Education has recently requested EPF to install its model of public participation in school management into 14 pilot schools engaged in the World Bank’s reform program in the Ali-Bayramli region.

Georgia

In light of the snap presidential elections, EPF announced a **special grant competition on voter education** to prepare the population to make an informed choice at the polls. Three grants were awarded to experienced NGOs to conduct extensive voter education programs focusing on young and first-time voters and ethnic minority voters in the regions. Internews Georgia focused on training regional TV broadcasters to produce informative news programs and talk-shows devoted to election related topics. Over 23 talk shows were broadcast by the participating TV stations, reaching an estimated 300,000 viewers. A second grant competition was held to solicit proposals on monitoring the upcoming parliamentary elections and two proposals were funded.

The **Civic Monitoring** program announced a grant competition and awarded five grants in the areas of health care, agricultural land privatization, municipal spending and community forest management. One grantee, the Young Economists Association of Georgia (Kutaisi branch), has engaged the Kutaisi city administration in dialogue about monitoring and management of the city budget. The city administration created a stakeholder working group to advise it on different socio-economic problems and established a practice of televising monthly town hall meetings.

Tourism and Vocational Education: EPF has been providing grant support to the newly established Tourism Multi-Profile College in Tbilisi to develop curricula for various tourism professions. The school recently hosted an open house for members of AmCham’s tourism committee to show its facilities and discuss potential options for partnerships with other businesses, particularly summer internships for the students. The first group of students has been enrolled and classes are now underway. EPF also provided grant support to AmCham to develop a series of tourism brochures in Georgian and English that will be used in the network of tourism information centers.

Economics Education Research Consortium (EERC)

The EERC Research Network was established in 1996 to encourage individual economists to work at the frontiers of the discipline and to apply their findings to real-world policy issues. From the beginning, EERC has taken a networking approach in order to reach economists in CIS regions, beyond the relative sophistication of Moscow or Kyiv. Through a competitive grants program, peer review, methodological training, and investment in virtual research infrastructure (access to publication outlets, literature, data, and professional communication), the network has built individual research capacities throughout the region and made strides to enhance the role of research in the policy design process and the public debate. Funding for the Network is provided by the Swedish Foreign Ministry and the Global Development Network (GDN).

Progress reports and the best new proposals are presented and discussed at research workshops held in July and December of each year.

EERC reviewed 140 new research projects for the Fall 2007 and Spring 2008 research competitions. At the two research workshops held in July 2007 and December 2007 EERC awarded 27 research and development grants, totaling \$128,300.00, in support of 20 projects. The total amount of GDN funds awarded was \$99,800.00 in research grants (8 projects, 15 researchers) and \$ 28,500.00 in research development grants (twelve projects.)

“Focus on Policy” Program. The network continues to pursue its redesigned and revitalized “Focus on Policy” program in order to bring the research results to the attention of policymakers, the media, and the interested public in a more timely and effective manner.

EERC is trying to make policy-oriented thinking a part of every funded research project. Each research proposal is required to include a section on the project’s policy context, and the proposal review mechanism now includes an explicit requirement of policy relevance. The senior experts taking part in the workshop take pains to help researchers draw out policy conclusions at every stage of the project.

In Kyiv, EERC has joined the Victor Pinchuk foundation to become the **Kyiv School of Economics** (KSE). The school currently administers an internationally recognized master’s degree program in economics and a World Bank-funded research center in Kyiv, Ukraine. Since inception, 367 students have received master’s degrees in economics and are employed in Ukraine and abroad in academia, government and business.

The Kyiv School of Economics has an agreement with the University of Houston (USA) that allows KSE students to obtain, while studying at KSE, a Master's degree from the University of Houston. Courses taken to receive the KSE certificate can simultaneously lead to a MA degree in Economics from the University of Houston.

Small Business Loan Program (SBLP)

On August 1, 2004, the Izmirlian Eurasia Universal Credit Company LLC (IE UCC) officially began operations. The IE UCC offers term loans and lines of credit to businesses engaged in the production and service sectors. To date, the IE UCC has over 200 loans totaling \$13.4 million, leading to the creation of more than one thousand new jobs. The IE UCC is now solidly profitable with all profits reinvested in new lending. The Eurasia Foundation's goal of establishing a permanent small business finance company has been achieved. Because of its lending IE UCC, borrowers created 843 jobs.

The next step in the IE UCC evolution was the exit of the Eurasia Foundation as an owner. This step occurred in mid-December 2006 when the Izmirlian Foundation purchased the Eurasia Foundation's ownership in the IE UCC. The Izmirlian Foundation requested that the Eurasia Foundation continue to have board representation and did not change the name of the institution.

Caucasus Research Resource Consortium (CRRC)

The Caucasus Research Resource Centers (CRRC) is a network of resource and training centers established in the capital cities of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia with the goal of strengthening social science research and public policy analysis in the South Caucasus.

A partnership between the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the Eurasia Foundation, and local universities, the CRRC network offers scholars and practitioners stable opportunities for integrated research, training and collaboration in the region.

CRRC has positioned itself as the lead survey group working with international donors, winning awards from the National Democratic Institute (NDI), Transparency International and the British Government. The CRRC secured \$2 million from Carnegie Corporation of New York to support the program for the next two years.

IV. Evaluation and Results



Evaluation and Results

EURASIA FOUNDATION

Evaluation

Highlights in Evaluating EF Network Programs

In the first half of FY08, the EF Network affiliates have undertaken formal evaluations at significant milestones in the life cycle of their major programs. These evaluations included 2 baseline and needs assessments, 4 impact and summative evaluations and 4 research papers. EF spent over \$100,000, or 1.2% of its total spending, on evaluation during the reporting period.

For the complete list of evaluations completed in the first half of FY08, please refer to Appendix 1. Two illustrative evaluations from EFCA and FNE are highlighted below.

Baseline Assessment for the Central Asian News Service

In November 2007, EFCA undertook a baseline assessment as part of their Central Asian News Service (CANS) program. The CANS program is supported by over \$750,000 in grants from the U.S. State Department's Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor and the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The overarching goal of CANS is to create a region-wide news service that will produce informative and objective daily news from across Central Asia. EFCA is working with its partner *AKIPress*, an established internet news provider, to set up Central Asian News Service Development, a new non-profit organization that will host the program's website. The web site is now functioning, producing daily news articles, and has broken several major stories.

In order to assess the popularity and content of competing Internet news outlets, EFCA commissioned the Bishkek-based Expert Consulting Agency to conduct a baseline assessment of web-based news sources in Central Asia. The recommendations of the evaluation report included the following:

- *Structure and Content:* The site should strive to provide exclusive, original content, although during the start-up phase a strategy of providing a mix of original and reprinted content should be considered. Since readers absorb online articles differently than print articles, the report recommended that online articles be 50 percent shorter than their print equivalents. Interactive content should be incorporated into the website in light of the fact that these features are for the most part not provided by competitors.
- *Proposed Monitoring Indicators:* The report recommended tracking a broad set of indicators to gauge progress towards the program's targets and to assess impact. These indicators included the number of unique visitors and subscribers to the site as well as their geographical distribution, the number of articles posted, the articles' geographic coverage, the thematic distribution of articles, and earnings from banner ads and subscriptions.

- *Approaches to Marketing and Market Positioning:* The site should be registered with the various Internet search portals. In addition, the site must position itself in one or some combination of the following five ways:
 1. As a source for quality original news on Central Asia;
 2. As a source of influence on political and social events in Central Asia;
 3. As a re-distributor of news about Central Asia;
 4. As a source for news about Central Asia, but within a specific subtopic, such as regional economic or political issues;
 5. As a web-portal for Central Asia, providing not only news articles, but also information on related services and resources.

The assessment proved to be useful for the EFCA program staff in that it identified points of comparison and indicators to assess the performance of the CANS website. The assessment identified major competitors, what kind of news and information is of greatest interest to potential readers, how many people are accessing news websites and how many news items they are reading per visit. This data will be tracked as the program moves forward and will help demonstrate its impact on the reading public.

Impact Evaluation of FNE's Small Grants Program in the Russian Northwest

The Small Grants Program (SGP) in the Northwest region of Russia, a joint initiative of the New Eurasia Foundation, Barents Secretariat, and Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, is a major civil society and private enterprise development program. It is designed to provide assistance to Russian NGOs, educational institutions and other organizations that develop human resources, broaden access to and improve effectiveness of financing, and improve NGO legislation. From May 2006 to October 2007, nearly \$450,000 in grants was distributed to support 16 projects in the target region.

In November 2007, FNE commissioned a team of independent evaluators to assess the impact of the Small Grants Program on the development of civil society and private entrepreneurship in the Russian Northwest, as well as the degree to which this program can be considered an international partnership project. The findings of the report included the following:

- The Small Grants Program had a positive impact on the professional growth of NGO managers and staff by helping them to develop new skills and increasing their awareness of growth opportunities. The program also had a constructive influence on the activities of the grantee organisations. It enabled them to expand their client-base and number of partners, increase the reach of their regional operations, improve their image and expand the scope and quality of services they provide.
- The program helped solve local community problems and assisted in the development of civil society and private entrepreneurship. In particular, the projects encouraged the development of social partnerships and the implementation of social programs, and broadened access to financing opportunities. For example, one SGP grantee trained 30 handicapped entrepreneurs in the basics of entrepreneurship and business planning. Six of the most successful business start-up projects designed by the disabled entrepreneurs received financial support (50,000 roubles or \$2,000 each) from the Alexander Nevsky Foundation.
- At this stage, the program cannot be fully considered an international partnership program due to the fact that only about one third of the grantees applied international experiences in the course of their project activities.

- The evaluators surveyed grantees, beneficiaries, local government authorities and representatives from businesses, NGOs and the mass media who participated in the program. The results of the survey showed that while the most active segments of the population in the Russian Northwest are generally aware of the program, the overwhelming majority of the survey participants know little about the program's results or its impact on the solution of local community problems. At the same time, most of the survey participants are confident that there is a great demand for such partnership programs in their region, and they have no doubt that the program is able to facilitate the development of friendly and neighbourly relations between Russia and Norway.

The report also proposed the following recommendations:

- FNE should broaden the dissemination of information about the results achieved by the program. Closer cooperation with the mass media is recommended to ensure better coverage of the projects.
- FNE should stimulate the implementation of Russian-Norwegian partnership projects in order to make the program truly international and partnership-based and thereby bring it closer to the donor's vision.
- FNE should encourage closer collaboration among the grantees and between grantees and local government authorities. In addition, collaboration with local businesses and their corporate social investment programs in the region should be continued.
- A regional needs assessment should be conducted and taken into consideration when developing the next stage of the program.

The report recommendations were utilized in the development of the next phase of the program. In November 2007, representatives of FNE, the Barents Secretariat and the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs signed a cooperative agreement on the implementation of the \$600,00 Russian Northwest – Norway: Barents Regional Development Program. This program marks a new phase in the development of cooperation between Russia and Norway.

Evaluation Statistics for the First Half of FY08

EF and its network partners closed 199 grants in the first six months of FY08. The findings from the standard indicators for these grants closed reveal the following:

Changes occurred on individual level

1. Number of direct individual beneficiaries	22,084
2. Number of trainees	14,869

Changes occurred on organizational level

3. Number of organizational beneficiaries	1,005
4. Number of new partnerships formed by grantees	259
5. Resources leveraged (in-kind) from counterparts	\$1,033,153

Changes occurred on societal level

6. Media products disseminated	1,953
7. Grantee innovations replicated by others	197
8. New jobs created	896

Evaluation Plans for the Remainder of FY08

The EF Network affiliates plan to undertake 23 evaluations during the second half of FY08. They include 8 needs and baseline assessments, 7 organizational assessments (as part of EPF Armenia's Developing Organizational Capacity program), 2 mid-term process evaluations, 1 research paper and 5 impact or summative evaluations. Note that of the 8 needs and baseline assessments planned, 4 are dependent on proposals for non-core funding. The summative evaluations will focus on assessing the EPF's NGO Watchdog and Open Schools programs in Georgia, FNE's Community Schools program and EEF's Sustainable Solutions program in Ukraine, among others. It's notable that EEF is making full use of its on-staff evaluation officer by asking her to directly undertake the evaluation of the Sustainable Solutions program.

In addition to the evaluations planned for the second half of FY08, EF will provide training to the legacy foundation program staff on how to utilize the new program design templates. EEF will receive training in early April, EFCA and EPF in May and FNE in June. A number of these trainings will be provided during the Capacity Mapping visits to the legacy foundations.

Baseline/Needs Assessments

- Baseline Assessment for the Central Asian News Service program, November 2007
- Needs Assessment on the State of Civic Monitoring in Georgia, October 2007

Program and Project Impact Evaluations

- Impact Evaluation on EFCA's Youth Program in the Ferghana Valley, December 2007
- Impact Evaluation of the Small Grants Program in the Russian Northwest, November 2007
- Results Evaluation of the New Management Technologies – New Development Quality project in Russia, December 2007
- Impact Evaluation of projects funded under the Print Media Distribution Program in Armenia, December 2007

Research Papers

- Policy Research Paper on Waste Management in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia, November 2007
- Policy Research Paper on Vocational Education in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia, March 2008
- Sociological survey on the issues of HIV/AIDS, drug abuse and unsafe sex among senior school students in public schools throughout Georgia, November 2007
- Systemic Analysis of the Georgian Media, December 2007

V.Appendices

Appendix A

Expenditure Chart by Strategic Objective

October 1, 2007 – March 31, 2008

**USAID Core 3 Analysis of Expenditures
By Country - CORE 3 FUNDING
from October 1, 2007 through March 31, 2008**

	Russia*	Ukraine	Moldova	Belarus	Uzbekistan**	Tajikistan**	Kazakhstan**	Kyrgyzstan**	Georgia	Armenia	Azerbaijan	Total
TOTAL SPENDING BY COUNTRY	\$ 174,842	\$ 1,031,530	\$308,015	\$ 668,458	\$ (27,385)	\$ 88,453	\$ 170,146	\$ 201,791	\$ 1,276,569	\$1,348,328	\$ 885,627	\$6,126,373

* Russia spending appears low due to the fact that their current year funding was obligated in September 2007

** Central Asia spending appears low due to the fact that the initial six months of funding for the fiscal year was obligated in September 2007

Appendix B

Outcome Statements of Grants Closed

October 1, 2007 – March 31, 2008

Armenia

Protection of Consumers Rights

Y04-5101

\$39,102

Yerevan, Armenia

10/1/2005 - 10/31/2006

Public utility provision used to be one of the most corrupt sectors among public services. Despite numerous local and international efforts, the sphere still lacked transparency and efficiency in Armenia. The goal of this project was to increase awareness among consumers on the issue of public utility services and to provide legal support for protecting consumer rights. In order to achieve this goal the grantee organization has established a hot-line service and provided legal support to more than 3000 consumers during the course of the project. A survey was conducted to reveal the public awareness on utility service provision and to identify targets for the awareness campaign. As a result of the analysis an information guideline for consumers has been developed along with a series of brochures on electricity, gas, water and telephone services. Relevant posters were also published and disseminated in municipalities and public service provision units. Major achievements of the project included 1) established partnership and co-funding on the initiative from Bearing Points and PA Consulting organizations, 2) achieving further sustainability of the project impact through advocacy program implemented with support of Counterpart International, 3) more than 510 consumers complaint processed with courts and other official bodies, 4) a unique experience of establishing a consumer right protection MP group in the RA Parliament exercised.

International Policy Research Group

Y06-0002

\$75,383

Yerevan, Armenia

3/1/2006 - 1/31/2008

Since early 1990's Turkey has refused to establish diplomatic relations with Armenia and kept the land border between Turkey and Armenia locked. Recent EU accession talks with Turkey, as well as the inclusion of Armenia in the framework of European Neighborhood Policy, have put additional pressure on the two countries to resolve their political differences and improve relations with each other. In light of the possible positive developments around the issue, the Armenian International Policy Research Group tried to enhance understanding of the economic consequences that would follow the re-opening of the Armenian-Turkish border, as well as to contribute to the ongoing analytical debate among the expert community and the policy-makers on the issue. In particular, the grantee arranged for and produced two research papers titled "Sector-Specific and Distributional Consequences to Follow the Opening of the Armenia-Turkey Border", and "Stakeholders Engagement in the Process of Border Opening". The project research results were made public through a two-day international conference entitled "The Economic and Social Consequences of Opening the Armenia-Turkey Border" that was followed by a series of round-table discussions in Georgia, Turkey and Armenia. The project received considerable coverage in Turkish and Armenian print and electronic media. The project is expected to improve the awareness of Armenian and Turkish stakeholder community of both the political and economic costs and benefits that might follow the possible re-opening of the land border between the two countries, which will instigate positive developments around the issue.

JMC Student

Y07-0015

\$4,343

Yerevan, Armenia

10/1/2007 - 11/30/2007

The aim of the project was to increase the employment potential of the French University in Armenia (FUA) graduates and their job placement within Armenia's businesses. In order to achieve this goal the project "Business Crossroads" was implemented through organizing an Exhibition of Careers and establishment of database of potential employers among Armenian private enterprises and employees from FUA students and graduates. The project aimed at reducing the structural unemployment among Armenian students and graduates of Universities as well as improve the internship opportunities for current students of FUA. As the result of the project the students of FUA improved awareness of job and internship opportunities, as well as were developed students capacities for finding employment opportunities. Thanks to this project the interested parts had an opportunity to meet the employers and to candidate for the job-offer. One of the

achievements of the project is the fact that every organization participating in “Business Crossroad” project took the chance to renew or enrich its staff.

Union of Government Employees

Y06-0031

\$15,942

Yerevan, Armenia

9/1/2006 - 10/13/2007

The efficiency of the socio-economic reforms in the country greatly depends on the capacity of the civil service established in 2001 through legislative reform in this area. Despite numerous local and international efforts to bring this capacity to a required efficiency level, the civil service in Armenia still lacks efficient procedures and professional human resources. Current project aimed at reducing corruption risks in the civil service through increased participation of NGOs in the recruitment and attestation processes related to senior and high level civil servants. In order to achieve this goal, the grantee has involved 5 strongest CSOs acting in the field to form a coalition of monitors. Experts were hired to develop special questionnaires and manuals for the monitors. Additional training course was conducted for the 12 selected monitors and agreement was reached with the state regulating authority (Civil Service Council) to start the actual monitoring visits. During the course of the project 120 monitoring visits have been conducted by the group covering 63 competitions and 57 attestations and involving 295 candidate civil servants. As a result of the project, recommendations have been developed and published through two interim and one final report. The results were publicized through two press conferences. The grantee managed to exceed the anticipated outputs of the project by involving more NGOs and establishing cooperation with the state regulating authority. As a result, an MOI was signed with the Civil Service Council which is a strong factor for the sustainability of the project. The organization was also selected to implement a wider project in the sphere of civil service reform within the anticorruption competition conducted by Eurasia Foundation in October 2007. Eurasia Foundation will work further to build on the achievements of the project and to expand its positive experience to other anticorruption projects.

New Generation

Y06-0010

\$8,870

Yerevan, Armenia

9/1/2006-1/31/2008

In order to promote civic activism of young people in Shirak region New Generation NGO implemented a project that envisioned the creation of a youth Debate Club (DC) comprised of 30 young people. Within the project a series of capacity building trainings/seminars were conducted to raise the awareness of club members in leadership, strategic planning, fundraising, coalition building and human rights issues. A series of live debates, discussions and meetings were conducted with participation of LG and NGO representatives. As a result of the project the Debate Club members conducted an assessment of needs of the youth in Shirak region, based on the identified needs developed a three-year strategy of youth development in the region. The strategy presented to Gyumri municipality and Youth NGOs for funding and further consideration. In addition to this, three project proposals (OSI, EF, Youth Center) were developed by DC members and were presented to donor organizations for funding. DC members have established links with local and regional authorities and will continue cooperation aimed at solving youth-related issues in the region.

CRRC (Caucasus Research Resource Center)

Anahit Gulyan

C06-7108

\$3,420

Yerevan, Armenia

8/1/2006 - 3/30/2007

Anahit Gulyan conducted actuarial and statistical analyses to support the introduction of mandatory medical insurance in the Republic of Armenia. She studied the experience of several European countries and analyzed local statistics on the incidence and seasonality of various common diseases, as well as their treatment costs in Armenia in order to predict what financing scenarios could be applied to have a basic medical insurance system in the country. She proposed two scenarios to cover the health expenses of the whole population in the country by placing the burden either solely on employers, who would provide health insurance to their employees and their families; or the employers, who would pay for their employees, while the rest of the population would be covered by the state budget. For the first scenario, employers are supposed to pay 1.5% of their gross salaries for medical insurance, which covers the seven most common diseases, such as burns, fractures and heart disease. For the second scenario, employers will pay 0.5% of their salaries for their employees' insurance and the state budget has to pay twice the rate employers pay to cover the rest of the population. According to the researcher, both approaches may yield positive results, however, the final choice is to be made by the state authorities in consultation with all stakeholders, including the health insurance agencies, employers and the public at large. The researcher presented the findings of this research at the opening of the Actuarial Center at Yerevan State University (June, 2007), as well as during a public presentation at CRRC-Armenia (September, 2007), which was attended by about 20 participants, including representatives of local and international NGOs, policy makers, insurance companies, academics and researchers interested in medical insurance in Armenia. Mr. Hovhannes Margaryants, adviser to the Minister of Healthcare of Armenia, and Mr. Saro Tsaturyan, General Director of Diagnostica Medical Center were also among participants of the presentation who highly valued Gulyan's research and its implications. The fellow published a brochure and elaborated recommendations for Armenian policy makers to promote discussions on the proposed insurance policy in various settings, involving healthcare professionals, international organizations, media, and the public at large. She particularly recommended regularly collecting statistics regarding the incidence of various diseases and their treatment costs, which would help with making more precise estimations/calculations for health insurance plans. The research results were disseminated to the policy practitioners involved in medical insurance in Armenia, as well as to individual researchers, institutions and organizations involved in medical insurance studies.

Armine Mkhitarian

C06-7104

\$3,500

Yerevan, Armenia

8/1/2006 - 4/30/2007

Within the CRRC 2006 Fellowship program Armine Mkhitarian studied the gender imbalance among leaders of Armenian local government institutions (LGIs). By analyzing data on LGIs from the Armenian National Statistical Service, Central Elections Committee and from several NGOs, conducting dozens of in-depth interviews among elected and non-elected candidates for LGIs and carrying out focus groups among men and women in several Armenian communities, Mkhitarian exposed the large gender discrepancy in LGI participation. For instance, in 2005, only 6% of LGI leaders were women. Additionally, Mkhitarian, researched the success factors for men and women being elected to LGIs. Her study showed that female leaders dominate in the rural LGIs, and that female leaders are more common in the education and healthcare sectors. This was due, Mkhitarian explained, to the fact that Armenian society in general does not expect or accept women as politicians or leaders of large communities or organizations. Therefore, women are most successful in obtaining office in rural LGIs and in public organizations (schools, hospitals), where, in addition to less pressure from male candidates, there is less competition as there are fewer resources to own and share, according to the researcher. Mkhitarian also found significant differences in the ways women govern in Armenia as compared with men. Whereas male leaders are frequently pressed by higher authorities to get involved in certain actions, female leaders have higher chances to ignore those pressures. According to the researcher, people have better expectations from female leaders to improve their socioeconomic conditions, as those leaders are less corrupt than men, they know people's needs better and local

communities trust them more. Mkhitarian presented her main findings during a public presentation at CRRC-Armenia in May, 2007. Nineteen participants, including representatives of the Association of Women with University Education, S. Sandukht Women Association, New Generation and Haytur NGOs, Orinats Yerkir (Rule of Law) political party, and researchers attended the presentation. She provided a full analytical report on the research project and developed policy recommendations which were disseminated to LGIs involved in her study, as well as to several NGOs and political parties. Mkhitarian also presented the research results during a round table organized with policy makers and representatives of the Armenian Republican party, Dashnaktsutyun (Armenian Revolutionary Federation) and Jarangutyun (Heritage) political parties.

Gyulnara Hovhannisyan

C06-7112

\$3,500

Yerevan, Armenia

10/17/2006 - 7/17/2007

Gyulnara Hovhannisyan analyzed the effects of employment, demographic and labor market changes on the pension system of the Republic of Armenia (RA) with a special emphasis on gender equality within it. Hovhannisyan also studied the gender issues in the current RA legislation concerning the pension system and described the potential outcomes of introducing the new pension system, which was recently proposed by the Armenian government. She showed that recent demographic changes (reduced fertility and natural growth of population, increased mortality, emigration and aging of population) have resulted in many more female than male pensioners (59% vs. 41% in 2006 for the age group of 60 years and older). However, according to the research, womens' average pensions are 12% lower than that of men (as of the beginning of 2007), which is associated with gender differences in the labor market. The researcher presented the findings of this study during a round table organized in July, 2007 at the Institute of Labor and Social Studies of Armenia, and during a public presentation at CRRC-Armenia (October 26, 2007). The latter was attended by 22 participants, including representatives from Armenian Social Investments Fund, Ministry of Finance and Economy of the RA, the Central Bank of Armenia (CBA), and other policy makers, academics and researchers, as well as representatives from international organizations interested in the topic. The fellow published a 74-page book based on the findings of this research, which was disseminated to the participants of the presentation at CRRC-Armenia. To alleviate gender disparities in the pension system she elaborated policy recommendations that were disseminated to the Pension Reform Working Group members of Armenian Government, the Ministry of Labor and Social Issues of Armenia, and USAID Armenia Social Protection Systems Strengthening Project. Hovhannisyan also submitted an abstract entitled "Gender Issues of the Pension System of the Republic of Armenia" for the multidisciplinary International Conference on Research and Teaching to be held in Spring 2008 at the University of Louisiana.

SCCP (South Caucasus Cooperation Program)

Radio "VAN"

C06-7021

\$34,720

Yerevan, Armenia

9/1/2006 - 11/8/2007

The media plays a particularly crucial role in regions like the South Caucasus that have a strong potential for political or ethnic conflict. The availability of unbiased and diverse information across borders is critical to building confidence among the three nations. Together with its partners from Georgia and Azerbaijan, Radio VAN sought to facilitate greater mutual understanding among the listening public in the South Caucasus countries through the development of a commercially sustainable cross-border entertainment and news program. The project further strengthened cooperation among the three independent radio stations through the production of a series of 34 cross-border radio reality shows entitled "Thoughts Aloud". The show provided an opportunity for listeners in the South Caucasus to learn about the everyday lives of people working in different professions and included coverage of current news and events in each of the countries. To ensure the sustainability of the project, the partners made an effort to establish commercial relationships with local and international advertisers. As a result of the project, listeners in each country to develop a better understanding of ordinary citizens' lives in the neighboring countries and to build confidence in the South Caucasus.

Armenian Democratic Forum

C04-7001

\$36,270

Yerevan, Armenia

9/1/2005 - 7/20/2007

While Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia have each agreed to develop a system of alternative punishment as a part of their accession to the Council of Europe, currently no such system exists in the South Caucasus. Working with its partners from Georgia and Azerbaijan, Armenian Democratic Forum sought to reform penal legislation in the South Caucasus and bring it into accordance with international standards by creating a framework for an alternative punishment system. Through sociological survey and focus groups, three partners researched and diagnosed the level of readiness of the South Caucasus' societies and governments to accept the introduction of alternative punishment system. The partners researched and analyzed various international alternative punishment systems and standards and developed recommendations for introducing appropriate systems in their respective countries. In the course of the project, the partners conducted an information campaign to increase awareness of alternative punishment issues among the public and government bodies, which in Armenia included a cycle of 3 round-table discussions, 3 radio shows and 1 TV show, a web-site, and a presentation of the project results to major national stakeholders. The project was yet another milestone in laying a foundation for the introduction of alternative punishment systems in the South Caucasus.

Association of Seed Producers “Satsil”

C03-7049

\$33,986

Vanadzor, Armenia

4/13/2004 - 7/14/2006

Improving agricultural production is vital to the economic growth in all three countries of the South Caucasus. Potato and potato seed cultivation is a major crop in the region's agricultural production. The Association of Seed Producers “Satsil”, together with its partner organizations in Georgia and Azerbaijan, trained farmers on agricultural business development and more efficient potato production methods with expertise from Mashav Center for International Cooperation in Israel. Training activities focused on developing business plans, farmers' unions, seed cultivation, and drip irrigation techniques. Six participants (two from each country) were later selected to attend a series of advanced trainings for agribusiness professionals in Israel. Most of the participating farmers increased their potato yields by at least two fold by the end of the project.

Armenian Branch of Art-Caucasus

C05-7028

\$22,470

Yerevan, Armenia

8/8/2005 - 2/16/2006

The countries of the South Caucasus possess enormous artistic talent, but a lack of professional skills among art dealers and gallery owners and weak business connections hamper the formation of a regional art market. Working with its partners from Georgia and Azerbaijan, Armenian Branch of Art-Caucasus sought to promote the region's visual art market. The partners held a combination art exhibition/international conference entitled Art Caucasus 2005 and shot a documentary film “Art Caucasus 2005” to popularize the event in each country. In addition, the partners created a database of the contemporary visual art, produced a catalogue, and established the first regional magazine “Art Caucasus Digest”. The Eurasia Foundation's grantees managed to develop a sustainable means to promote the region's fine art, in that they secured co-funding for Art Caucasus 2005 and were able to organize Art Caucasus 2006 without any financial support from the Eurasia Foundation.

International Center for Human Development

C05-7031

\$32,315

Yerevan, Armenia

10/1/2007 - 5/31/2008

Failure to modernize national social protection systems will increase the risk of more unemployment, poverty and social exclusion, and delay South Caucasus countries' integration with European Structures. Working with its partners from Georgia and Azerbaijan, International Center for Human Development (ICHHD) sought to promote the labor market reforms implementation process in South Caucasus countries by putting it on the track provided by the EU Employment and Social Policy Strategy. The partners summarized key EU policy

documents (green and white papers) in the focus field and identified the employment and labor policy inconsistencies in the South Caucasus countries. The partners conducted an information campaign to increase awareness of employment and labor policy issues among the public and relevant government bodies that included a series of national round-table discussions on the issue, a web site, and presentations of the project in Baku, Tbilisi and Yerevan. The partners published 600 copies of English-Russian book titled “Employment Policy Directions in South Caucasus Countries: Securing Policy Development in Compliance with the EU Employment Strategy” that features the analytical output of the project. In addition, ICHD published 200 copies of the Armenian version of the book. The partners succeeded with developing a research-based action plan and policy recommendations for the policy-makers in the three South Caucasus countries to adjust the employment and labor policy with the key European Standards and Requirements. In particular, the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs of Armenia formally welcomed the publication of the above book.

Union of Armenian Ecologists

C04-7005

\$37,129

Yerevan, Armenia

11/1/2005 - 4/30/2007

The South Caucasus countries still use the old Soviet standards and norms for water resource management. Aarhus Convention requires introduction of new standards as well as establishment of national data registers of water pollutant emissions. Together with its partners from Georgia and Azerbaijan, Union of Armenian Ecologists sought to contribute to the efficient management of trans-boundary water resources and increased environmental safety across the South Caucasus region. The partners conducted an analysis of existing national standards regulating the protection and rational use of trans-boundary water resources and compared national standards with those of the United States and European countries. Their analysis included a detailed outline of the benefits of applying international water standards to the case of the Kura-Araks river basin. The partners also conducted a public awareness campaign to stimulate stakeholder cooperation and joint efforts to protect and rationally utilize trans-boundary water resources. Elements of the public awareness campaign included a series of stake holder round-table discussions and one national conference, 2 issues of informational brochures, television report on Armenian Public Television (H1), and a 35-minute informational documentary broadcasted twice by H2 Channel. As a result of the project, prioritized recommendations for reforming national water standards were developed and presented to the appropriate governmental agencies and other stakeholders for further consideration.

Yerevan State University, Faculty of Journalism

C06-7018

\$28,769

Yerevan, Armenia

9/1/2006 - 8/15/2007

As in many other countries of the former Soviet Union, unprofessional, often irresponsible reporting in the South Caucasus undermines fragile press freedoms and makes the media vulnerable to control and suppression from their respective governments. The media plays a particularly crucial role in regions like South Caucasus that have a strong potential for political or ethnic conflict. Working with its partners from Georgia and Azerbaijan, Yerevan State University, Faculty of Journalism sought to expand the Western-style Master's in Journalism program offered by the Caucasus School of Journalism and Media Management to Yerevan State University and Khazar University. The project provided for 5 cycles of joint faculty training (ToTs) under which total of 6 Armenian, 5 Azerbaijani, and 7 Georgian faculty received extensive training in reporting and writing, TV reporting, photojournalism, principles of journalism, and English for journalists respectively. A group of 15 journalism students from Armenia, representing both the YSU's Department of Journalism and CSJMM's Armenian group received training under the above 4 core journalism courses. The project helped to foster lasting professional links between journalism faculty and future journalists working in the South Caucasus countries, and established an informal network of Caucasus Journalism Educators. Besides, the project witnessed cross-border credit recognition between counterpart universities from the three countries of the South Caucasus, unprecedented since the collapse of the Soviet Union.

“ZARD”

C05-7042

\$1,000

Yerevan, Armenia

10/1/2006 - 12/15/2006

A lack of information about legal rights among art professionals and weak legislative base regulating art sector in the three countries of the South Caucasus are among the deficiencies hampering the formation of an effective national and regional art market. To promote more favorable conditions for the art business in the South Caucasus countries, “ZARD” and its partners in Azerbaijan and Georgia were expected to develop a linkage project proposal that would focus on the protection of the rights of art professionals by improving the legislative base regulating the art sectors in the region and enhancing the legal knowledge of artists. The final results of the linkage project would be a) the assessment of the degree to which art-related legislation in the South Caucasus countries complies with internationally accepted standards, b) a set of policy recommendations and strategies to national executive and legislative bodies in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia, and c) a practical manual on legal issues affecting art professionals in the region. The original three-country partnership team broke up; however, the grantee managed to identify new partners in Azerbaijan and Georgia, finalize the linkage proposal, and submit it to Eurasia Foundation.

Azerbaijan

Aquaculture-Scientific Industrial Center

B05-0070

\$25,436

Baku, Azerbaijan

7/7/2005 - 7/6/2006

While fish farming has great potential for development in Azerbaijan, it has never been fully explored or supported as a mature and viable profit center. To address this area of opportunity, the project provided technical assistance to local authorities in the sector, created a professional network, and implemented advocacy activities to develop fish farming in Azerbaijan. Project grantee conducted a series of trainings and consultations for fish farmers while concurrently introducing a broad awareness campaign for local government in six regions of Azerbaijan advocating for the development of fish farming as an important part of the local economy. Project grantee also assisted in the creation of two local fish farms in Masalliand Balakan regions and carried out a feasibility study that served as the basis for establishment of a trout factory in Xudat region. During project implementation, project grantee created a web page www.akvakultura.az covering issues related to fish farming. In addition, project grantee developed and published the manual "Aquaculture" in the Azerbaijani language and distributed it among fish farmers, entrepreneurs and other parties interested in this subject. The project revealed the great potential for fish farming in Azerbaijan and illuminated the need for additional efforts both by the government and private sector to transform it into a profitable local industry.

Center for Economic Researches

B06-0098

\$24,120

Baku, Azerbaijan

8/4/2006-1/23/2008

A new system of local self-governance was established in Azerbaijan in 1999 creating 2,677 municipalities. Although this system has been functioning for eight years, there is very little information available either to municipalities or the general public that would assist in assessing the operational effectiveness of local self-governments and improve transparency. Inadequate strategic planning and lack of public accountability create a poor image of municipal institutions among the citizens. To address these deficiencies, project implementer delivered a number of trainings and round-table discussions involving a wide range of participants from four municipalities which included representatives from the Ministries of Taxes and Justice along with active community members. The topics of trainings ranged from budget formation to effective mechanisms of public accountability and citizen involvement in municipal affairs. Furthermore, project implementer carried out a broad outreach campaign highlighting municipal budgetary issues in mass media, organized presentations and press-conferences, and conducted public hearings in each of the targeted municipalities. As a result of the project, the budgets of the four targeted municipalities for the next financial year were published in local newspapers for the first time since established in 1999. What's more, these municipalities began the process of registering tax payers in their areas - an essential element in developing their sustainable financial systems.

Democracy Learning

B06-0096

\$18,690

Baku, Azerbaijan

8/4/2006 - 5/3/2007

Though the system of local governance has been functioning for over eight years, numerous challenges related to performance and service delivery of municipalities in Azerbaijan remain. Limited public involvement in municipal affairs and budgetary processes coupled with insufficient municipal management capacity remain at the core of local governance institutional weakness. To address these impediments, the project aimed to develop mechanisms encouraging transparent interaction between municipal policymakers and their constituencies and effective municipal planning procedures. Project implementer organized a series of public round-tables and seminars to discuss municipal budgets, facilitate formation of a Budgetary Working Group comprised of municipal and community members, and train targeted municipalities on strategic planning process. Furthermore, implementer organized several television programs to inform citizens of the municipal budget formulation process and the services provided by municipality. As a result

of the project, the budget of Sumgait municipality for 2007 was published in a local newspaper and publicly discussed on Sumgait TV channel - a first for the municipality.

Law House

B06-0073

\$24,643

Baku, Azerbaijan

8/28/2006 - 9/27/2007

A central element in promoting economic development in Azerbaijan is the establishment of a climate conducive to investment - especially foreign direct investment. This key component of development requires, among other activities, the establishment of a strengthened legal framework and environment of financial security promoting an improved investment climate. The project ultimately aimed to enable this process. Project implementer researched and reviewed investment legislation of Azerbaijan, compared it with appropriate legal frameworks of countries in the EU, USA, and CIS, and published their findings and recommendations online (www.lawhouse.com) and on a CD distributed to appropriate parties. Implementing organization worked in consultation with deputies and representatives of parliamentary institutions to develop new investment codes to allow more comprehensive monitoring of activity. What is more, two seminar discussions were conducted during the project: "Main Directions of the Concept of a New Investment Legislation of Azerbaijan" and "Protection of Investment in Azerbaijan". As a result of the project, investment legislation of Azerbaijan Republic was systematized and a unified database was created enabling more efficient use of information in formulating future policy. Furthermore, grantee organization initiated the drafting of a Unified Investment Code, which will provide the framework and impetus for future improvement of the investment climate in the Azerbaijan Republic.

Nadjaf Nadjafov Fund

B05-0064

\$35,619

Baku, Azerbaijan

5/10/2005 - 3/25/2006

Mass media plays an important role in ensuring that elections are free and fair. This is particularly true in a country like Azerbaijan where both TV and radio stations do not demonstrate adequate capacity to become objective contributors during the election process. To address the issue, project implementer conducted independent monitoring of election coverage in electronic and print media and disseminated reports among the public. Over an eight month period, project implementer conducted daily surveys of parliamentary election coverage including materials related to candidates, election procedures and political advertisement. Following the elections in November 2005, project implementer continued monitoring, observing such activities as the counting of voting results, announcements by the Central Election Commission and the Constitutional Court, and opinions and recommendations of experts about election-related issues. As a result of the project, the critical importance of supporting objective media coverage of election-related materials and the necessity to monitor media performance during the elections was further demonstrated.

Marketing Society of Azerbaijan

B05-0171

\$11,188

Baku, Azerbaijan

6/3/2005 - 4/20/2006

Corruption remains one of the most critical problems in Azerbaijan adversely affecting the country's perspective for development. The project endeavored to address this issue through the establishment of a youth anti-corruption coalition which included representatives from youth groups, Department on Antimonopoly Policy at the Ministry of Economic Development, and other social organizations. Within its mandate, project grantee established a Public Control Youth Group that engaged in monitoring the activities of the Department on Antimonopoly Policy at the Ministry of Economic Development. The project grantee also organized the conference "Role of Youth in Combating Corruption in the Field of Relations between the government and businesses." The project grantee also held a series of trainings for 30 young people on anti-corruption related issues and held an essay contest titled "Ways to Combat Corruption from My Point of View." Additionally, the project created a web page www.marketing.az/korrupt.html and a media broadcasted public service announcement to highlight project activities and to disseminate information related to this important issue. The project revealed that youth can and should play a critical role in fighting corruption and further support for their involvement in anti-corruption activities will be important for donors to support. This initiative was funded jointly with the World Bank and the Open Society Institute.

Project Management Association

B05-0227

\$33,320

Baku, Azerbaijan

2/13/2006 - 2/12/2007

In light of modernization of Azerbaijan's economy, the adoption of advanced business practices and technologies has become increasingly important. One of these concepts is the broadly defined area of quality management. To introduce this important business practice in Azerbaijan, the grantee worked with the Ukrainian Association of Quality, a member of the European Organization of Quality, to provide training for 18 participants on the process of quality management. Among the participants, the grantee selected five advanced local professionals and prepared them to become trainers for a wider audience. After the completion of training of trainers, these five trainers conducted training on the process of quality management for 50 local businessmen. In support of the trainings, the project issued publication materials on quality management, which were disseminated to participants of trainings and seminars. In conclusion, the project revealed the critical importance of further introduction of modern business practices in Azerbaijan.

Buta Children Humanitarian Foundation

B06-0117

\$21,753

Baku, Azerbaijan

9/28/2006 - 6/27/2007

One major challenge facing secondary schools in Azerbaijan is the acute lack of interest and involvement of citizens, particularly parents, in supporting school administration, activities and programs. Despite a fairly broad range of rights and privileges afforded parents by the law, few take the opportunity to be involved in the educational processes, budget formation, or monitoring process. To address this situation, project implementer aimed to strengthen the capacity of parent committees and school council in a project pilot school # 220 in Baku. Within the framework of the project, implementer facilitated democratic elections to these structures and delivered a number of trainings and round-table discussions for both school administrators and community members. Topics included methods of assessing and prioritizing appropriate needs of community schools and how to design annual budgets with parental and/or community involvement. As a result of the project, a new model of accumulating and managing extra-budgetary financial resources collected from school parents was developed and piloted in school #220. To date, over 600 parents deposited close to \$15,000 to a school endowment fund, the interest of which is designated to school operations and improvement. Notably, the initiative in school #220 raised interest among other school directors as well as the World Bank which has expressed an interest in expanding this model to its pilot schools.

Buta Children Humanitarian Foundation

B07-0074

\$18,838

Baku, Azerbaijan

8/1/2007 - 1/22/2008

In 2005, the government of Azerbaijan endorsed implementation of an educational reform initiative of the World Bank which provided 59 "pilot" schools partial fiscal autonomy. Despite the efforts of the World Bank and the Ministry of Education to implement this program, numerous unresolved issues were experienced by the pilot schools during the implementation process. Central to these problems were a lack of appropriate knowledge and capacity at the level of school administration, poor mechanisms of public oversight of school budgets, and insufficient information available at the local level in relation to the new division of authorities between the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Finance and school administrations. To address these concerns, project implementer, in close cooperation with the Ministry of Education and the Project Implementation Unit of the World Bank, organized a series of round-table discussions with fourteen pilot schools in the Ali-Bayramli region. Activities focused on the capacities of school administrators and council representatives to implement the World Bank project and reforms. In addition to the discussions, an informational web-portal providing relevant updates on the educational reform was designed. The portal created a venue for school representatives to share their experiences and lessons learned in school budget formation and parental involvement in school management. As a result of the project, new methodologies of school management and increased citizen participation in the administrative process were considered and developed for future implementation.

Foundation for Development of Entrepreneurship and Market Economy

B06-0091

\$32,548

Baku, Azerbaijan

9/28/2006 - 7/27/2007

According to the assessment of economic experts and assuming that current crude oil prices stabilize, it is projected that as early as 2009 and 2010, Azerbaijan's cumulative annual oil-based revenues will reach \$35 and \$55 billion, respectively. From just the Azeri-Chirag-Guneshli contract alone, Azerbaijan will receive oil-based revenues reaching approximately \$200 billion by the end of 2024. For a country with an annual budget of a little more than \$4 billion, such sizeable injections of public revenues necessitate the development of modern, transparent, and participatory mechanisms to ensure effective use and management of this oil-revenue based wealth. In addressing public participation in policy formulation, project implementer utilized a sociological survey, multiple round-tables, and information exchanges to widen the public discussion of oil-revenue policy while developing a set of recommendations for government structures. As a result of the project, public participation in policy creation for managing oil resources was increased creating conditions for more responsive and robust management strategies.

Inkishaf Scientific Center

B05-0144 \$23,476

Baku, Azerbaijan

8/4/2005 - 4/20/2006

Gender-related issues, key to developing robust and sustainable public policy, are not being adequately addressed in Azerbaijan. Specifically, gender-related legislation is lacking and no separate line item in the state budget exists for issues related to gender. To address this deficiency, project implementer conducted an analysis of gender sensitivity in existing legislation in the areas of electoral procedure, mass media, and education. The project also held discussions and seminars for lawyers, economists, journalists and professors of law faculties in Baku, Ganja, Sheki, Nakhchivan, Lenkaran and Khachmaz to increase their awareness of gender issues and to encourage a more gender-sensitive approach to implementation of national policies. As a result of the project, the current state of gender-bias in legislation was illuminated and implementation of policy in a more balanced means explored. The project was funded jointly with UNFPA.

Leader Women Social Union

B04-0151

\$33,281

Baku, Azerbaijan

5/18/2005 - 1/29/2007

Providing educational opportunities for marginalized groups remains as one of the most challenging spheres of development in Azerbaijan - especially for convicted youth. To address this issue, project implementer conducted a survey among fifty-five incarcerated youth to determine their interest in education and preferred fields of study. Based on survey results, project implementer developed specialized tests and organized training courses to further illuminate and explore the main educational interests of the targeted youth. Following completion of the courses, the State Committee on Student Matriculation organized entrance exams for nine of the most successful participants of the program - accepting eight of them to take correspondence courses at different high educational institution of Azerbaijan. As a result of the project, the critical importance of providing educational opportunities to marginalized groups was revealed and eight students, not normally able to continue their education due to incarceration, were able to enroll in appropriate educational institutions and begin building a brighter future.

Defense League of Citizens' Labour Rights

B06-0063

\$14,051

Baku, Azerbaijan

8/28/2006 - 6/27/2007

Since independence, Azerbaijan has initiated the process of bringing its labor legislation in line with internationally recognized standards by adopting a modern labor code. In spite of this parliamentary initiative, pervasive problems related to the implementation of this legislation permit an environment where employers commonly continue practices which violate employee rights. To address this pressing discrepancy, project implementer initiated independent monitoring activity to assess the status of labor rights in Azerbaijan since legal remedy was adopted. Subsequently, project implementer produced and distributed 1,500 brochures and 500 CDs to relevant government bodies, NGOs, media and other appropriate parties highlighting the results of the monitoring activity paying special consideration to providing recommendations to the problems outlined. Project implementer also produced a series of radio interviews

broadcast on Radio Liberty on the subject. In conclusion, the completion of this project revealed an urgent need to continue addressing gaps between legislative adoption, implementation, and enforcement.

League of Democratic Journalists

B07-0057

\$16,480

Baku, Azerbaijan

7/2/2007 - 1/1/2008

Print media journalists in Azerbaijan are increasingly prosecuted, fined and/or imprisoned for authoring statements critical of public figures. Such an antagonistic environment generates harmful pressure on investigative and independent reporting inhibiting the expression of free and independent speech. To combat this development, project implementers aimed to publicly promote the draft Law on Defamation recently submitted to the National Parliament of Azerbaijan and train regional journalists on ethical norms in journalism with emphasis on defamation. Specifically examined in the training was the extent to which printed media could use freedom of expression without causing personal injury. As a result of the project, sixty participating journalists increased their knowledge and capacity to report news legally and responsibly, effectively protecting themselves from unfair prosecution. This project was funded by the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Azerbaijan

“Agro Meslehet”

B05-0203

\$25,000

Baku, Azerbaijan

7/20/2005 - 11/1/2006

Rural green tourism has great potential to provide business opportunities to small and medium size enterprises in regional communities of Azerbaijan. To promote rural green tourism as viable business prospect, project implementer organized a series of interactive seminars for local communities to introduce the concept of rural green tourism and increase the skills and knowledge of local tour guides. Within the scope of the project, a “Rural Green Tourism” bulletin was established, an advertising CD on rural green tourism in the northern regions of Azerbaijan prepared, and several advertising booklets highlighting two popular tourist routes created and distributed. As a result of this initiative, participating rural communities better understand the potential of rural green tourism as an income provider are more professionally prepared to contribute qualitatively to developing their local tourism potential.

“Agro Meslehet”

B07-0059

\$9,983

Baku, Azerbaijan

7/2/2007 - 1/1/2008

Food safety issues and environmental concerns have increased public interest in seeking natural alternatives to chemical fertilizers. In addition, the high expense and limited supply of chemical fertilizers has created demand among local farmers to explore the potential benefit of alternative natural, organic fertilizers. Project implementers aimed to reduce farmer dependency on expensive chemical fertilizers in six southern rural areas of Azerbaijan through a three-day training and advocacy seminar. The seminars introduced the uses of natural fertilizers and organic farming techniques to approximately 40 local farmers. What is more, project implementer published a brochure entitled “Organic Farming: A Guide to Community Rules”, developed guidelines illuminating organic farming techniques and published informational booklets on organic farming. As a result of the project, local farmers gained knowledge of chemical fertilizer alternatives not previously considered. The project was funded by the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Azerbaijan.

Youth Organization of Azerbaijan

B05-0169

\$5,450

Yevlakh, Baku, Azerbaijan

6/3/2005 - 1/2/2006

Vigorous civic activism by young people is a critical component in the fight against corruption. To increase the engagement of youth in addressing corruption issues in Azerbaijan, the project implemented a series of seminars and roundtables for 250 young people in the regions of Mingechevir, Barda, Goranboy, Yevlax and Ter-ter. Representatives of government structures, municipalities, non-government organizations and youth groups participated in these public activities. In support of the public events, the project produced and disseminated 2,500 copies of a book “Corruption and Transparency” and five newspaper articles covering issues related to anti-corruption. As the result of the project, the Centre of Youth Regional Initiatives, which

studied citizens' attitude towards corruption and provided legal assistance to local population, was established in Yevlax region. What's more, the project revealed the critical importance of effective programming in the area of anti-corruption and transparency. This initiative was funded jointly with the World Bank and the Open Society Institute.

“Potential” - Union of Sumgait Specialists

B06-0097

\$6,500

Sumgait, Azerbaijan

8/4/2006 - 4/3/2007

Systems were put into place in 1999 for the creation of 2,677 municipalities in Azerbaijan, yet the mechanisms of public accounting and interaction between municipalities and their constituencies are still very poor. Municipal Block Committees, which were established in order to strengthen public involvement in the functioning of local governance institutions, in general, have very limited knowledge and authority in order to play an active role. To address these problems, the project organized a series of trainings for Municipal Block Committees and assisted them in arranging regular community information meetings with their constituencies. The project also organized media coverage of the issues related to municipal budgets and published monthly newspaper column. As a result, the targeted Municipal Block Committees increased their knowledge and skills required to mobilize their communities, the citizens became aware of the existence of Block Committees in their neighborhood and received information on the municipal budget and strategic plan of Sumgait municipality for FY 2007.

Reliable Future Youth Organization

B05-0231

\$14,918

Baku, Azerbaijan

9/23/2005 - 7/22/2006

Developing meaningful community participation in the educational processes and its institutions has been a challenging problem in Azerbaijan since independence and beyond. To address this concern, project implementer promoted collaboration between two secondary schools and local communities in Guba and Mingachevir regions. Through a broad, multi-faceted training program, implementing organization introduced the modern concept of Community Active Schools, which simultaneously improves the quality of education and addresses important community needs. Implementer further conducted two informational sessions on volunteerism for over seventy participants including parents, teachers and students. Additionally, project implementer held a series of round tables for community members on such issues as advancing quality of education, and community participation in educational development while promoting volunteerism. Five thousand informational bulletins, five-hundred Community Active School manuals, and two-thousand booklets were prepared, published and distributed among schoolchildren, parents, teachers and other community stakeholders. Utilizing the influence of local media, project implementer prepared two TV programs broadcasting them on local TV channels in Guba and Mingachevir. As a result of the project, the importance of further promoting collaboration between schools and the community was revealed.

Democratic Reforms and Law

B06-0066

\$12,980

Baku, Azerbaijan

8/28/2006 - 2/27/2007

Although governance reform gave broadened autonomy to local municipalities in 1999, the general service performance of municipal institutions in Azerbaijan remains in a dismal state. In light of diminished institutional capacity and limited range of services able to provide public revenue to improve service delivery, municipalities are increasingly dependent on state financial allocations to provide mandated services. To alleviate this problem and create revenue-generating opportunities for municipalities in the Agstafa region, project implementer conducted three trainings for municipal councilors to provide a fee-based notary service for Last Will and Testament registration. Project implementer published the instructive book titled “Registration of Last Will and Testament by Municipalities” and distributed 525 copies to municipalities in the Agstafa region. To support the initiative in the public sphere, four radio programs, were members of the Constitutional Court of Azerbaijan considered contradictory clauses in the Law on Notary Services, were prepared and broadcasted on Agstafa local radio. As a result of this initiative, twenty-four municipalities confirmed their willingness to register Last Wills and Testaments. At project closing, eighty

Last Wills and Testaments were registered - effectively increasing the revenues of municipalities involved in the project.

SCCP (South Caucasus Cooperation Program)

“Ruzgar” Ecological Society

C04-0005

\$34,677

Baku, Azerbaijan

11/1/2005 - 4/30/2007

The South Caucasus countries still use the old Soviet standards and norms for water resource management. The Aarhus Convention requires introduction of new standards, as well as establishment of national data registers of water pollutant emissions. Together with its partners from Georgia and Armenia, “Ruzgar” Ecological Society sought to contribute to the efficient management of trans-boundary water resources and increased environmental safety across the South Caucasus region. The partners conducted an analysis of existing national standards regulating the protection and rational use of trans-boundary water resources and compared national standards with those of the United States and European countries. Their analysis included a detailed outline of the benefits of applying international water standards to the case of the Kura-Araks river basin. The partners also conducted a public awareness campaign to stimulate stakeholder cooperation and joint efforts to protect and rationally utilize trans-boundary water resources. Elements of the public awareness campaign included two national round-tables and one conference, two informational brochures, participation in television talk show, and an informational documentary. As a result of the project, prioritized 10 recommendations for reforming national water standards were developed and presented to the appropriate governmental agencies and other stakeholders for further consideration.

Baku Art Center

C05-0042

\$990

Baku, Azerbaijan

10/1/2006 - 12/15/2006

A lack of information about legal rights among art professionals and weak legislative base regulating art sector in the three countries of the South Caucasus are among the deficiencies hampering the formation of an effective national and regional art market. To promote more favorable conditions for the art business in the South Caucasus countries, Baku Art Center and its partners in Armenia and Georgia were expected to develop a linkage project proposal that would focus on the protection of the rights of art professionals by improving the legislative base regulating the art sectors in the region and enhancing the legal knowledge of artists. The final results of the linkage project would be a) the assessment of the degree to which art-related legislation in the South Caucasus countries complies with internationally accepted standards, b) a set of policy recommendations and strategies to national executive and legislative bodies in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia, and c) a practical manual on legal issues affecting art professionals in the region. The original three-country partnership team broke up; however, the grantee managed to finalize the linkage proposal in partnership with Georgian New Art Union and submit it to Eurasia Foundation.

Organizational & Technical Development Society

C05-0031

\$34,023

Baku, Azerbaijan

9/1/2005 - 3/12/2007

Failure to modernize national social protection systems will increase the risk of more unemployment, poverty and social exclusion, and delay the South Caucasus countries' integration with European Structures. Working with its partners from Georgia and Armenia, Organizational & Technical Development Society sought to promote the labor market reforms implementation process in the South Caucasus countries by putting it on the track provided by the EU Employment and Social Policy Strategy. The partners summarized key EU policy documents (green and white papers) in the focus field and identified the employment and labor policy inconsistencies in the South Caucasus countries. The partners conducted an information campaign to increase awareness of employment and labor policy issues among the public and relevant government bodies that included a series of national round-table discussions on the issue, a web site, and presentations of the project in Baku, Tbilisi and Yerevan. The partners published 600 copies of English-Russian book titled “Employment Policy Directions in South Caucasus Countries: Securing Policy Development in Compliance

with the EU Employment Strategy” that features the analytical output of the project. In addition, Organizational & Technical Development Society published 400 copies of the Azerbaijani-Russian-English version of the book. The partners succeeded with developing a research-based action plan and policy recommendations for the policy-makers in the three South Caucasus countries to adjust the employment and labor policy with the key European Standards and Requirements. In particular, the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of Azerbaijan and some members of the Parliament of Azerbaijan formally welcomed the publication of the above book.

Khazar University

C06-0018

\$31,583

Baku, Azerbaijan

9/1/2006 - 8/15/2007

As in many other countries of the former Soviet Union, unprofessional, often irresponsible reporting in the South Caucasus undermines fragile press freedoms and makes the media vulnerable to control and suppression from their respective governments. The media plays a particularly crucial role in regions like the South Caucasus that have a strong potential for political or ethnic conflict. Working with its partners from Armenia and Azerbaijan, Georgian Institute of Public Affairs sought to support the development of professional and independent media in the South Caucasus by improving the quality of university-level journalism programs offered by the region's leading educational institutions. Through cooperation with the journalism departments at the Yerevan State University and Georgian Institute of Public Affairs the project partners expanded the Master's in Journalism program offered by the Caucasus School of Journalism and Media Management. In the course of joint faculty training and exchanges between the partner institutions, joint newspaper publications, and a regional conference of journalism faculty from the three countries, the project helped to foster lasting professional links between journalism faculty and future journalists working in the South Caucasus countries.

Law and Order

C04-0001

\$43,021

Baku, Azerbaijan

9/1/2005 - 7/20/2007

While Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia have each agreed to develop a system of alternative punishment as a part of their accession to the Council of Europe, currently no such system exists in the South Caucasus. Working with its partners from Armenia and Georgia, Order and Law sought to reform penal legislation in South Caucasus and bring it into accordance with international standards by creating a framework for an alternative punishment system. Through sociological survey and focus groups, the three partners researched and diagnosed the level of readiness of South Caucasus' societies and governments to accept the introduction of alternative punishment system. The three partners researched and analyzed various international alternative punishment systems and standards and developed recommendations for introducing appropriate systems in their respective countries. In the course of the project, the partners conducted an information campaign to increase awareness of alternative punishment issues among the public and government bodies, which in Azerbaijan included series of round-table discussions, two radio shows on AzTV1 and one TV show on ITV and a presentation of the project results to major national stakeholders including mass media representatives. The project was yet another milestone in laying a foundation for the introduction of alternative punishment systems in the South Caucasus.

“Lotos” Disability Awareness and Learning Center

C07-0015

\$1,525

Baku, Azerbaijan

8/13/2007 - 9/14/2007

Disabled people in Azerbaijan and Georgia share many of the same challenges in their daily lives living and traveling. Impediments such as a lack of facilities and infrastructure enabling disabled access to public transportation and buildings obstruct general daily movement and overall quality of life. To promote a more favorable condition for disabled persons, “Lotos” Disability Awareness and Learning Center and its partner in Georgia developed a collaborative project proposal focused on promoting the rights of handicapped persons, including emphasis encouraging handicap-friendly tourism, in Azerbaijan and Georgia. The partners successfully developed the proposal and successfully submitted it to Eurasia Foundation in a timely manner.

International Media Bridge (Radio “Space”)

C06-0021

\$38,840

Baku, Azerbaijan

9/1/2006 - 11/8/2007

The media plays a particularly crucial role in regions like the South Caucasus. It has strong potential for political or ethnic conflict. Availability of unbiased and diverse cross-border information is critical to building confidence among the three nations. Working with its partners from Georgia and Armenia, International Media Bridge (Radio “Space”) Ltd. sought to facilitate greater mutual understanding among the listening public in the South Caucasus countries through the development of a commercially sustainable cross-border entertainment and news program. The project further strengthened cooperation among the three independent radio stations through the production of a series of 34 cross-border radio reality shows entitled “Thoughts Aloud”. The show provided an opportunity for listeners in the South Caucasus to learn about everyday lives of people working in different professions and included coverage of current news and events in each of the countries. To ensure the sustainability of the project, the partners made an effort to establish commercial relationships with local and international advertisers. The project enabled listeners in each country to develop a better understanding of ordinary citizens' lives in the neighboring countries, which certainly promotes confidence building in the South Caucasus.

Belarus

Belarus State University

K03-0308

\$21,535

Minsk, Belarus

1/1/2004 - 1/31/2007

Student legal clinic education in Belarus lacks capacity and resources, remaining underdeveloped and excluded from the official legal education curriculum. Belarusian State University's student legal clinic worked on increasing the capacities of all student legal clinics by creating a coordination center at the University and sharing best practices with their colleagues in the regions. Students of the BSU legal clinic learned about best practices in Russian legal clinics during a study tour to a clinic in St. Petersburg, and later shared what they learned with their peers in Minsk. Students from BSU traveled to Homiel, Polatsk and Baranavichy to introduce BSU clinic's policies and practices to local clinics. The grantee also created Belarus' first manual for legal clinic students, Teaching Practical Skills to Law Students, and designed a training module on street-law type public education. During the grant period, BSU students provided 530 written and in person consultations to people who could not afford paid legal counsel. Supported by USAID, the project contributed to the growth of student clinical education in the country, while also affording vulnerable groups legal support and protection of rights.

Public Union "Rest in the Village"

K05-0021

\$25,879

Minsk, Belarus

4/1/2005 - 2/28/2007

Rural tourism has only recently developed into a viable business sector in Belarus. Farmstead owners typically had little understanding of the importance of providing high quality services to their guests. In order to put a value on the quality of services, the NGO "Rest in Village" researched the experiences of similar businesses in other countries in order to design a Belarusian certification system for the rural farmsteads, which was endorsed by the National Committee for Certification and Standardization. Seven experts participated in an educational study tour in Latvia, and applied this experience to a series of trainings for 50 farmstead owners on the application of this new certification system. The expert group also certified 77 Belarusian farmsteads. The grantee published a directory booklet that describes 100 farmsteads using the new certification system to rank quality of services provided. Funded by USAID, this grant has trained and motivated the rural entrepreneur community and increased incentives for providing quality services in rural tourism.

Business Union of Entrepreneurs and Employers

K04-0133

\$40,512

Minsk, Belarus

7/15/2004 - 8/31/2006

Many obstacles face Belarusian existing and would-be entrepreneurs, among them, a repressive tax system, complex administrative regulations, re-registration requirements and frequent inspections by numerous government control agencies. To improve the environment for small businesses and entrepreneurs, Eurasia Foundation awarded a grant to the Business Union of Entrepreneurs and Employers (BUEE) to offer consulting services to businesses, strengthen business associations and advocate for legislative changes. BUEE drafted two informational manuals for entrepreneurs, provided 3003 phone and face-to-face consultations, conducted training for 641 individuals from member organizations, and requested clarifications from authorities on business legislation. BUEE also provided input on draft legislation that was incorporated into several new laws passed by the government. BUEE also helped keep open the dialogue between small business and government by organizing meetings, round tables and other events with representatives of business and various ministries and other state bodies. During the grant period BUEE added 47 new members, and within the union created four industry-specific associations. BUEE will continue to both expand its services available to entrepreneurs in Belarus, and participate in the policymaking process to improve the country's business environment.

European Humanities University

K06-0073

\$253,900

Vilnius, Lithuania

9/1/2006 - 10/31/2007

Few opportunities exist for Belarusians to access higher education in a free academic environment without political or other discrimination. University curricula and study abroad are strictly controlled by the state. To provide Belarusians an alternative educational opportunity, the European Humanities University in Vilnius, Lithuania offered a Distance Learning program for undergraduate and life-long learning students. EHU offered 119 online courses in eight bachelor programs to over 900 students, including those expelled from Belarusian state universities for political reasons. In the 2007-8 academic year, the university will continue to promote academic freedom for Belarus' citizens: through additional support from USAID and the Eurasia Foundation. EHU will offer new Distance Learning opportunities to students and improve its IT and management capacity.

Georgia

Georgian Textile Group

G05-0106

\$36,279

Tbilisi, Georgia

4/1/2006 - 7/31/2007

The mountainous regions of Tusheti and Samtskhe Javakheti have a centuries-long tradition of textile craftsmanship. This asset has not helped the women in these regions to overcome poverty and isolation due to the number of factors, such as insufficient quality of products, the lack of links between artisans and product designers, and inability of separate artisans to market their products independently. The project addressed these needs by assisting female artisans in developing their products and marketing them locally and internationally. The project team and international experts trained around 300 women in mountainous regions of Georgia in traditional skills, such as felt and carpet making, along with how to update traditional designs to make them more marketable as tourism souvenirs. With additional support from CHF International and American Friends of Georgia, the handicrafts were featured at local and international exhibitions, such as National Geographic All Roads Craft Art Market in Washington DC 2006 and 2007, Santa Fe Folk Art Market 2007, and the Craft Fair at Wellfleet Festival 2007 in Cape Cod. The total sales from these festivals and exhibitions amounted to USD 26,710 and were distributed among Samkhtse Javakheti and Tusheti artisans. By improving artisans' skills and helping them in the production and sales of textile handicrafts, the project helped women generate much-needed income and provided them with the skills to run their own home-based businesses.

“Akhali Shvidi Dge” Newspaper

G05-0117

\$35,457

Tbilisi, Georgia

1/16/2006 - 5/15/2007

Strengthening the practice of investigative journalism is an important tool for developing the role of media as a public watchdog and boosting civil society in Georgia. The grant to “Akhali Shvidi Dge”, a weekly newspaper, addressed this issue by focusing on a series of investigative articles about the expenditures of the Tbilisi municipal budget. The grantee conducted 12 journalistic investigations, which revealed corrupt deals and illegal involvement of various interest groups in the budget process and execution. During the investigation, the grantee cooperated with the Media, experts in the specific areas, prominent NGOs and political parties represented in Tbilisi City Council to prepare and submit well-grounded recommendations to both the Tbilisi and central government about the violations detected in the budget and suggestions for improvement. Reports about the project were published in 5 newspapers, 2 news agencies and broadcast by 3 radio stations and the television stations. The investigations resulted in several responses by the government and corrective actions, including closure of several environmentally harmful refuse dumps and repair of damaged elevators in the multi-story buildings. One of the achievements of the project was the establishment of a 10-strong group of trained investigative journalists and the creation of case studies in investigative journalism which now serve as a learning source for students of journalism departments at the universities. The brochure summarizing the project results and the case studies was widely distributed among the universities, NGOs, Media and state bodies.

“Studio Re”

G07-0025

\$25,196

Tbilisi, Georgia

5/1/2007 - 9/30/2007

Ethnic Azeris and Armenians in Georgia have little access to news and information in their own languages, which contributes to their isolation from broader society. This project was an innovative use of technology, the media, volunteers and local community resources to enhance outreach to minority communities through community radio. Two community radio stations were set up in the towns of Marneuli and Rustavi, which broadcast programs in Armenian and Azeri through loudspeakers set up in the town squares. The grantee focused on building capacity for local volunteers and journalists to run the stations. They held three seminars for journalists and NGO activists focusing on the coverage of ethnic minority issues, and held numerous trainings for the volunteers and staff at the stations in Marneuli and Ninotsminda. The trainings and seminars helped the project beneficiaries to acquire knowledge and skills in management of a radio station, relations

between Media and NGOs, and preparation of radio programs that meet local community needs. Overall, it led to more balanced reports about issues related to ethnic minorities in Georgia. The diversified programs of the community radios helped communities in Marneuli and Ninotsminda, including remote villagers who received recorded cassettes of the radio broadcasts, to stay better informed about developments in Georgia, and will enhance their integration into Georgian society. The project, which represents a continuation of the project “Creating a Wave”, co-funded by BBC World Service Trust, British government, European Commission and IREX Europe contributed to the enhancement of organizational sustainability of the grantee organization and established an additional mainstream source of information for ethnic minorities in Georgia.

Broadcasting Company “Hereti”

G05-0012

\$42,872

Lagodekhi, Georgia

4/15/2005 - 4/14/2007

Youth in regions of Georgia have few opportunities to get involved in their communities through volunteerism, and they are often lacking information about reforms and other initiatives that impact their lives due to weak regional media outlets. The grantee, Radio “Hereti” worked to address both of these issues through promoting civic awareness and boosting volunteerism by involving youth in participatory monitoring over educational reforms in Lagodekhi, Signaghi and Telavi cities of Kakheti region. The project trained 45 volunteers in radio journalism and gave opportunity to the youth to prepare their own reports about the education reform process. The grantee established a network of young activists at both the school and university levels (10 schools and all higher education institutions in each of the respective cities) working in coordination with professional journalists and developed over 60 broadcasts as a result. The project helped the radio station to increase its capacity to work with volunteers and expand its audience in the region, which resulted in an increased number of commercials and improved financial sustainability. The youth trained through the program gained practical skills in radio broadcasting and increased their level of civic activism.

EveryChild, Georgia Branch

G06-0055

\$26,591

Tbilisi, Georgia

7/17/2006 - 7/31/2007

Georgia inherited a Soviet system of child welfare that emphasized long-term care of children in institutions. Georgia has hundreds of dilapidated orphanages that it can no longer maintain, housing an estimated 5,000 children, with living family members who placed them there due to poverty or family breakdown. The government of Georgia has since embarked upon an ambitious program of deinstitutionalization, emphasizing the reunion of children with their biological families where possible, and foster care. However, vulnerable families and children still require on-going support from the state to prevent abuse and neglect. The grantee, EveryChild, sought to develop models of community-based care in the cities of Rustavi and Tianeti, which can be replicated in other parts of Georgia. Two major projects were realized under this grant: the construction of a community child care center in Tianeti, and a small group home in Rustavi. In Tianeti, former orphanage residents who are now living with relatives or foster carers come to the center after school to receive help with homework, counseling and a meal provided by the World Food Programme. The center also functions as the office of a team of social workers, who evaluate the children's progress and make recommendations for new admissions. All the center activities are actively supported by a parent's council as well. In Rustavi, the organization plans to convert an orphanage into a similar community center. This project is still on-going, but the small group home housing eight children has been set up and all costs are now being borne by the Ministry of Education. Other important outcomes of the project were improved inter-sector collaboration and capacity building for all the relevant state agencies involved in child welfare issues. In Rustavi and Tianeti, social workers, police, school directors and local government officials were mobilized to form community councils on child welfare issues. Over 120 people received extensive training in spotting the signs of abuse and neglect and mandatory reporting requirements. The organization carried out 10 specialized trainings and workshops for staff and social work teams in both cities to introduce new referral and response mechanisms. Plans are underway to set up structures to manage emergency and short-term foster care. The project was financed by Eurasia Foundation, EveryChild, and UNICEF with significant in-kind and financial support from the Ministry of Education.

Civic Initiative Center

G06-0096

\$34,458

Tbilisi, Georgia

1/15/2007 - 11/14/2007

The project, which was a further enhancement of the activities started within the USAID-funded Citizens' Advocacy Program, brought together 125 representatives of central regional CSOs for roundtable discussions about the need and relevance of CSO Ethics Code. The workshops and meetings in Tbilisi and 7 regions contributed to CSOs increased awareness of Ethics Code and allowed the grantee to prepare policy paper and recommendations for the participants. During the project 12 CSOs joined the Ethic Code. The new bilingual web portal www.cic.ge for civil society organizations was created based on the previous www.advocacy.ge with new layout and expanded content and services. The Web Portal serves as an electronic online gateway and combines various tools, resources and services important for CSOs. The 2nd forum/fair of CSOs in Tbilisi allowed 70 prominent CSOs to share experience and present their activities, products and services to the wide public and increase awareness of CSOs of the Ethic Code by awarding five CSOs for the best achievements in fulfilling the Ethics Code principles. About 7000 citizens attended the fair. The quarterly CSO Almanac launched within the project giving opportunity to CSO, civic activists and think tanks to provide their input on achievements, problems and challenges to civic society and allowing the public to make insight into the Georgian civil sector. However, the number of CSOs which joined the Ethics Code was lower than expected, which underlines the need for more creative approach to motivate CSO to consider the Ethics Code as a tool for their organizational growth. The maintaining of the activities within the project needs additional fundraising by the organization.

Institute of Public Affairs

G06-0050

\$25,237

Tbilisi, Georgia

7/20/2006 - 6/15/2007

The goal of the project was to foster the integration of ethnic minorities into Georgian society by raising the level of knowledge about the problems facing ethnic Armenians in Georgia. The Policy Research Center of the Georgian Institute for Public Affairs collected baseline data through fieldwork in two areas heavily populated by ethnic Armenians, the capital region of Tbilisi and Samtskhe-Javakheti. After analysing the data generated by their research, the Center produced a final report on their findings in the areas of education, language acquisition and employment. The Center also conducted two workshopser aimed at involving other stakeholders and key players from various sectors government, NGOs, and donors. The grantee has conducted 126 in-depth interviews among members of the Armenian community in Akhaltsikhe and Ninotsminda districts. Simultaneously in-depth interviews were as well conducted in Tbilisi among Armenian community representatives addressing a similar set of topics in order to compare the obtained data between rural and urban areas. GIPA project team prepared and published final report on the affirmative action and held final presentation of the project.

Imereti Youth Union

G05-0060

\$14,407

Kutaisi, Georgia

4/1/2006 - 3/31/2007

Involving and encouraging youth in civic activity and making them leaders of the future and support to the youth initiatives represent a cornerstone of democracy in Georgia. The success of the project in creating of debate clubs in Zestaponi, Samtredia and Kutaisi and mobilization of the youth to these clubs, was partial, because only 50 young people have been mobilized instead of the target 128 and only 3 debate clubs were established instead of target 8. The debate clubs were not operating in full capacity in because of insufficient management and several organizational and interpersonal problems, which partially were beyond the grantee's scope of responsibility. Despite 50 youth in three cities were trained in debate skills, conducted the local survey about the burning problems of the region, and drafted micro-projects for city development the rest of the activities envisaged by the project have not been fulfilled within the grant period. The grantee was recommended to improve management, build on the results achieved during the project and maintain sustainability of the organization and the already established debate clubs, given that Kutaisi State University and Imereti branch of state department for youth affairs expressed willingness to assist the debate clubs.

Federal Level Legal Entity – Directorate of Protected Territories

G07-0053

\$2,994

Akhmeta, Georgia

7/17/2007 - 9/17/2007

Tusheti, one of poorest mountainous regions of Georgia faces dangers of depopulation and further economic decline. At the same time the region has a great potential for the development of tourism because of the natural attractions of Tusheti National Park and the well-preserved traditional lifestyle of the local population. The project aimed to promote tourism in this region by organizing a promotional tour involving over 30 representatives of donor, state, business, nongovernmental and media organizations. The participants traveled to Tusheti by helicopter and car, took part in a horse ride, were introduced to Tushetian traditions, and sampled traditional dishes. They also met with the Administration of Tusheti National Park and the local population to discuss the potential for investment in Omalo village and its surrounding areas. The project had the combined effect of raising awareness of the attractions of Tusheti and simultaneously directing the attention of governmental, donor, and business organizations to the problems of the region. As a result of the project three private companies, Bank Republic, Geocell, and Averssi made donations in the amount of \$8500 for the guesthouse renovation and revival of traditional crafts industry. The administration is carrying out negotiations with the central government to develop rehabilitation plans for the Omalo and Dartlo villages. The number of tourists increased by 25% compared to the previous year, most of the increase coming from local tourists.

Maxima Foundation

G05-0039

\$24,951

Tbilisi, Georgia

10/1/2005 - 9/30/2007

In December 2004 the Georgian Parliament adopted a new Tax Code. The new law caused confusion and fear among tax payers, especially owners of small businesses who could not afford professional tax advice. The project addressed this problem by creating a training center for small entrepreneurs specifically targeting the borrowers of microfinance institutions. The center trained approximately 300 entrepreneurs out of which 206 were microfinance borrowers. In conjunction with the training, special training materials were developed with the input from one of the authors of the tax code. At the later stage of the project the Training Center broadened its spectrum of courses offering short trainings in accounting, customs law, and management for fees. The project benefited SMEs, whose grasp of the Tax Code and other aspects of business management was improved.

“Mega TV”

G05-0097

\$30,088

Kutaisi, Georgia

10/1/2005 - 9/30/2007

Youth in Georgia have few outlets for communicating their needs and ideas to adults in the community. The grantee Mega-TV sought to address this issue through a series of televised talks shows, produced by youth themselves, to discuss the urgent needs of youth in Kutaisi with local NGOs, business and government officials. During the course of the grant, 24 televised talk shows were aired, where topics such as unemployment, health care and drug addiction were discussed. Another 50 analytical shows on youth issues were produced and broadcast. The live talk-shows and thematic programs allowed the local youth to present and actualize their needs and problems to the wide audience, including government. As a result of the project local NGOs and youth groups gained more publicity, which they lacked previously, improved their partnerships with media, local government, and the general public. The grantee involved student interns and volunteers in the production of these programs, which assisted these youth in developing marketable job skills. Several concrete outcomes resulted from this project. The local government in Kutaisi increased their budget for youth programs and activities as a result of the improved dialogue with youth and youth NGOs. The grantee itself developed and maintained cooperation with local youth NGOs, which increased its viewership among youth and led to an increase in advertising revenues. The grantee has since introduced a 1-month free course that will train 20 youth as reporters and cameramen. After the project the grantee is acknowledged by the local civic sector as an independent media outlet providing the audience with the well-balanced programs.

Independent TV Company “Odishi”

G05-1052

\$21,800

Zugdidi, Georgia

6/1/2005 - 9/15/2007

In regions of Georgia issues of media independence and unbiased reporting are still a problem, allowing regional elites to continue corrupt practices with little fear of exposure. Under the Anti-Corruption NGO Watchdog program, the independent television company “Odishi” (Zugdidi) carried out an anti-corruption campaign by broadcasting a series of TV talk shows addressing corruption issues in various spheres, such as social security, humanitarian aid, electricity and natural gas supply, education, smuggling, and license issuing in the Samegrelo region. The project “Alternative” collaborates with a number of target groups, such as local citizens, internally displaced persons, national minorities living in the region, youth, teachers, and members of local trade unions. The project also involved broadcasting public service announcements aimed at raising citizen's awareness of their rights and responsibilities to report corruption. The grantee produced TV talk shows from December 2005 up to September 2007 on variety of issues concerning corrupt practices and hosted different parties: citizens, individuals affected by corruption locally, local self-government and local NGO representatives. Some of the TV talk shows led to important changes within Samegrelo region. Following a show on corrupt practices and wrongdoing at Zugdidi College, the director carried out a number of reforms to make the college administration activities more transparent. After a TV talk show on illegal construction in Zugdidi was broadcast, the chief architect of Zugdidi was dismissed from his position due to corrupt activities and abuse of authority.

Society Development Institute

G06-0074

\$34,160

Tbilisi, Georgia

10/15/2006 - 11/14/2007

The project contributed to the increased awareness of new approaches and methodologies in civic monitoring among civil society actors and other stakeholders. The grantee conducted in-depth research of both the achievements and obstacles faced by civic monitoring efforts through surveying leading civil society organizations. They collected valuable baseline information and developed a comprehensive guidebook “Civic Monitoring” in Georgian, which was distributed among CSOs. Trainings of 48 representatives of CSOs and media were conducted in Tbilisi, Kutaisi, Zugdidi, and Gurjaani. At least five CSOs have reported using the training materials and guidebook to guide their activities in various monitoring projects. The project has created the unified and systematized database about most efficient and relevant methods of civic monitoring regarding legal, social and political environment in Georgia which makes the methodology user-friendly for CSOs, media and other civic groups, which are implementing civic monitoring and/or plan to implement it. The guidebook will help prevent CSOs from making typical mistakes during civic monitoring and allow them to use their resource more effectively. In the long-term the project is a contribution to the enhancement of effectiveness of civic monitoring conducted by both experienced and entry-level civic organizations.

Liberty Institute Foundation

G99-0075

\$30,685

Tbilisi, Georgia

6/15/2000 - 6/30/2001

Taxation law and its implementation greatly hamper private enterprise development in Georgia. Existing laws are ambiguous and can be interpreted in numerous conflicting ways. Correspondingly, due to their vague nature, these laws lead to corruption in tax administration. With the aim of reducing tax violations and corruption, the project envisioned a public awareness campaign to improve the public understanding of taxpayers' rights and obligations. It also intended to generate a public discussion of the problems in the field. The grantee established a hotline for citizens' complaints and consultations on issues of taxation and organized roundtable discussions with the media, NGO representatives, MPs and representatives of tax agencies. The project included the publication of newspaper articles on problems in the sphere of taxation. The grantee published leaflets and brochures with information on taxation issues. The brochures were structured to reflect information received through the hotline. The project supported public discussion of violations of entrepreneurs' rights by state supervisory and controlling agencies. As an outgrowth of this project, the grant recipient was closely involved in the elaboration of a draft law to limit the rights of regulatory bodies to enter enterprises without court permission. This draft law was adopted by Parliament in 2001 as the Law on Regulation of Entrepreneurial Activities. While the grantees did raise public awareness, the program did not create sufficient public pressure to significantly reduce tax violations and combat

corruption. To a large extent, this was caused by the problems that were beyond the scope of the project, such as public willingness to perpetuate illegal deals with tax inspectors and the lack of political will to change the system from above. These factors were reflected in the relatively low popularity of the hotline and the reluctance of the representatives of tax agencies to participate in the roundtables.

Humanitarian Center “Abkhazeti”

G05-0029

\$24,557

Kutaisi, Georgia

4/10/2006 - 3/15/2007

Integrating the vulnerable youth and increasing their civic awareness is a compelling issue for Georgia. This project provided intensive civic education, information campaign, training and learning courses in leadership and life planning skills for 90 IDP youth that would help them to become full-fledged and active members of the society. After the project was complete the members of Tbilisi Youth Development Club elaborated a project proposal and successfully applied to the World Bank Small Grants Program on behalf of CHCA. The project aimed at assisting internally displaced children and youth in integration and deepening their democratic values. Totally, the project established 6 Youth Development Clubs and 6 Weekend Schools were in Tbilisi, Kutaisi and Poti. The network between the clubs have been established. Each club targeted 15 vulnerable youth and each Weekend School targeted 15 children. During the project the Youth Development Clubs received 120 new applications and were highly demanded in the cities. Totally, 180 internally displaced children and youth had benefited through the educational and citizenship activities of the project. The grantee established a methodology of the integration of the IDP youth adapted to the Georgian conditions. The youth from all Clubs have established an NGO, which will further support and promote the development of IDP youth in the 3 target cities. Based on the experience acquired during the project the grantee opened a youth club and weekend school in the conflict zone in Gali (Abkhazia) mostly populated by Georgians. The project contributed to the increased sustainability of the organization and helped it to become one of the leading NGOs in Georgia working on civic integration of minorities.

Foundation for Prosthetic Orthopedic Rehabilitation

G06-0019

\$23,584

Tbilisi, Georgia

7/20/2006 - 6/30/2007

Social and civic integration of the various types of vulnerable youth is one of the pressing youth problems in Georgia. The project provided prosthesis and physical therapy and rehabilitation to 51 disabled children and conducted in the orthopedic centre on-site seminars for 42 children from mainstream schools giving them opportunity to observe training and physiotherapy treatment of their disabled coevals. Thereby the project helped the visiting children's groups to increase their awareness and understanding of the problems of disability as well as rights, needs and aspirations of disabled children. The project helped disabled children to overcome social isolation by medical treatment and public awareness raising activities, despite various subjective and objective barriers associated with social adaptation of disabled children. In general, the project contributed to development of more sensitive and tolerant attitude towards the children with disability. A streamlined public information campaign enhanced impact of the project since more people became aware of the existence of the services provided by the grantee. The grantee conducted first-ever comprehensive survey of the needs and problems of disabled children and their satisfaction with the existing assistance and submitted to the authorities the survey results and recommendations how to address the problems of the children with disabilities. The project helped the grantee to strengthen its capacity and improve service for the children with disabilities.

The Student Economist's Association “Progress”

G06-0014

\$2,284

Kutaisi, Georgia

8/1/2006 - 5/31/2007

Unemployment among youth, especially in the regions of Georgia, represents a major challenge that hinders youth from being active in the civic and economic life of the country. The project funded by EF and the US Embassy Democracy Program addressed the issue by compiling and distributing a comprehensive user-friendly guide to job hunting, resume preparation and educational opportunities. The guide was largely based on the results of a needs assessment conducted among youth. In addition, the grantee conducted 12 seminars on the job search process for 130 young people, including 12 disabled. The project participants also

completed internships in local NGOs and private companies, which resulted in nine of them receiving offers of employment. To ensure sustainability, the grantee created a career and internship resource center for youth in Kutaisi which was widely publicized to potential employers. This center may serve as a useful model for other communities where there is a need for a clearinghouse of information on job, internship and educational and volunteer opportunities.

Policy Research Group

G06-0057

\$5,145

Tbilisi, Georgia

7/20/2006 - 6/15/2007

Political science is a new field of study and research in Georgia. Students, the academic community and policy-makers lack Georgian language analytical literature on key issues regarding international politics and Georgia' foreign policy. The project addressed this deficiency by assisting young scholars in publishing a series of Georgian language books on original topics important for Georgian politics. Three short books, Buffer States, Russian Foreign Policy Thinking in the Post-Soviet Era, and Decision Making in Fragile States were published and circulated among universities, public libraries, governmental agencies, and nongovernmental organizations. The book presentations were very well attended and covered in local media. The books were included in the reading lists of all major universities teaching political science, namely, Tbilisi State University, Ilia Chavchavadze State University, and Academy of Diplomacy. The project also opened the way for Georgian researchers to the international publishing industry. The author of the book Buffer States received an offer from a US-based publishing company, Nova Science Publishers, Inc. to translate and publish the book.

Internews Georgia

G08-0033

\$14,322

Tbilisi, Georgia

02/01/2008 – 03/14/2008

A low level of citizen participation in electoral processes and mistrust in the fairness of elections are compelling concerns for local democracy in Georgia. With a grant awarded through the competition in support of voters' education before the January 5, 2008 presidential elections and plebiscite, Internews-Georgia addressed these pressing issues by organizing live public debates on election issues in 23 regional television studios provided training for journalists and producers of these television companies. The training component was supported by the Institute for Sustainable Communities and the International Foundation for Election Systems. The project helped journalists and producers of 23 regional TV companies to acquire and/or enhance knowledge and skills to moderate television debates and deepen their understanding of election-related issues and key political issues and trends in Georgia. In addition, the grantee broadcast through the regional televisions 3 documentaries about election procedures, forms of governance and the difference between plebiscite and referendum. After the live television debates with participation of representatives of all key political parties and presidential hopefuls, the viewers (approximately 300,000 people) were better informed and prepared going into the election. Furthermore, 2 programs in Azeri and 2 in Armenian languages improved involvement of ethnic minority voters in the poll. Thus, the project contributed to the enhancement of voters' education, professional coverage of election related issues and capacity of regional televisions.

CRRC (Caucasus Research Resource Center)

George Berulava

C06-4101

\$3,480

Tbilisi, Georgia

8/2/2006 - 10/3/2007

George Berulava studied the impact of formal and informal institutions on the transaction behavior of firms in Georgia. In particular, the fellow examined the effects of trust and transaction cost economics (TCE) variables - asset specificity and uncertainty - on the patterns of organizing distribution by manufacturers. The study was divided into two phases. In the first phase, the fellow studied the variables that influence a

manufacturer's decision to either perform its own distribution or outsource distribution. In the second phase, Mr. Berulava explored relational transactions between manufacturers and distributors. The study revealed four models of distribution organization among Georgian manufacturers: 1) in-house sales department, 2) in-house sales company 3) exclusive dealers and 4) independent distributors. With regard to this study, the first and second types are referred as “in-sourcing” and third and fourth as “outsourcing” of the distribution function. The researcher found out that 75% of manufacturer firms choose in-sourcing and 13% of them prefer outsourcing. The results of the empirical study indicate that manufacturers' choice of engaging distributors was determined by asset specificity, uncertainty and trust. Trust in this study was considered as a product of certain informal and formal institutions, like kinship norms and the legal environment. Specifically, the fellow differentiates between network trust (“trust due to friendship or family relations, recommendations and information received from former or current employees, business associations and government agencies”) and extended trust (“a product of the sound functioning of formal institutions that establish a business environment characterized by the rule of law”). According to the study results, network trust could be further subdivided into inner networks (“networks comprised only of friends and relatives”) and outer networks (“networks, which incorporate independent distributors recommended by business associations and government agencies”). The researcher observed that the growth of asset specificity and uncertainty increases the probability of in-sourcing by manufacturers. Network trust variables increase manufacturers' motivation to employ external distributors; however, it decreases the comprehensiveness of contracts and reduces prepayment. The fellow did not find any major effect of extended trust and the main reason for this maybe the fact that the study was performed only in one country, where the legal environment is relatively similar throughout the country. Taking into consideration the results of the study, the researcher suggests that government should focus on strengthening outer networks by promoting business associations and supporting the formation of relationships between manufacturers and distributors. Mr. Berulava believes that “this can reduce transaction costs, facilitate economic exchange and create the necessary base for economic growth”. By the end of the project the fellow made a presentation at CRRC premises. Representatives of Colgate & Palmolive Company, Fructina Fresh (a distribution company) and the Trading Network of Household Chemical Goods & Perfumery attended. They showed acute interest in the findings and expressed willingness to receive the research. Berulava's final report and presentation were posted on CRRC-Georgia's website and are available to the research community, policy makers and all interested parties. Mr. Berulava hopes to convert the report into a peer-reviewed article. In addition, the report will be placed on Economic Education Research Consortium website www.eerc.ru in October, 2007.

George Tsuladze

C06-4106

\$3,500

Tbilisi, Georgia

8/15/2006 - 9/30/2007

Georgi Tsuladze studied the changes in life expectancy and its relationship to causes of death in Georgia based on statistical and demographic analysis. The objectives of the research were to 1) trace general trends in the evolution of life expectancy and compare these trends to the evolution of life expectancy trends based on Coale-Demeny's regional model life tables (a different method of calculating life expectancy); 2) evaluate the dynamics of life expectancy in Georgia; 3) compare Georgia with other countries in the world based on the Coale-Demeny model; 5) ascertain the role of sex in the change of life expectancy; 6) analyze how the different causes of death impact life expectancy. Of the many findings included in the report, Tsuladze notes that with regards to infant mortality, in 2004, there was a significant decline in death caused by respiratory diseases, as well as certain infectious and parasitic diseases. However, there was a considerable increase in mortality as a result of certain conditions originating during the prenatal period. Tsuladze argues that if the rate of prenatal disease among infants had remained the same as in 1989, the infant mortality rate would have been 13 instead of 24 for every 1000 live births in 2004. The increase in prenatal disease is particularly prevalent among females. This finding opens up more questions that bear further investigation. In his research Mr. Tsuladze argues that reducing prenatal disease is the most important variable in reducing infant mortality. By the end of the project, the fellow published a brochure, which he distributed to international health organizations, students and researchers interested in the topic. In addition, the fellow presented his research findings at Ilia Chavchavadze State University, at the Austrian Library, drawing a large audience of researchers and students.

SCCP (South Caucasus Cooperation Program)

Business Consulting Research Group

C07-4004

\$12,430

Tbilisi, Georgia

5/1/2007 - 10/20/2007

Recently all three countries of the South Caucasus signed individual country actions plans under the mantle of the EU's European Neighbourhood Policy. The action plans commit all three countries to meet commitments in eight priority areas, including environmental protection and regional cooperation. Through a series of stakeholder meetings, SCCP determined that waste management is an area of high importance in the sphere of environmental protection for all three countries. The main goals of the project were to contribute to the development of effective and efficient waste management systems and to promote greater government-civil society dialogue on environment issues in all three countries of the South Caucasus. The project grantees developed a policy report that provided relevant government officials with a detailed analysis and set of realistic policy options for the South Caucasus in context of the ENP. In addition, the project grantees organized and convened a working group of stakeholders to assist in shaping the analysis and policy options. A regional Public Policy Forum on waste management took place in December 2006. Its target was to increase public participation in the process of committing towards common European values and alignment with European social, political and economic institutions. The event was also helpful to enhance government-civil society dialogue on designing and implementing policy reforms. Five main research themes were prioritized for inclusion in the policy document: Waste collection and transport, Waste disposal, Reutilization and recycling, Management, and Legislation and policy. A consortium of NGOs from the three South Caucasus countries consisting of Business Consulting Group (BCG) Georgia, "EKOIL" Azerbaijan and Sustainable Water Environment Armenia were awarded with a grant in February 2007. Policy analysis training was conducted in March 2007 and seminar on EU instruments and institutions was held in mid-June. The group completed the policy report in mid-November. One of the major recommendations was to conduct a pilot project to use land-fill waste for the production of biogas.

Green Wave Association

C06-4021

\$33,120

Tbilisi, Georgia

9/1/2006 - 11/8/2007

The media plays a particularly crucial role in regions like the South Caucasus that have a strong potential for political or ethnic conflict. Availability of unbiased and diverse cross-border information is critical to building confidence among the three nations. Working with its partners from Georgia and Armenia, Green Wave Association sought to facilitate greater mutual understanding among the listening public in the South Caucasus countries through the development of a commercially sustainable cross-border entertainment and news program. The project further strengthened cooperation among the three independent radio stations through the production of a series of 38 cross-border radio reality shows entitled "One Day with Professional". The show provided an opportunity for listeners in the South Caucasus to learn about the everyday lives of people working in different professions and included coverage of current news and events in each of the countries. To ensure the sustainability of the project, the partners made an effort to establish commercial relationships with local and international advertisers. The project enabled listeners in each country to develop a better understanding of ordinary citizens' lives in the neighboring countries, which certainly promotes confidence building in the South Caucasus.

Institute of Development

C04-4001

\$31,943

Tbilisi, Georgia

9/1/2005 - 7/20/2007

While Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia have each agreed to develop a system of alternative punishment as a part of their accession to the Council of Europe, currently no such system exists in the South Caucasus. Working with its partners from Armenia and Azerbaijan, Institute for Development sought to reform penal legislation in South Caucasus and bring it into accordance with international standards by creating a framework for an alternative punishment system. Through sociological survey and focus groups, the three partners researched and diagnosed the level of readiness of South Caucasus' societies and governments to

accept the introduction of alternative punishment system. The three partners researched and analyzed various international alternative punishment systems and standards and developed recommendations for introducing appropriate systems in their respective countries. In the course of the project, the partners conducted an information campaign to increase awareness of alternative punishment issues among the public and government bodies, which included a cycle of round-table discussions, radio shows and TV show, a web-site, and a presentation of the project results to major national stakeholders. The project was yet another milestone in laying a foundation for the introduction of alternative punishment systems in the South Caucasus.

Center for Equal Opportunities in Tourism

C07-4015

\$1,370

Tbilisi, Georgia

8/13/2007 - 9/14/2007

Disabled people in Azerbaijan and Georgia share many of the same challenges in their daily lives living and traveling. Impediments, such as a lack of facilities and infrastructure enabling disabled access to public transportation and buildings obstruct general daily movement and overall quality of life. To promote a more favorable condition for disabled people, Center for Equal Opportunities in Tourism and its partner in Azerbaijan developed a collaborative project proposal focused on promoting the rights of handicapped people, including emphasis encouraging handicap-friendly tourism, in Azerbaijan and Georgia. The partners successfully developed the proposal and successfully submitted it to Eurasia Foundation in a timely manner.

The Strategic Research Institute

C05-4031

\$31,728

Tbilisi, Georgia

9/1/2005 - 3/12/2007

Failure to modernize national social protection systems will increase the risk of more unemployment, poverty and social exclusion, and delay the South Caucasus countries' integration with European Structures. Working with its partners from Armenia and Azerbaijan, The Strategic Research Institute sought to promote the labor market reforms implementation process in South Caucasus countries by putting it on the track provided by the EU Employment and Social Policy Strategy. The partners summarized key EU policy documents (green and white papers) in the focus field and identified the employment and labor policy inconsistencies in the South Caucasus countries. The partners conducted an information campaign to increase awareness of employment and labor policy issues among the public and relevant government bodies that included a series of national round-table discussions on the issue, a web site, and presentations of the project in Baku, Tbilisi and Yerevan. The partners published 600 copies of English-Russian book titled "Employment Policy Directions in South Caucasus Countries: Securing Policy Development in Compliance with the EU Employment Strategy" that features the analytical output of the project. The Strategic Research Institute published 200 copies of the Georgian version of the book. The partners succeeded with developing a research-based action plan and policy recommendations for the policy-makers in the three South Caucasus countries to adjust the employment and labor policy with the key European Standards and Requirements.

New Art Union

C05-4042

\$885

Tbilisi, Georgia

10/1/2006 - 12/15/2006

A lack of information about legal rights among art professionals and weak legislative base regulating art sector in the three countries of the South Caucasus are among the deficiencies hampering the formation of an effective national and regional art market. To promote more favorable conditions for the art business in the South Caucasus countries, New Art Union and its partners in Azerbaijan and Armenia were expected to develop a linkage project proposal that would focus on the protection of the rights of art professionals by improving the legislative base regulating the art sectors in the region and enhancing the legal knowledge of artists. The final results of the linkage project would be a) the assessment of the degree to which art-related legislation in the South Caucasus countries complies with internationally accepted standards, b) a set of policy recommendations and strategies to national executive and legislative bodies in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia, and c) a practical manual on legal issues affecting art professionals in the region. The original three-country partnership team broke up; however, the Armenian partner managed to identify new partners in Azerbaijan and Georgia, and submitted linkage proposal it to Eurasia Foundation.

Caucasus Tourism Online

C01-4030

\$33,174

Tbilisi, Georgia

6/26/2002 - 12/20/2007

Significant changes have occurred in the world tourism industry during the past years. The traditional channels of tourism information distribution, like promotional brochures, TV programs, etc. are gradually shifting to more flexible and faster medium - the Internet. Besides the flexibility and high speed, this method of marketing and information distribution is cheaper, and this is a very important for South Caucasus tourist organizations. Caucasus Tourism Online established by a partner organization from Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia sought to support the tourism industry in the South Caucasus through the development of the region's first on-line search and reservation system to enable tourists to make hotel reservation, rent car, buy theater tickets or book tours through the internet. This grant was intended to be the first stage of a two-stage project aimed at the establishment of the Caucasus Tourism Online (CTO) portal, development of software for the CTO System, creation of a web-interface and development of the CTO system regional network. Unfortunately, the intended outcome of the project was not achieved due to technical issues. However, demand for on-line reservation systems has continued and some of the project partners have begun developing these systems on their own, using the experience and lessons learned from the project.

Association of Ecological and Biological Monitoring

C04-4005

\$27,529

Tbilisi, Georgia

11/01/2005 - 12/21/2007

The South Caucasus countries still use the old Soviet standards and norms for water resource management. Aarhus Convention requires introduction of new standards as well as establishment of national data registers of water pollutant emissions. Together with its partners from Armenia and Azerbaijan, Georgian Association of Ecological and Biological Monitoring sought to contribute to the efficient management of trans-boundary water resources and increased environmental safety across the South Caucasus region. The partners conducted an analysis of existing national standards regulating the protection and rational use of trans-boundary water resources and compared national standards with those of the United States and European countries. Their analysis included a detailed outline of the benefits of applying international water standards to the case of the Kura-Araks river basin. The partners also conducted a public awareness campaign to stimulate stakeholder cooperation and joint efforts to protect and rationally utilize trans-boundary water resources. Elements of the public awareness campaign included national round-tables and conferences, informational brochures, and an informational documentary. As a result of the project, prioritized recommendations for reforming national water standards were developed and presented to the appropriate governmental agencies and other stakeholders for further consideration.

Kazakhstan

Eurasia Foundation Central Asia/Almaty

“Turan-Astana”University

A07-0048	\$3,015
Astana, Kazakhstan	4/9/2007 - 9/9/2007
A07-0029	\$9,240
Astana, Kazakhstan	5/14/2007-1/15/2008

A service like internal tourism is practically undeveloped in Kazakhstan and tour operators have very little understanding about the problems and the potential of ecotourism. The grant beneficiary conducted two training courses on the potential and problems of ecotourism for 29 employees of tourist agencies and National Resorts. The programmes received positive feedback from the participants and official reviewers. The training for tour operators contributed to the success of the marketing campaign for the 2007 season, and five or seven tourism firms contracted with eco-sites decided to join the information tour to see the services being offered at the training programs. The project was funded by ExxonMobil Kazakhstan Inc. and USAID.

IEAWE

A07-0039	\$5,800
Almaty, Kazakhstan	4/4/2007 - 10/31/2007

To raise NGO capacity in a rural area, the grantee conducted five capacity building trainings for NGO leaders on project management, leadership, strategic planning, taxation and fundraising. It organized a regional forum including the business community and government representatives. This prepared two participating NGOs to receive grants from the government, three from international donors and seven NGOs EFCA, totaling more than \$50,000. The project also led to the creation of district NGO network. The project is funded by Philip Morris Kazakhstan and the United States Agency for International Development.

Info-Plus Taraz

A07-0070	\$2,335
Taraz, Republic of Kazakhstan	8/15/2007 - 10/15/2007

In many Central Asian regions there is a low level of youth involvement in civil society. The grantee organized a three-day conference in Taraz for the leaders of youth organizations in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. Nineteen organizations took part in the conference. Cooperative plans for addressing problems faced by young people in Central Asia were developed, as were four joint projects. The project increased participants' legal knowledge and expanded the number of partnerships between youth organizations in Central Asia. The project was financed by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

Kazakh American Free University

A07-0024	\$39,307
Ust-Kamenogorsk, Kazakhstan	2/25/2007 - 12/31/2007

English translation is available upon request

С целью обеспечения руководящих кадров высшего и среднего звена восточного и северного Казахстана доступом к современным ресурсам повышения квалификации, Казахстанско-Американский Свободный Университет в рамках двухлетней программы продолжил работу по созданию Центра Обучения Лидерству. В рамках гранта грантополучатель организовал в Восточно-Казахстанской области 15 тренингов для 314 руководителей компаний. Три тренера грантополучателя были обучены преподаванию краткосрочных модулей повышения квалификации по методикам Дарденской Школы бизнеса. В целях обеспечения дальнейшей финансовой устойчивости проекта, грантополучатель осуществлял маркетинговую кампанию, в результате которой семь компаний обучили 19 сотрудников в центре на платной основе. Проект осуществлялся при поддержке группы компаний AES в Казахстане и Агентства по Международному развитию США.

Public Association of Handicapped “Kamkor”

A07-0040

\$5,800

Esik, Kazakhstan

4/4/2007 - 10/20/2007

Disabled people experience a lack of job opportunities for disabled people and indifference in the community and government. The grantee conducted an advocacy campaign to protect the interests of disabled people with local businesses and public officials. It also provided disabled people with educational and consulting services with the assistance of NGOs. The project helped some of them in finding employment and increased the awareness of members from public administration, local businesses, and NGOs. The project is funded by Philip Morris Kazakhstan and the United States Agency for International Development.

Mystery of Nature Foundation

A07-0041

\$5,800

Esik, Kazakhstan

4/4/2007 - 10/4/2007

A lack of activities leaves rural youth more likely to engage in harmful activities. The grantee organized viewings of video films about wild nature, established various children's clubs based on thematic interests and helped children stage plays about animals. As a result, youth gained an alternative to harmful activities. The project is funded by Philip Morris Kazakhstan and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Association of Blind People

A07-0042

\$5,800

c Shelek, Kazakhstan

4/4/2007 - 10/4/2007

Visually impaired people have limited ability for intellectual development and are less integrated into society. The grantee gave blind people classes in computer literacy and Braille, and worked with the national library for blind people to give distance education courses. As a result, eight blind people learned Braille. The project is funded by Philip Morris Kazakhstan and the United States Agency for International Development.

Turgen Branch of IEAWE “A-Kenes”

A07-0043

\$5,800

Turgen selo, Kazakhstan

4/4/2007 - 10/4/2007

Ethnic Kazakh immigrants, called oralman, have a lower living standard than native-born citizens. The grantee provided oralman with business trainings and consulted them on marketing in the sphere of artisanship. Fifteen female trainees made rugs, handbags, rucksacks and pillows, which they sold for \$1,500. The project promoted mekhanizm for improvement of oralman's living standards. The project is funded by Philip Morris Kazakhstan and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Youth Center “Orken’

A07-0044

\$2,500

Shelek village, Kazakhstan

4/4/2007 - 10/4/2007

One reason for the growth of crime among high school students in villages is the absence of organized recreational activities. The grantee organized volleyball, basketball and chess competitions in which 180 high school students participated. The NGO, together with local police and medical workers, visited families of registered youth offenders to discuss their issues. Local police claimed these activities led to a decrease in violations. The project is funded by Philip Morris Kazakhstan and the United States Agency for International Development.

Tourist Association

A04-0107

\$67,483

Almaty, Kazakhstan

9/30/2004-2/16/2008

Four pilot ecotourism projects carried out by the Eurasia Foundation in 2003 and 2004 demonstrated ecotourism's potential for rural economic development. To support ecotourism operators, the grantee created an ecotourism information and resource centre in Almaty. The center organized nine

trainings for ecotourism operators and facilitated 224 tourist visits to ecosites, and created the first Kazakhstani website on ecotourism, www.ecotourism.kz. The project was funded by USAID and Exxon Mobil Kazakhstan Inc.

“Issyk” Newspaper

A06-0007 \$7,000

Kazakhstan 5/5/2006-12/18/2007

Media can be used as a tool for helping community activists solve problems. The grantee hired seven correspondents and increased its cooperation with local NGOs. A poll found that 10 percent of readers felt this had an impact on addressing community problems. The project was funded by Philip Morris Kazakhstan and USAID.

“Azimut Club”

A06-0010 \$7,000

Kazakhstan 5/5/2006-12/18/2007

Youth lack organized recreation activities, which provide an alternative to antisocial behavior. The grantee trained 300 children in mountaineering and other kinds of sports. Six sport societies were organized, and support provided to children participating in sports events. The grantee also established a partnership with the Almaty Sport Federation to promote youth sports. The project was funded by Philip Morris Kazakhstan and USAID.

“Zhasyl Yel”

A06-0012 \$5,193

Kazakhstan 5/5/2006-12/18/2007

Local populations are harming the environment; and environmental clean-ups can form the basis for civic activism. The grantee conducted four seminars on gardening for 250 young people, organized three eco-patrols consisting of 76 schoolchildren and provided consulting services on beautifying areas. As a result of the project, 400 saplings were planted in one village and residents cleared away informal garbage dumps. The project helped increase civic responsibility by residents of the village. The project is part of a local community development program funded by Philip Morris Kazakhstan and USAID.

“Kassiyet” Association

A06-0015 \$7,000

Kazakhstan 5/5/2006-12/18/2007

The grantee organized business trainings and conducted consultations for farmers to help stimulate the growth of small farming businesses. The grantee purchased food processing equipment for community use, based on a decision taken at a village meeting. Philip Morris Kazakhstan and USAID funded the project.

“Yelim-Ai”

A06-0016 \$7,872

Kazakhstan 5/5/2006-12/18/2007

Poor social involvement and a lack of Russian language skills hamper ethnic Kazakh immigrants integrating into local communities. The grantee organized language courses for adults and children, provided legal consulting services, and organized a healthy lifestyle summer camp for 25 immigrant children. The grantee created a database of 2,000 immigrants, prioritized assistance, and established partnerships with the local department of labor to provide mutual support to immigrants. The project was funded by Philip Morris Kazakhstan and USAID.

“Zhas Star”

A06-0019 \$6,733

Kazakhstan 5/5/2006-12/18/2007

Youth lack organized recreation activities, which provide an alternative to antisocial behavior. The grantee organized contests and quizzes among 5,000 schoolchildren and youth from 70 schools and conducted 13

campaigns on preventing drug and alcohol abuse. The project encouraged youth to be more active, and reduced law violations by the target group. The project was funded by Philip Morris Kazakhstan and USAID.

Farmers and Entrepreneurs Support Fund

A07-0020	\$1,700
Shymkent, Kazakhstan	2/1/2007-11/9/2007
A07-0025	\$4,584
Shymkent, Kazakhstan	2/1/2007 - 8/27/2007

Farmers in southern Kazakhstan lack access to capital and opportunities for continuing education. The grantee trained 300 farmers on marketing basics, accounting, and business planning. The project led to more than 40 percent of trained farmers developing business plans and receiving micro-loans for their farming businesses. Eight small-scale processing enterprises were started, creating 22 jobs. Philip Morris Kazakhstan, USAID, and corporate members of the Civic Alliance of Southern Kazakhstan financed the project.

Kazakhstan Institute of Management, Economics and Strategic Research

A07-0023	\$62,344
Kazakhstan	2/1/2007-1/14/2008

Managers in eastern and northern Kazakhstan have few opportunities for continuing education. The grantee adapted and translated into Russian short-term courses from the Darden School of Business Administration. It then delivered 15 courses to 314 managers. Nine out of 10 participants rated the courses as excellent. Following the grant period, local trainers continue to teach the courses. The project was funded by the Group of AES regulated companies in Kazakhstan and USAID.

Youth Media “ Soyuz (Union)”

A07-0027	\$1,972
Kazakhstan	2/1/2007-10/29/2007

A lack of information about the problem of orphans in Kazakhstan inhibits its resolution. The grantee improved a website focusing on orphans issues. This resulted in an increase to 18,000 hits, from 9,125 the year prior, demonstrating increased interest in the problems of orphans and neglected children. Philip Morris Kazakhstan funded the project.

Social Adaptation of Children Association

A06-0038	\$5,143
Kazakhstan	8/01/2006-2/19/2008

Orphans and disabled children are generally less prepared to enter universities and vocational schools, constraining their social integration. The project aimed to support social integration of children with disabilities and orphans. Twenty people formed an initiative group that took part in seven trainings for trainers on professionally diagnosing orphans and neglected children. The grantee and the initiative group conducted seven workshops for 50 orphans and 50 disabled children to identify their professional orientation. Brochures, posters, and stickers about workshops were developed, and classes on mastering their skills were conducted. As a result of the project, fifteen out of 100 workshops participants continued on to more advanced courses in sewing, computers and other subjects. USAID funded the project.

“Tomiris”

A07-0002	\$9,410
Kyrgyzstan	8/01/2006-2/19/2008

The number of abandoned children and orphans is growing in Pavlodar, straining existing resources. The project is aimed to develop a model for a support center to help adoption and foster agencies recruit, train and counsel foster and adoptive families. The following activities were included in the program: a) established the Regional Center on Alternative Methods of Raising Orphans in Pavlodar; b) developed a psychological and social support manual for parents and orphans; c) promoted adopting and fostering orphans via a public awareness campaign; d) trained 60 teachers, 13 foster families and 29 orphans and supported 22 children and 33 foster parents. Twenty-eight children were placed in seventeen families as a

result of this project. The local government ordered that psychological support be provided to parents of orphans. Philip Morris Kazakhstan and USAID funded the project.

Generation Foundation

A07-0006

\$1,360

Kazakhstan

8/01/2006-2/19/2008

The elderly often lack awareness of their rights, and there are no agencies that can provide consultations. The grantee conducted four seminars on the rights of retired persons, two round tables with local government representatives of Karayskiy regions of Almaty oblast, and helped 50 retired people receive benefits. A consulting group of lawyers was established to continuously provide legal support to pensioners.

Union of the Ural Region “Umit”

A07-0016

\$9,664

Kazakhstan

8/01/2006-2/19/2008

Planned to support physically challenged children from low-income families in Uralsk city, the project includes provision of psychological and legal counseling for families, cultural, art and sports activities to socialize disabled children, weekend camps, and distribution of food-baskets to 20 families participating in the project.

“Perekrestok (Crossroads)”

A07-0017

\$5,143

Kazakhstan

8/01/2006-2/19/2008

In 2007, Kostanai Oblast had registered nearly 4,000 orphans and neglected children, with three-fourths of them living in institutions. The project was aimed to establish a Support Center for Developing Alternative Methods of Adoption and Fostering in Kostanai oblast. The grantee conducted the following activities:

a) conducted a public awareness campaign on family methods of raising orphans; b) developed an informational manual on methods of working with and counseling orphans and parents, and methods of working with government agencies, media, and NGOs that focus on developing alternative methods of raising orphans; c) center counselors provided 929 psychological and legal consultations to interested people. Seventeen orphans were placed with foster families and a basis to continue the Center’s work was established. The project was funded by Philip Morris Kazakhstan and USAID.

Kyrgyzstan

Eurasia Foundation of Central Asia/Kyrgyzstan

Resource Center for Elderly

H05-0154

\$6,006

Kyrgyzstan

8/01/2006-2/19/2008

To increase the responsibility and transparency of work of the Bishkek City Council parliamentarians and to increase trust of voters to the City Council through introducing mechanisms of public control the grantee conducted trainings to the selected group of elderly volunteers. Together with the “Agent Without Borders” the group of volunteers analyzed the pre-election programs and work of parliamentarians through introduction of the civil control model. The project was aimed at the most active voters – elderly people, whom the grantee recruited to monitor and evaluate the work of parliamentarians.

Association of Workers in Vocational Education

H05-0214

\$4,712

Kyrgyzstan

06/01/2006-12/14/2007

Labor migrants from Kyrgyzstan and other countries of Central Asia face problems with legal employment in the Russian Federation. Partially, this happens due to the lack of skills and qualification on the most demanded technical specialties in the labor market. At the same time, vocational schools in Kyrgyzstan continue preparing labor specialists without consideration of employers’ demands and labor markets’ needs. The grantee provided support in conducting the capacity evaluation of vocational schools and other educational institutions with the aim to develop recommendations on introducing short term courses for training and retraining of unemployed adults and potential labor migrants. The mentioned research was conducted on the EFCA specialists’ initiative with the help of local and international experts in November, 2006.

“Pangea” Foundation

H06-0097

\$5,000

Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

9/15/2006-12/17/2007

Kyrgyzstan lacks any kind of social adaptation and re-socialization program for former convicted people. Within the framework of the project the grantee was able to develop strong official relations with the Ministry of Justice of the Kyrgyz Republic, women detention colonies, settlements for convicted people. The grantee conducted the survey of convicted women to identify the basic problems which they face after release from detention in the area of employment, rehabilitation of socio-useful links, psychological adaptation in the society, passport issue and others. Additionally, the grantee and the administration of women colony provided step-by-step socio-legal and psychological help to people leaving the detention and provided assistance in employment and rehabilitation of relations with relatives. To form the positive attitude in a society towards the convicted people the grant recipient published informational articles in 6 newspapers and conducted TV and radio programs and round table discussions. The project was funded by the New Zealand Embassy in Moscow.

Legal Infrastructure Development Fund

H06-0102

\$12,172

Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

5/15/2006-12/17/2007

Kyrgyz labor migrants face problems with legalization and legal employment in Russian Federation. The reason for this is a poor knowledge of their rights and responsibilities in the recipient country, poor knowledge of registration and employment permission procedures for foreigners, and strict time limits and other restricting conditions defined by the legislation of the Russian Federation on labor migrants. The grantee provided the informational and legal support to four Labor Migration Assistance Centers in Kyrgyzstan, including the development of informational materials for labor migrants, consultations and trainings for lawyers working in these centers, and monitoring of legal activities of the Centers. The project

is a component of the Eurasia Foundation legal initiative aimed to protect the rights of Kyrgyz labor migrants in Sverdlovsk oblast of the Russian Federation.

Kazakhstan Institute of Management, Economics and Strategic Research

H06-0104 \$16,409
Kyrgyzstan 5/15/2006-2/19/2008

To promote the development of independent journalism in the Kyrgyz Republic 8 grantees have been trained on a 2-year program and gained Master's Degree in International Journalism and Mass Communication at the Kazakhstan Institute of Management, Economics and Planning (KIMEP). Study at KIMEP provided them with a great push to their professional career development and better understanding of social and political processes of Central Asia.

Public Technology Center

H06-0106 \$20,068
Kyrgyzstan 5/15/2006-12/17/2007

The labor migration issues in Kyrgyzstan are being addressed chaotically by several government agencies. As a result, the interested groups are unable to build up a coordinated communication between each other in resolving labor migration issues at the national level. To effectively resolve labor migration related issues a new agency - State Committee on Migration and Employment has been established in 2006. However, the new agency's staff has no skills and knowledge in external labor migration as they used to work previously in the sphere of employment and internal migration. Thus, the grantee efforts have been focused on capacity development of the agency employers in the field of external labor migration and on enhancing their skills in developing vital strategic documents defining state policy in the sphere of labor migration by using the Public Policy formats and procedures. A department of policy analysis has been established in the ministry. Also, the grantee has conducted a range of events to identify all interest groups and stakeholders, create communication mechanisms and coordinate their efforts. As a result, all the stakeholders were able to better formulate their position in the sphere of migration policy and participate in developing the State Program of "Measures on the Regulation of Migration Processes" in KR till 2010. They identified the issues of inter-agency cooperation and proposed the ways to resolve them. Development of significant documents carried out in the public policy formats has created a case of real citizens' participation in the development and decision making processes. The project has been implemented as one of the EFCA Labor Migration program components in partnership with other stakeholders - EFCA grantees.

International Law School

H06-0138 \$4,950
Kyrgyzstan 1/15/2007-2/11/2008

Kyrgyz labor migrants face problems with legalization and legal employment in Russian Federation. The reason for this is a poor knowledge of their rights and responsibilities in the recipient country, poor knowledge of registration and employment permission procedures for foreigners, and strict time limits and other restricting conditions defined by the legislation of the Russian Federation on labor migrants. The grantee in cooperation with partner-organization in Russia has worked on raising awareness of labor migrants on their rights, provided assistance to labor migrants in registration, obtaining employment permission and protecting labor migrants' rights in the Russian Federation. Under this project Labor Migration Assistance Centers have been established in four cities of Kyrgyzstan, which then united and registered as one entity – the Public Foundation "Labor Migration Assistance Centers Network".

Moldova

Development and Social Initiatives Institute “Viitorul”

Z06-0011

\$26,083

Chisinau, Moldova

4/3/2007 - 10/3/2007

From 2005-2007, the Government of Moldova (GOM) implemented many reform policies outlined in two national strategic documents: EU-Moldova Action Plan (EUMAP) and Economic Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy (EGPRS). Effective policy implementation demands high-quality analysis, evaluation and monitoring mechanisms that incorporate popular feedback and opinion. Public involvement in the process of policy implementation in Moldova, however, is virtually nonexistent. The grantee, a leading Moldovan think tank, proposed to address these issues through its “Enhancing Monitoring and Public Contribution to the Key Reform Policies Implementation in Moldova” project, aimed to enhance the policy dialogue amongst key government officials and civil society leaders. This goal was achieved by creating a permanent discussion platform on major economic policies and facilitating civil society input into their formulation and implementation. The grantee produced a series of 6 policy papers which were made available for debate in 14 public forums, 5 press conferences and 6 TV programs. Topics of this analysis included the crisis of the Moldovan labor market, agricultural subsidies, liberalization of the economy, administrative decentralization, and public audiovisual legislative and institution reform. The grantee also introduced in Moldova an innovative economic policy monitoring tool, the Citizens Confidence Index (CCI). The CCI enabled independent experts, students, entrepreneurs, think-tanks, the media and policy-makers to draw conclusions regarding the well-being of the national economy, forecast future economic trends, and make policy recommendations for improving the economic situation in Moldova. Through the activities of the “Enhancing Monitoring and Public Contribution to the Key Reform Policies Implementation in Moldova” project, citizen and expert involvement in policy implementation in Moldova increased. Government officials and NGOs willingly received the policy analysis and research and incorporated it into several new initiatives, while the grantee has substantially enhanced its reputation as a leading civil society think tank in Moldova.

League for Defence of Human Rights

Z07-0030

\$43,320

Chisinau, Republic of Moldova

4/3/2007 - 9/30/2007

The 2007 local elections in Moldova were an important test for the country's incipient democracy, particularly given that since 2002 all elections in Moldova were marred with considerable irregularities. Ensuring free and fair elections in Moldova calls for thorough observation and monitoring, particularly by civil society organizations as an independent and unbiased source of information. Within this project, the grantee, the League of Defense of Human Rights of Moldova (LADOM), monitored the 2007 local elections by mobilizing, training and accrediting 30 long-term and 1980 short-term observers. With these resources, LADOM covered 90% of country's polling stations in the first round of elections, and another 55% of stations in key contests that required a second round run-off. By obtaining official copies of polling station returns from across the country, the grantee was able to publicize election results by 11 am the day after elections. This process, or Parallel Vote Tabulation (PVT), was completed well before the official results were announced, thus reducing the risk of manipulation during the final count. Throughout the campaign and election periods, the grantee identified and analyzed violations of the electoral legislation, reported them to mass-media, Central Election Commission (CEC), political parties and international organizations. Based on grantee's findings and reports, the CEC and other institutions responsible for ensuring a democratic election process took appropriate actions to reduce the likelihood of violations and fraud. Funded by Sida and USAID, the project helped the grantee and its partners improve their capacities to observe elections, particularly before the upcoming 2009 parliamentary elections.

Regional Center for NGOs Assistance and Information “Contact – Balti”

K06-0232

\$34,799

Balti, Moldova

9/28/2006 - 9/14/2007

Since 2005, European integration has been a priority of the Moldovan Government. The need to inform the Moldovan population on the EU, European affairs and EU-Moldovan relations is crucial to build citizens' support for this strategic orientation. To meet this need, the grantee set up the European Interactive Center in the city of Balti to disseminate information on European integration within northern Moldova. By organizing activities at the center such as public debates, round tables, and training events, the grantee informed the general public and important target groups (local governments, community groups, media outlets, political parties, NGOs and universities) on the key issues of the EU-Moldova Action Plan, the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement and the European Neighborhood Policy. The project has increased the public knowledge of, and engagement in, the EU-Moldova dialogue, and contributed to a basic understanding of the premise of many reforms currently being pursued in Moldova.

Russia

Foundation for International Accounting

M02-0342

\$34,605

Moscow, Russia

6/28/2002 - 12/31/2004

The grant was awarded to improve management accounting among small businesses. The grantee conducted survey Russian and international best practices and developed guidelines for implementing management accounting in small enterprises. The guidelines was reviewed by experts from the Russian Ministry of Economic Development and Trade. The final version of the guidelines was distributed to 300 regional training centers of the Institute of Professional Accountants, entrepreneur support centers and to small businesses directly.

Institute of Strategic Analysis & Entrepreneurship

M96-0890

\$8,515

Moscow, Russia

12/26/1996 - 12/31/1999

The grant was awarded to support publication and distribution of the text-book "Stabilization of Russian Economy". The grantee developed the database for address delivery and prepared the materials for text-book.

International Public Relations Executives Club

M03-0442

\$22,055

Moscow, Russia

2/19/2004 - 5/31/2005

The grant was awarded to increase the effectiveness of corporate charity programs by improving the professional skills of public relations managers. The International Club of PR-managers conducted a workshop on PR-strategies and methods in order to highlight business involvement in solving social problems through corporate giving. The grantee facilitated two round-tables for PR-managers, representatives of NGOs and local administration to increase mutual understanding of various barriers to charitable giving. To increase the number of the project beneficiaries, the grantee published two newsletters.

NGO "Nastya"

M96-0574

\$2,999

Kaluga Region, Russia

1/28/1996 - 12/31/1996

The grant was awarded to develop a network of biodiversity conservation NGOs. In frame of the grant a conference was held. The project hepled to provide skills in NGOs environment to the organizations' leaders.

"Vybor" Real Estate Agency

M98-2571

\$22,200

Nizhni Novgorod, Russia

9/5/1998 - 9/30/1999

The grant was awarded to support the development of an Internet-based distance-learning course on the real estate market and real estate transactions. The grantee developed the course and trained seven students.

New Eurasia Foundation

"Akuna Matata"

M05-0025

\$20,000

Ulan-Ude, Russia

12/1/2005 - 1/30/2007

In the project frames were created the conditions for the integrated coordination of schools working according to the community school (CS) model and developed the CS model in the Baikal Region. Project activities included a relay race of good deeds and a health march. Both activities attracted a large number of students, teachers, parents, and members of the community. By forming an expert council on CS technologies and association of CS schools in the Baikal Region, the professional level of school specialists raised, the efficacy of CS technologies increased, and the integrated coordination of schools within the Baikal Region achieved.

Society of Deaf People

M04-0181

\$34,460

Archangelsk, Russia

11/1/2006 - 10/31/2007

The project was designed to consolidate the efforts of public NGOs dealing with the problems of the disabled with the view to enhance the role of the public organizations of the disabled in solution of regional socio-economic problems. The project facilitated integration of people with disabilities into the society through their involvement in entrepreneurial activities. Thanks to the knowledge and skills acquired at the training seminars, representatives of the associations of the disabled implemented a number of social projects with broad financial support (from business to administrative authorities), and initiated a series of public campaigns to draw attention of the society, businesses, and bodies of power to the problems of people with disabilities. The project provided a group of young people with limited capabilities who wished to become entrepreneurs with an opportunity to learn the basis of entrepreneurship; with the most skilled granted sponsorship to start their own enterprise. In the course of the project four organizations joined the union of public associations of the disabled, "Civic Initiatives", a consolidating organization which provides opportunities for multi-level interaction of public organizations of the disabled to consolidate their efforts.

Municipal Council of Vladimir Oblast

M04-0295

\$10,000

Vladimir, Russia

1/1/2005 - 2/28/2006

The project defined approaches and methods of shaping youth policy in the Vladimir Oblast according to the principle of social partnership between local authorities, business and noncommercial sector on the basis of thorough analysis of the problem with youth being actively involved. The project based on Russian experience became logical continuation of youth policy development in the Vladimir Oblast. The project was implemented by creating a regional strategic team from various partners and organizing its work jointly with committee on youth policy of the Vladimir Oblast Administration and Agency of Municipal Development which served as a resource center. The project resulted in elaboration of methods of complex regional youth program development for the period until 2008, as well as definition of approaches and gathering of case studies information on experience of local authorities in diagnosing, summarizing and solving youth problems.

Information and Cultural Center "Bibliophiles"

M06-0006

\$2,188

Nikolayevsk-na-Amure, Russia

8/1/2006 - 1/30/2007

The project was designed to create conditions required to involve school librarians in provision of information support to deployment of the key community school components in the practices of the city and district schools. The project activities included training seminars on the "Informational Component of the Community Library Model" and "Social Partnership Between Schools and City and District Community Libraries"; seven voluntary actions conducted at school venues; and a competition for the best school publication. As a result of the project the participant schools established information support centres of public initiatives; seven initiative groups consisting of school students, teachers, and librarians received funding for implementation of social projects within the framework of the "SAM" program. Furthermore, seven youth events were successfully implemented and school print publications were created, including six newspapers.

Community of Handicapped "Vozrozhdeniye (Revival)"

M05-0028

\$10,834

Gorno-Altaysk, Russia

12/1/2005 - 4/30/2007

The project was designed to create conditions required to mobilise youth by consolidating the efforts of local communities and schools and involving children with disabilities in the process of education as an important condition of democratisation of general education in three regions of the Siberian Federal District and improved professionalism of community school administrators in the Altai territory, Altai Republic, and Kemerovo region. A training seminar for school representatives was conducted; the participating schools designed social micro-projects, methodological materials were published, and a final interregional meeting was held. The project enabled school students to acquire practical experiences of participation in solution of

local community problems, which made it possible to bring the school democratisation process to a qualitatively new level.

Educational Center “Invite”

M05-0029 \$10,000
Severodvinsk, Russia 12/1/2005 - 4/30/2007

The grant was awarded to create conditions for the development of cooperative relationships between individual citizens, schools, business representatives, and public and private organizations in order to solve social problems in the territory of the city of Severodvinsk. As a result of the project, young leaders, teachers, and parents were prepared to head the development of community schools ably and conditions were created to facilitate the formation of school foundations and school trustee committees. The activities and results of the project were widely publicized through local mass media outlets.

“Svobodnoe Obrazovanie (Free Education)”

M06-0003 \$3,000
Zelenodolsk, Russia 4/24/2006 - 11/1/2006

The project was designed to facilitate development of the professional community potential in municipal education administration. The grantee published a training manual, “Effective School Administration in the Conditions of the Socio-Economic Reforms in Russia”, and conducted a training seminar on introduction of contemporary methods and technologies that may be used by heads of municipal education departments and school administrators in their professional activities. The training seminar enabled heads of education departments and school principals in the Republic of Tatarstan to learn about new community education and community school operation methods and technologies, and the methodological solutions will enable them to deploy said methods and technologies in schools at a higher professional level.

Humanitarian Institute of North Murmansk

M06-0057 \$30,390
Severodvinsk, Murmansk Region, Russia 11/1/2006 - 10/31/2007

The project was designed to promote a dialogue and develop collaboration between noncommercial organisations and bodies of power within the closed administrative-territorial units (a.k.a. ZATO) of the Murmansk region. In the course of the seminars, panel discussions, meetings, and negotiations representatives of the local NGOs and governmental organisations learned about methods and technologies of social partnership which were subsequently applied in implementation of joint activities and development of partnership programmes. More than 20 different activities and events were conducted in seven ZATO. They were attended by almost 300 people. A network of NGOs from the closed cities of the Murmansk region was put together. It consists of 15 organisations and initiative groups. The project results were reflected in a compilation of methodological materials entitled “Cross-Sectoral Partnership in Closed Administrative-Territorial Units of Murmansk region”. The compilation was published in the amount of 500 copies.

Karelian State Pedagogical University

M06-0058 \$5,800
Petrozavodsk, Russia 11/1/2006 - 6/30/2007

The project was designed to reduce drug abuse and illegal turnover of narcotic substances among teenagers by training future teachers in technologies, methods, and forms of preventive activities at institutions of learning. To achieve the project goals an innovative training course in “Prevention of Drug Abuse and Its Consequences Among Teenagers” was developed and introduced at four (instead of originally envisioned two) departments of the Karelian State Teachers Training University. The course was designed for students of pedagogical departments of institutions of higher learning and it was approved by the Petrozavodsk Interinstitutional Coordination Board on prevention of drug abuse and recommended to other universities of the city (the course is to be introduced to the first year students of the medical school in 2007-2008). The students who have undergone training under the new program had a chance to apply the newly acquired knowledge as they defended their term papers and underwent pedagogical practicum at the city schools. The project helped to significantly improve students' awareness of the social consequences of drug abuse, reduce

the number of students who have tried narcotic substances, and increase the number of students who have refused to try illegal drugs. The project activities helped improve the drug abuse prevention system and enabled project participants to learn how to value their health.

Krasnoyarsk Center for Community Partnerships

M05-0019 \$10,000
 Krasnoyarsk, Russia 12/1/2005 - 4/30/2007
 The project was aimed at creating the internet-portal of CS movement as an instrument of CS movement participants' network cooperation. During the project implementation CS-portal <http://www.cs-network.ru/> was created. The portal has made it possible to create public information field of community education. Also there was made system of network cooperation of CS-movement participants through organization of joint events, forum's discussion.

Municipal Institution “Sluzhba Zakazchika”

M06-0062 \$6,878
 Sverdlovsk Province, Russia 11/15/2006 - 8/15/2007
 The project aimed at selection of local organization that coordinated the process of strategic planning of the town development implemented in order to raise the life standards and lower social tension in Severouralsk. Project activities included logistics for all strategic planning events, securing public discussions on key strategic issues, and facilitation activities of the strategic working group. This project is a part of the SUAL Holdong and New Eurasia Foundtaion Joint Initiative for Small Business Development in Severouralsk.

Agency for Support of Small and Medium Businesses

M06-0051 \$23,784
 Murmansk Province, Russia 11/1/2006 - 8/31/2007
 The project was aimed to support small business development in economically depressed districts of the Murmansk region by promoting innovative experiences in attracting loan funds to small and medium-sized businesses and introducing new investment attraction methods for small businesses. In the project frames was analyzed and systematized entrepreneurial experiences and trained aspiring entrepreneurs in methods used to attract loan funds. The Murmansk Regional Agency for Support of Small and Medium-Sized Businesses provided advisory support to regional small and medium-sized businesses on issues related to attraction of external financing.

“Sodeistvie 2007”

M07-0005 \$18,777
 Baley Rayon, Russia 3/15/2007 - 10/30/2007
 A Customers' co-operative office “Sodeistvie 2 007” received a start-up funding and began operating to enhance small business growth in the Baley rayon, Chita Oblast, by developing local SME support infrastructure and providing SME with access to microfinance. The Customers' co-operative staff got trainings on microfinance and finance consulting in Russian Microfinance Centre (Moscow) and in a Customers' co-operative office “Sodeystvie” (Smolensk).

“Uchastie (Participation)”

M06-0004 \$1,500
 Volgograd, Russia 8/15/2006 - 1/31/2007
 The project was designed to test the “Fair of Pedagogical Projects” technology as an effective mechanism of evaluation, demonstration, and exchange of experiences among the Volgograd community schools and introduce said technology within the pedagogical environment of the Volgograd region. The project summarised and systematised experiences of the Volgograd schools, established a centre for methodological and informational support of community schools, and conducted a fair of pedagogical projects. A total of 40 consultations on the community school model were provided to school administrators, pedagogues, and school students. A compilation of methodological and informational materials describing experiences of the Volgograd community schools was published and the “Fair of Pedagogical Projects” technology was tested.

Regional Center of Educational Technologies

M06-0053 \$34,837
Pskov, Russia 11/1/2006 - 10/31/2007

The project was designed to create municipal variable models of public-private education and administration in the Russian Northwest Regions. To that end, project teams from the pilot regions - Republic of Karelia, Arkhangelsk and Murmansk regions - were put together. The teams participated in interactive seminars on project design methods and introduction of variable models of public-private education administration that are based on historic and foreign experiences and take into account regional peculiarities associated with public participation in solution of educational problems. The project resulted in creation of seven variable models of public-private education administration and four target programmes designed to test same. Three regional resource portfolios were put together. Municipalities from the pilot regions designed local normative acts that provide for a legal base of public participation in decision-making that facilitates social development.

Resource Center of Community Schools

M05-0016 \$29,855
Omsk, Russia 12/1/2005 - 4/30/2007

The project contributed to the expansion of the community school (CS) model through the consolidation of efforts of orphanages, secondary schools, youth press-centers in the solution of local communities' problems. During the project implementation an educational package for CS was published. The package consisted of teacher's book, student's work-book, methodic bank, project materials album. Over 10 child projects addressed to social issues were implemented. The Forum of Social Initiatives was held, where project's results were summed up. In the Forum participated 124 representatives of NGOs and CS from Omsk and Samara Regions, Republic of Armenia, representatives of governmental and municipal authorities, and Legislative Assembly delegates from Omsk region.

Youth Union of Samara

M05-0030 \$26,821
Samara, Russia 12/1/2005 - 4/30/2007

The project implementation allowed to create conditions for: the promotion of Community Schools (CS) values and clarification of CS ideology; further expansion of CS model; organization of local expert potential; integration of efforts for system and network development of the process in Tartar Republic, Samar, Ulyanovsk, Orenburg and Penza Regions. The main outcome of the project is the creation of research community aimed at the developing of CS movement, which is intended to implement the cooperation and collaboration program in pilot regions at the end of the project.

Municipal Fund for Small Business Support

M05-0004 \$59,994
Severouralsk, Russia 9/1/2005 - 2/28/2007

This award provided the institutional development of the Severouralsk Municipal Fund for Small Business Support, the only business support infrastructure in the mono-industrial town with the population approximately 55 thousand people. The grantee had an opportunity to diversify a range of consulting, office and financial services to local entrepreneurs, trained the staff on financial and investment analysis and microcrediting in Sverdlovsk Oblast Fund for Small Business Support and advanced neighboring municipalities, and conducted an information campaign to increase and improve its clientele base. All these efforts increased quality of grantee services, a number of small businesses in the town and employment opportunities in the private sector had grown due to the project implementation. This grant was a part of the SUAL Holding and New Eurasia Foundation Joint Initiative of Small Business Development in Severouralsk.

“Edelweiss”

M05-0018 \$15,000
Sochi, Russia 12/1/2005 - 3/31/2007

The project was aimed to develop the Community School (CS) movement in southern Russia (Krasnodar and Stavropol Regions) through the use of resources from the CS Center in the city of Sochi and partner non-commercial organizations (NCOs) throughout Russia. The project implementation allowed to create of a system of CS information-methodology centers in the south of Russia thanks to the extant program for the preparation of skilled personnel, the creation of a unified information field, and the inter-regional cooperation in the sphere of CS.

Children - Peace in the World

M06-0001 \$3,177

Sosnovoborsk, Russia 8/1/2006 - 12/31/2006

The project was designed to summarise, describe, and test community education experiences of the Children - Peace on Earth Organisation. Six project groups from the participating schools underwent training under Young Managers School programme; a report describing community education technologies, methods, and techniques and their replication mechanisms was prepared; community education technologies identified by the grantee, e.g. constructive thinking, self-organisation, involvement of partners, etc., were analysed by the project experts.

Asia-Pacific School

M05-0031 \$13,610

Primorskiy Krai, Russia 2/1/2006 – 4/30/2007

The project is aimed to introduce and disseminate community school (CS) model in Primorsky krai for effective solution of schools' and local community problems. During the project's realization seminar-training for school administrations' representatives will be held, training sessions for teachers, pupils and parents will be conducted. As a result project target audience will increase knowledge about CS, CS model will be implemented and disseminated in 10 pilot schools of Primorsky krai. Schools - project participants will be networked as a basis of interregional network of CS in Russia.

Youth and Students Organization

M06-0048 \$7,011

Kaliningrad Region, Russia 9/15/2006 - 1/31/2007

During the project implementation there were laid the groundwork for activities and development of constant functioning expert group. There were raised the quality and social importance of youth projects implemented by public organizations. One of the main outcome of the project is considerable increase of number of newly created youth public unions and its members, young people's rising activity and amount of funds raised by these organizations.

History Museum of Kandalaksha

M06-0050 \$25,000

Murmansk Krai, Russia 11/1/2006 – 10/31/2007

The project was aimed at small business development in the Murmansk region through the creation of preconditions for the development of a tourist support infrastructure in the City of Kandalaksha. The project identified the most promising tourism business development venues in the region, put together a tourism development business plan, and identified the optimal infrastructure required to support small business development in the sphere of tourism. Best practices acquired during the project implementation were utilized for the tourism development city program.

Bodo Regional University

W00-0186 \$198,094

Bodo, Norway/Arkhangelsk Oblast, Russia 9/1/2001 - 8/31/2006

Due to a fast growing economy, demand for management training started surfacing among local companies in Arkhangelsk in the late 1990s. Since then, demand continued to increase with the arrival of international corporations. To address this demand, the grantee, BSTU, partnered with Arkhangelsk State Technical University (ASTU) to build a world class executive degree program in Business Administration. In addition to successfully establishing this program, the grantee team also created a one-year degree management

training program with a focus on finance. This program has received local and federal government funding, as well as accreditation from the Russian Government.

Tajikistan

Eurasia Foundation Central Asia/Dushanbe

Dekhkan Farm “Agrocomplex”

D06-0102

\$10,065

Spitamene District, Tajikistan

10/1/2006 - 7/20/2007

The lack of protein and meat products in the market in Spitamene Sogdii Oblast required the development of poultry farming. The grantee created an experimental duck farm to meet market demand for meat and egg products. Employees of ten farms in the region were trained in rearing poultry and the farms were given 600 ducklings to raise to breeding age. The farmers also received training manuals on duck farming. Duck breeding is now an important type of farming in Spitaemen Raion and helps to meet the local population's protein needs.

Youth Initiatives Fund

D06-0106

\$10,400

village Yangiabad, Vakhsh District, Tajikistan

10/1/2006 - 6/30/2007

Socio-economic issues are frequently the cause of interethnic tensions in the Vakhsh Valley, which is characterized by its ethnic diversity. The grantee founded and equipped a social center to bring together various national groups and integrate them into a single ethno-social space. On the basis of the House of Friendship and Understanding, a library, legal clinic and computer laboratory with internet access were created. The joint social and economic activities conducted by representatives of various diasporas at the center increased interethnic tolerance and intercultural enrichment. The House of Friendship and Understanding's policy of cooperation with the Embassies of Kazakhstan and Russia and citizens organizations in Kyrgyzstan will guarantee that the project's benefits are sustainable in the long-term.

“Fidokor”

D06-0050

\$9,789

Kurghan-Tyube, Tajikistan

11/1/2006 - 11/20/2007

The incomplete understanding of the principles of democratic management among jamoat and local self-governance (LSG) employees has a negative impact on the effectiveness of governance in rural regions. The grantee conducted trainings for 126 employees of the oblast's hukumat administration, jamoats and LSG, in order to improve local self-governance in the five principal raions of Khatlon Oblast. The grantee also organized off-site trainings at which employees of the LSG and NGOs in the oblast were able to exchange experiences and lay out the framework for the founding of an LSG network in Khatlon Oblast. As a result, three NGO coalitions were created in the Jami and Rumi districts and in the city of Nurek. In addition, employees of the OMSU and NGOs jointly presented three district development projects to donor organizations.

Civil Society Support Center “Shahrvand”

D07-0004

\$1,000

Kulyab, Tajikistan

2/20/2007-3/31/2008

English translation is available upon request

Многолетняя гражданская война в Афганистане стала основным препятствием в устойчивом развитии гражданского общества. Грантополучатель в целях поддержки развития гражданского общества в Афганистане провел исследование степени зрелости гражданских институтов Афганистана и потребностей в их развитии. Собрана и обработана информация о всех секторах гражданского общества в провинции Кундуз, ее социально-экономическом развитии и потенциале. Результаты данного исследования лягут в основу Стратегии развития гражданского общества в Афганистане с непосредственным участием таджикских неправительственных организаций и бизнес-структур. Участие неправительственных организаций и бизнес-структур Таджикистана в развитии гражданского общества в Афганистане положительно скажется на развитии двухсторонних

отношений между двумя соседними государствами. В процессе проведения исследования были установлены неформальные отношения с двумя афганскими неправительственными организациями которые в дальнейшем планируют активно участвовать в развитии гражданского общества в Афганистане и развитии отношений между афганскими и таджикскими представителями гражданского сектора.

“Sapeda”

D06-0047

\$25,678

Khilton Oblast, Tajikistan

11/11/2006-10/31/2007

Lifting trade barriers could help promote economic development on both sides of the Tajik-Afghan border. The grantee trained Tajik and Afghan businessmen on international trade law, created an entrepreneur discussion club in the southern part of Khatlon Oblast, organized meetings with local government representatives from both countries, and held an international trade fair in Kunduz, Afghanistan involving a wide cross-section of Tajik and Afghan societies. As a result, 12 Tajik entrepreneurs opened trading points in cities of northern Afghanistan; and 28 Afghan entrepreneurs began importing Afghan and Pakistani goods to Tajikistan. As well, the project contributed to the overall growth in cross-border trade. The U.S. Embassy in Tajikistan and USAID funded the project.

Ukraine

Press-Club of Reforms

K06-0195

\$3,937

Kirovohrad, Ukraine

11/10/2006 - 5/10/2007

Although the national government declared administrative territorial reform a top priority in 2005, the general public had little understanding of the meaning, necessity and requirement of such an opportunity. This confusion resulted in a negative perception of the reform initiative among citizens, local authorities and the media. The situation in Kirovohrad oblast was particularly tenuous because local officials feared that a possible outcome of this reform initiative was the dissolution of the oblast as an administrative-territorial unit. To address this issue, the grantee set out to inform the local community of the need for reform and engaged the public and mass media in open discussion. With their input, the grantee developed recommendations for local authorities. The grantee held two press club meetings, produced four television shows and published 47 articles and short features in print media. The grantee created the website www.adminreform.in.ua to provide a forum for the exchange of views and to publicize analytical features. The grantee also produced a brochure including debate results and expert opinions, which was distributed among local and national policymakers. The grantee will continue to participate in the reform process by raising awareness at the local level. As a result of this initiative, the grantee was invited to present its recommendations to the Kirovograd Oblast State administration's Public Council.

Art Center “Sobor”

K03-0060

\$35,252

Sumy, Ukraine

9/1/2003 - 8/31/2004

NGO and civil society organizational capacity in Sumy oblast is low due to lack of experience and training. Public organizations supporting the creative arts also lack sustainability and adequate funding. To address these issues, the grantee launched a full-scale campaign to increase the capacity of public organizations. The grantee presented information on capacity building and civil society development in five towns for NGOs, mass-media, and local government representatives. The grantee also published books on strategic planning and NGO Management, as well as a directory of NGOs in Sumy oblast and a newsletter for NGOs (twelve editions). Trainings organized by the grantee included, “Basics of Financial Management”, “Fundraising for NGOs”, “Management of NGOs” and “Information Society”. Over one hundred representatives from the media and local creative arts organizations participated. The grantee provided 145 legal and financial consultations for NGO representatives, along with access to office equipment, such as a copying machine, computers, Internet, and publishing software to organizations in need. The grantee also organized a journalism competition to raise the project's profile, stimulating 11 news articles in print and online media. In addition, the grantee assisted creative art organizations to organize various presentations, exhibitions, and other arts events. The project enhanced creative art unions' access to information and local media and increased public awareness of civil society and civic organizations.

Association for Cooperation and Democratic Communication “Dialog”

K06-0237

\$31,098

Cahul, Moldova

9/28/2006 - 11/20/2007

Since 2005, European integration has been a priority of the Moldovan Government. The need to inform the Moldovan population on the EU, European affairs and EU-Moldovan relations is crucial to build citizens' support for this strategic orientation. To meet this need, the grantee set up the European Interactive Center in the city of Cahul to disseminate information on European integration within southern Moldova. By organizing activities at the center such as public debates, round tables, and training events, the grantee informed the general public and important target groups (local governments, community groups, media outlets, political parties, NGOs and universities) on the key issues of the EU-Moldova Action Plan, the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement and the European Neighborhood Policy. The project has increased the public knowledge of, and engagement in, the EU-Moldova dialogue, and contributed to a basic understanding of the premise of many reforms currently being pursued in Moldova.

Association Lviv Tourist Board

K05-0049

\$18,970

Lviv, Ukraine

7/1/2005 - 9/30/2006

Drohobych district of Lviv oblast has plentiful natural and recreational resources, including mountains, forests and mineral water springs, giving it strong potential as a tourist center. Tourism has helped to fight unemployment in the region by stimulating economic development and small business growth. However, this progress is impeded by the narrow spectrum of tourism services offered; a lack of information about business opportunities for entrepreneurs and job-seekers, and the absence of a systematic approach to tourism development by local authorities. To address these problems, the grantee, together with the local government, established a mountain guide training center and taught an inaugural group of 30 unemployed individuals and start-up entrepreneurs in tourism services. The grantee also provided consultations to the district government in implementing a District Tourism Development Program, selected three of the district's poorest communities and held a series of training seminars for 155 residents and representatives of local authorities. In addition to teaching them how to enter the rural tourism market, the seminars gave Drohobych district's residents a chance to communicate with their district government. The grantee and the district government also published a travel manual for the region, a useful guide to guesthouses and other resources available to tourists in the countryside. As part of Eurasia Foundation's Local Economic Development initiative (LEAD), co-funded by the OSCE and USAID, this project created 21 new businesses and 35 jobs. A sign of the project's success is increased contributions from the business community and government into Drohobych district tourism infrastructure development. Local entrepreneurs contributed funding for local roads and bridge reconstruction, the local state administration produced district promotional materials for tourists, and developed technical documentation for restoration of a mountain passage. Local authorities also allocated \$3,000 to subsidize micro lending, and another \$3,000 to foster rural tourism development as part of a District Tourism Development Program.

Committee of Voters of Ukraine

K07-0136

\$21,614

Kherson, Ukraine

9/17/2007 - 11/9/2007

The political decision to hold early parliamentary elections in September 2007 sparked confrontation between branches of power in Ukraine and debates within society. The abbreviated run-up to elections and related political tensions underscored the need for a fair and transparent electoral process. This need was particularly acute in Kherson, the site of an intense campaigning. The grantee addressed this issue by mobilizing 407 independent local observers to conduct short-term monitoring of the elections. The grantee provided training and assigned the observers to polling stations where they monitored the voting process and the ballot count in five electoral districts in Kherson oblast. Additionally, the grantee used its online magazine to report the voting process to the public throughout Election Day. The grantee also organized a press-conference the day after the election to report observation results. During the campaign, the grantee established and maintained a hot-line to provide immediate legal advice on electoral procedures to voters, members of the district electoral commissions and observers. The grantee reported that the elections were mostly free and fair, despite some minor technical violations at the polling stations. This project was co-funded by the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation.

Science and Technology Park

K06-0030

\$18,419

Dnipropetrovsk, Ukraine

4/1/2006 - 6/30/2007

Surveys and focus groups conducted in Dnipropetrovsk oblast determined the following barriers to the development of private enterprise and creation of new jobs in the region: lack of skills among entrepreneurs to start and successfully operate their businesses, limited access to consulting services and information, inadequate dialogue between entrepreneurs and local authorities, and a poor image of businessmen among the general public. The grantee addressed these issues by training and consulting both new entrepreneurs and unemployed people in Nikopol, Novomoskovsk and Synelnykove districts of the oblast. The grantee developed and introduced distance learning courses that facilitated the spread of information on entrepreneurship procedures, conditions and possibilities among the target audience. As part of the project, 266 people acquired new knowledge and access to information through a methodological multimedia manual

that was created under the project. The grantee also organized a number of networking events for entrepreneurs, and provided 453 hours of consulting service in the state employment centers. In addition, the grantee expanded an entrepreneurship library and organized an information campaign that included round table discussions with local authorities, six issues of a newsletter and 15 articles in the print media. The project, co-funded by the OSCE and USAID as part of EF's Local Economic Development initiative (LEAD), also provided training to employees of the information consulting centers. A survey conducted among entrepreneurs of the target region indicated that project activities helped them increase the profitability of their businesses.

Agrarian Development

K05-0273

\$19,038

Donetsk, Ukraine

12/1/2005 - 1/31/2007

Rural areas of Donetsk oblast in Ukraine suffer from high unemployment. The traditionally agricultural region lost many jobs when state owned agricultural enterprises were privatized. Still more people were left underemployed due to the seasonal nature of agriculture. One way to increase employment is to diversify the local economy and introduce new business practices. To address this issue, the grantee developed and adapted seven innovative new business models for four rural districts in the oblast, including poultry farming; sewing uniforms and linens; mushroom farming and raising decorative plants. Using these models, the grantee trained 147 people to launch and promote new businesses, as well as to apply for loans. The grantee also conducted seminars demonstrating the technological aspects of the models suggested. These trainings allowed 33 people to start their own business and 21 rural entrepreneurs successfully applied for loans. The grantee also worked with local government officials and state employment centers to adapt the business models for their own efforts to diversify local economies. This resulted in seven new training courses for oblast employment center programs and the inclusion of project information into small and medium enterprise support programs at various levels. As part of Eurasia Foundation's Local Economic Development initiative (LEAD), co-funded by the OSCE and USAID, the project provided new economic opportunities for residents of four of the Donetsk oblast's most depressed districts.

East-Ukrainian Center of Civil Initiatives

K06-0252

\$5,969

Luhansk, Ukraine

1/15/2007 - 6/30/2007

The government declared administrative territorial reform one of its top priorities in 2005. However, little was done by national and regional policy makers to incorporate the expectations of citizens into the reform process, or to seek advice from independent experts to navigate this very complex and challenging initiative. The grantee addressed this issue by organizing seminars for 82 representatives from local councils in two districts in Luhansk oblast. The seminars covered how to increase citizens' participation in the process of reform design. Participants included 115 representatives from local NGOs, mass-media and private entrepreneurs in these districts. Participants learned the rationale behind the reform initiative and possible approaches to implement it. The grantee also produced a brochure summarizing feedback from participants and citizens and distributed it to local and national policy-makers. Thanks to the grantee's efforts, local media published and broadcast 39 news articles about reform. To spark public interest, the grantee organized a formal debate show on reform at Luhansk Pedagogical University. Specially-trained "Pro" and "Con" debate teams and more than 120 representatives from government, political parties, NGOs and experts took part in the discussion. The grantee will continue to reach out and involve citizens and experts in the decision making process for administrative territorial reform. Recommendations developed under this initiative will be analyzed by key national and regional agencies responsible for reform design implementation.

Entrepreneurs Support Foundation

K05-0060

\$14,458

Yaremche, Ukraine

5/30/2005 - 5/31/2006

Tourism is a fast growing business sector in Ivano-Frankivsk oblast due to the region's plentiful recreational, cultural and historical resources. The growing number of tourists coming to the region requires improved tourism infrastructure and a higher level of service. However, tourism-related businesses lack qualified personnel and often employ service workers from other regions, leaving their own region to deal with high

unemployment and labor migration rates. The grantee addressed this issue by organizing an informal employment agency. The grantee provided job training to unemployed and under-employed people in various hospitality industry services, including hotel and restaurant management and rural tourism. A total of 670 people were trained to become guides, servers, hotel administrators and housekeepers. Additional trainings included management and entrepreneurship for those interested in starting their own businesses. Participants also had the opportunity to study English. The grantee organized four workshops with 54 potential employers, four on-site seminars and internships within the service industry for 65 students and high school graduates to learn more about professions in demand. The project's information component included publishing 700 copies of a manual on how to find job, which was widely used among the target audience. The grantee also published four issues of a newsletter entitled "Where to Find a Job", along with multiple media publications. The project, co-funded by USAID and OSCE as part of Eurasia Foundation's Local Economic Development program (LEAD), helped to create 35 new businesses and 68 jobs by the end of its operating year.

European Dialogue

K05-0116

\$25,106

Lviv, Ukraine

7/29/2005 - 7/31/2006

The effectiveness of local self-government bodies is directly tied to transparency and accountability issues, which determine constituents' trust and confidence in their local leaders. In Ukraine, a number of unskilled and inexperienced mayors and council members are ill equipped to assess the effectiveness of their work and their success in addressing local development needs. The grantee addressed this issue by introducing policy evaluation techniques to governing councils in five districts of Lviv oblast. Within the pilot districts, the grantee conducted a series of three workshops for 18 young deputies of district councils. Utilizing the results of the trainings, the grantee produced five evaluation reports and discussed them at district council sessions. They also publicized reports and methodology during a round table discussion. Based on the project experience, the grantee developed and distributed a manual on how local governments can use evaluation tools in their work. After the project ended, the grantee continued to disseminate the model. As a result, Mykolayiv and Lugansk oblasts also adopted this project methodology and the Lviv Regional Institute of Public Administration included it in its training course. Through training and replication of the data that was compiled, the project helped to increase the professionalism and transparency of local government institutions.

European Integration and Regional Development Agency

K06-0124

\$27,174

Lviv, Ukraine

11/6/2006 - 11/6/2007

As energy costs rise, a well-designed and managed energy policy is increasingly important to local governments in Ukraine. Even those towns and villages that are aware of the need for increased energy efficiency do not always have the capacity, resources or incentives to address municipal needs. The grantee, in partnership with the local economic development agency addressed this issue by introducing community mobilization as a strategic tool to improve energy efficiency in Novyi Rozdil, Lviv oblast. Using the local government's audit of communal buildings' energy effectiveness, the grantee made recommendations to the community on how to save energy. Following an information campaign, orientation meetings and seminars for community activists, the grantee held a competition to select a pilot project for improving energy efficiency. The winning pilot project proposal involved energy issues at the Children and Youth Community Center (including installing modern, energy efficient windows that hold in heat better; new radiators and new climate control equipment). This test project was co-funded by the local government and community contributions. The pilot project resulted in a 40% savings in heating costs. Additionally, the project helped build capacity in the community, raising local awareness and demand for other energy efficiency initiatives and other community development projects. The Novyi Rozdil Economic Development Agency also benefited, raising its organizational capacity largely due to cooperation with the local community and government. The grantee highlighted the project's success by conducting information campaigns (including seminars and a manual) to encourage neighboring communities and other local authorities to replicate the model. The project was co-funded by the OSCE and USAID under Eurasia Foundation's Municipal Partnerships for Better Energy Use Program.

Foundation for Fair Justice

K05-0339

\$8,965

Kyiv, Ukraine

2/21/2006 - 4/3/2006

In 2006, Ukraine held local and parliamentary elections under new voting legislation. To ensure that the elections were free and fair and that the new legislation was correctly observed, the courts needed to be properly informed of the changes and prepared to review various cases, including violations of voter rights and election procedures and electoral commission errors that might affect the elections results. The grantee addressed this issue by providing training in Lviv, Mykolaiv and Kyiv for 70 judges from across Ukraine. Prominent Ukrainian lawyers taught the training seminars on election-related legal proceedings and possible violations of election legislation. Trainees then shared what they learned with their colleagues. The grantee also published and distributed 400 copies of a set of training materials containing relevant legislation. Project participants reported in a survey that the seminars helped them to improve their skills.

Non-Profit Management Institute , Ukrainian Catholic University

K05-0123

\$24,056

Lviv, Ukraine

8/1/2005 - 7/31/2006

The NGO sector in Ukraine began to develop in the early 1990's, just after independence. International donor organizations made multiple attempts to support institutional development of the "third sector" and local NGOs, but access to this assistance was limited, especially concerning local social service organizations. The grantee addressed this issue by launching the first certificate program in nonprofit management in Ukrainian in partnership with Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU). Social service organizations throughout Ukraine sent 20 students to complete the yearlong program in Ukrainian and 17 students to participate in English. In addition to classes and lectures led by renowned Ukrainian and American nonprofit professionals and teachers, students competed for small grants provided by the Henri Nouwen Foundation of the Netherlands; implemented their projects in various nongovernmental organizations and completed internships with Ukrainian and Polish NGOs. The grantee organized two international conferences on local philanthropy and social enterprises with 105 participants from Ukrainian and international nonprofit organizations. The grantee also opened a resource center with information on nonprofit management for students of the program and of UCU. The program participants received UCU's Certificate of Nonprofit Management and continue their careers in public organizations providing social services. Some of the classes developed as a part of the grant were included into UCU's general curriculum. This project was co-funded by Ukraine Citizen Action Network (UCAN), a USAID-funded civil society support program.

Public Legal Assistance Service

K05-0152

\$2,479

Luhansk, Ukraine

10/1/2005 - 7/31/2006

After the 2004 Presidential election, the new Ukrainian government declared administrative reform and improving local self-governance a top priority. This decision coincided with an unprecedented level of public interest in the political process both on national and local levels. However, there existed few forums or institutions, such as public councils and independent expert groups, to harness citizens' concerns and to utilize civil society's potential to provide feedback to the government. The grantee addressed these challenges by setting up at the Luhansk Oblast Public Council an independent information and analytical center to channel citizens' feedback to oblast policy makers. The center's main activities included informing the public about regional government activities, providing citizen input into policy-making and facilitating public access to information and introducing e-governance. The grantee held six coordination meetings in which 284 citizens, including representatives of public agencies, businesses and media outlets, discussed communal services and tariffs, regional development, good governance and other important issues. The grantee launched a website at <http://lugansk.civicua.org/acenter> to inform the public about activities of nongovernmental organizations and regional development initiatives. The center plans to continue to develop mechanisms to provide citizen and expert input into the policy making process within local government.

Municipal and Regional Development Center

K04-0257

\$18,914

Lviv, Ukraine

1/10/2005 - 10/31/2006

In Ukraine, a lack of skills among mayors and council members prohibits local governments from effectively addressing local development needs. Local officials have little experience engaging constituents, often leading to a lack of trust and confidence from the public. To address this issue, the grantee conducted intensive training and advised 129 rural council members and community activists. Participants from rural councils in Velykyi Lyubyn, Mshana, Sukhovolvia and Buchaly villages in the Horodotskyi district of Lviv oblast took part in the training and counseling sessions, which included local strategic planning, public financial management, sustainable development, and the drafting of local ordinances. The grantee also published and distributed 500 copies of a manual on sustainable local development and self-governance. A study trip to Poland organized by the grantee helped the target stakeholders see the benefits of effective local governance and effective community management for energy efficiency. As a result of the project, the public provided input into strategic development plans and comprehensive environmental improvement and energy saving strategies in four villages. Three villages introduced pilot projects to improve street lighting, including auditing energy use and installing energy saving equipment. The project encouraged the communities to take on other projects and to diversify their funding sources. Further achievements include improved waste management; additional energy-efficient street lighting; construction of a new stadium; installation of new heating systems in kindergartens, schools and rural council buildings; and the preparation of investment proposals for a community center, new roads, and sewage treatment. This project, co-funded by the USAID and Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe as a part of the Strengthening Rural Councils initiative, helped strengthen the ability of rural councils to respond to citizen needs and gave council members much-needed practical skills, including how to effectively use citizen input to make decisions.

“Opora “ Civil Network

K07-0139

\$20,252

Kyiv, Ukraine

9/17/2007 - 12/26/2007

The political decision to hold early parliamentary elections in September 2007 sparked confrontation between branches of power in Ukraine and debates within society. The abbreviated run-up to elections and related political tensions underscored the need for a fair and transparent electoral process. This need was particularly acute in Kirovohrad oblast, the site of intense campaigning and voting irregularities during the 2004 elections. The grantee addressed this issue by partnering with a local organization and mobilizing 500 observers who were placed at the polling stations of four electoral districts in Kirovohrad oblast. The grantee trained the observers at intensive seminars. Additionally, the grantee created informational materials on procedures and excerpts of current legislation, which were distributed to observers. The grantee provided constant election coverage updates on its website and provided information at press conferences in both Kirovohrad and Kyiv the day following the elections to complement the monitoring and observation process. The grantee reported that the elections were mostly free and fair, despite some minor technical violations at the polling stations. This project was co-funded by the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation.

“Polis'ka” Initiative

K06-0132

\$12,997

Korostyshev, Zhytomyr oblast, Ukraine

11/15/2006 - 7/31/2007

As energy costs rise, a well-designed and managed energy policy is increasingly important to local governments in Ukraine. While towns and villages are often aware of this need, they do not always have the capacity, skills, resources or incentives to respond to it. To address this issue in the Korostyshiv district of Zhytomyr oblast, the grantee worked with local communities to raise awareness and mobilize local resources to implement strategies to conserve energy. Five representatives from local government, NGOs and businesses participated in a study tour to Poland to study best practices and trends in energy efficiency. The grantee held three round table discussions and a press conference to communicate energy-saving practices to the general public. The grantee drafted recommendations on additional measures to conserve energy in the district, to which the local authorities responded by including the recommendations in their energy agenda. In addition to an information campaign in local media, the project team also organized an essay-writing contest among the students, published 800 copies of an elementary-level textbook and piloted an energy-efficiency training course in district schools. Utilizing available timber processing waste (sawdust) in the region, the grantee promoted adoption of biomass combustion technologies that use sawdust as fuel. To demonstrate

their effectiveness, the Slobidka village school installed two new biomass boilers with co-funding from local entrepreneurs and the government. The pilot project resulted in a more than 20 percent reduction in heating costs and significantly improved climate conditions at school. The District Department of Education plans to sponsor replication of the model in other schools. The project, co-funded by the OSCE Project Coordinator in Ukraine and the U.S. Agency for International Development under Eurasia Foundations 's Municipal Partnerships for Better Energy Use Program, resulted in greater use of energy saving technology and increased awareness of energy issues in the district.

Tourist Association of Ivano-Frankivsk Region

K05-0244

\$7,998

Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine

12/10/2005 - 9/15/2006

Despite overall depression and high unemployment in Ivano-Frankivsk, the city is trying to use its favorable location close to the borders of Romania, Slovakia, Poland, and Hungary to attract foreign investment in many of its small and medium businesses. According to the city council's strategic plan, tourism should be promoted as an important vehicle for this foreign investment. To fulfill this objective the grantee, in partnership with local tourist companies and cultural institutions, developed a city geographic information system (GIS) and updated a digital map of the city with comprehensive information on cultural and historical monuments, tourist infrastructure and suggested walking routes. These products are currently used by 86 tourism enterprises working in the oblast, as well as by city and oblast governments. After the completion of the grant, local and oblast governments invested more than \$10,000 to develop and replicate the project activities. For example, with additional funding from the city council, the grantee translated the GIS and map into Russian and Polish. The Ivano-Frankivsk oblast administration subsequently contracted the grantee to develop an oblast-wide tourist GIS integrating it with the newly-developed city system. As part of the Let's Make Ivano-Frankivsk Better Together Initiative, supported by USAID and the Ivano-Frankivsk city council, the project greatly improved the quality and range of tourist information and contributed to the more than 50 percent increase in tourism in the city in 2006.

Association of Marketing

K06-0031

\$19,221

Rivne, Ukraine

4/1/2006 - 8/31/2007

Small businesses represent the backbone of economic innovation, diversification, and growth. In Ukraine, although there has been some progress made in small business development over the last few years, many entrepreneurs still lack the business skills necessary for their start-ups to survive, compete and grow. In rural areas, access to information is limited, leading business owners to make uninformed decisions that may result in negative outcomes and even failure. Expert analysis has identified rural tourism, agricultural processing, wood processing, and the service industry as the most promising small business spheres for the Demydivka, Hoscha and Sarny districts of Rivne oblast. To foster private enterprise development in the region, the grantee provided a range of support to start-up and existing entrepreneurs working in these fields. The grantee organized trainings for 243 people, including regional development planning for representatives of the local governments, developing rural tourism for guesthouse owners and business management and marketing for entrepreneurs. In addition, experts provided regular consulting support to 77 small businesses and conducted marketing research on the priority industries. To promote local rural tourism services and help providers increase profits, the grantee created a website, developed a rural tourist route, produced a series of TV programs, and organized a press tour for journalists. To improve entrepreneurship, the grantee promoted a book of success stories about small businesses. In order to ensure sustainability, the grantee established a dialogue between private entrepreneurs and local authorities via round-table meetings and consultations and by contributing to the development of local government programs that encourage small business development. The oblast government provided 22,000 UAH from its own budget to support this project. The project also improved the capacity of the grantee to support local business by providing for increased training for its own experts. Overall, the project, which was co-funded by OSCE and USAID as part of EF's Local Economic Development program (LEAD), helped improve existing enterprises, as well as create new businesses and jobs. Project beneficiaries increased their incomes by an average of 47.5 percent in 2006 and the grantee helped launch 17 new rural tourism businesses.

Association of Software Developers

K02-0336

\$28,707

Kyiv, Ukraine

9/1/2003 - 8/20/2004

Software development is one of the most promising industries in Ukraine because of highly educated human capital and the competitiveness of Ukrainian companies on the global market. However, this industry growth was inhibited in recent years for several reasons: lack of government programs and policies supporting high tech industries, low access to international certification for Ukrainian software companies, and under-developed quality management systems within the high-tech sector. To address these issues, the grantee established and equipped an Educational and Training Center of Program Engineering and designed applied study courses to teach modern methods of program engineering, quality management systems, international standards in the production cycle and modern programming technologies. The grantee helped 77 university teachers and students and 34 software company employees complete the courses, while 32 employees earned professional certificates. In addition, 50 individuals completed the Center's distance learning classes. The grantee also published 24 issues of an electronic bulletin on project management issues and disseminated them among software developers. As a result of the project, four Ukrainian companies received international Capability Maturity Model (CMM) and Capability Maturity Model Integration (CMMI) certificates. In addition, the Informal Software Process Improvement Network agreed to continue designing recommendations for the industry as well as for the government on industry development.

Entrepreneurs Union of Small and Medium Enterprises

K05-0263

\$9,451

Sumy, Ukraine

1/20/2006 - 8/25/2006

According to the Sumy Regional Employment Center, the region suffered from high unemployment - almost nine percent higher than the national average - in the first half of 2005. Small business and economic opportunities that exist in Sumy are not always recognized as such. For instance, the region has favorable soils and climate conditions to cultivate berries and fruit, which could be a good business opportunity. The grantee approached this issue by providing education and training to encourage berry and fruit farming while introducing new technologies to improve production. During the first phase of project implementation, the grantee organized an information campaign, including informational leaflets, three radio features, two television spots, eight newspaper articles and the distribution of informational leaflets. The grantee also ran an intensive training program for unemployed job-seekers. The grantee provided consultations, ran 24 seminars (four units consisting of seven seminars each), conducted formal instruction, provided internships at successful farms, set up master classes with recognized experts, and produced a manual for new agricultural producers. As part of Eurasia Foundation's Local Economic Development initiative (LEAD), co-funded by OSCE and USAID, the project provided new economic opportunities for residents of the oblast's depressed regions, leading to the creation of 20 jobs and 18 new businesses by the end of the grant.

Promotion of Rural Green Tourism

K05-0240

\$7,998

Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine

12/10/2005 - 8/20/2006

Despite overall depression and high unemployment in Ivano-Frankivsk, the city is trying to use its favorable location close to the borders of Romania, Slovakia, Poland, and Hungary to attract foreign investment in many of its small and medium businesses. According to the city council's strategic plan, tourism should be promoted as an important vehicle for this foreign investment. The grantee developed a project aimed at "nostalgic tourism" in Ivano-Frankivsk city - targeting Ukrainian Diaspora. No tour company in the city offered such a product. The grantee researched tourist companies interested in selling nostalgic tours, compiled a database of Ukrainian Diaspora organizations, and conducted a broad information and promotion campaign. The project team also produced CD-ROM and printed versions of a catalogue with five newly developed tours. As a direct result of these activities nostalgic tours are now suggested by 18 tourist companies, and over 4,000 tourists have participated in those since the project's inception. As part of the Let's Make Ivano-Frankivsk Better Together Initiative, supported by USAID and the Ivano-Frankivsk city Council, the project strengthened the tourist industry in Ivano-Frankivsk by improving the quality and diversity of tourism options.

“Uspekhn (Success)”

K06-0206

\$3,574

Saki Rayon, Ukraine

4/2/2007 - 8/31/2007

More than 60 percent of milk in Crimea is produced by individual cattle owners. Current milk production and collection methods are not very profitable because the product price does not take into account processing costs. In addition, current methods do not meet health guidelines. The grantee addressed this issue by creating dairy farm cooperatives. As jointly-owned and operated associations of agri-producers, the cooperatives provide economies of scale for processing and marketing member farms' products. To start, the grantee built a database of dairy farmers and processors and informed cattle owners of the benefits of dairy farm cooperatives and milk collection stations. This campaign consisted of six seminars, consulting services and newspaper publications. The grantee planned to identify pilot communities in which to create milk collection stations for cooperatives and then to provide them with intensive training and consultations in business operations, dairy farming and processing technology. However, this component was not accomplished due to changes in project management and the grantee's subsequent inability to continue implementing the project. The grantee was unable to motivate potential members of the cooperative to mobilize their own resources to invest in necessary equipment for milk collection stations. The project was co-funded by OSCE and USAID as part of Eurasia Foundation's Local Economic Development Program (LEAD).

“Yevropeysky Dom (European House) ”

K05-0268

\$2,282

Uzhorod, Ukraine

3/1/2006 - 10/31/2006

According to official statistics, 70 percent of the residents in Zakarpatska oblast live in rural, mountainous areas that have few local entrepreneurship opportunities. As a consequence, the region suffers from a high rate of labor migration as residents leave the oblast to find work elsewhere. To address this issue, the grantee designed and implemented a project to improve entrepreneurial opportunities in local tourism, utilizing the region's plentiful recreational, cultural and historical resources. The grantee conducted an information and mobilization campaign, selecting six communities to organize a network of local economic development centers for rural children and youth. Representing the selected communities, 85 schoolchildren participated in a series of trainings in rural tourism and crafts trades. The grantee also conducted a competition among the youth to produce the best knowledge of the history and culture of his or her native village, the best craft product, the best business plan and the best tourism idea. The 16 winners went to a special summer camp where they discussed promoting tourism, tested possible tourist routes around the neighboring territories and worked out a tourism development program for Bukovets village. The grantee also developed a vocational training program for rural youth and is now seeking funding to implement it. This project was co-funded by the OSCE Project Coordinator in Ukraine and USAID as part of of EF's Local Economic Development (LEAD) program.

United States of America

Kvali International Association

G05-0129

\$42,409

Freehold, USA

10/1/2005 - 6/30/2007

The education level in information technologies in Georgia is generally unsatisfactory. Some short courses are taught privately and sometimes are offered by the Universities. However, none of them meet modern standards due to inadequate course content, weak teaching methodology, poor condition of computer labs, scarcity of literature, and most importantly, the lack of qualified teachers. The project addressed this need by setting up a distance learning center at Tbilisi State University. A computer lab with distance-learning capacity delivered three one-semester courses in Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) and financial mathematics to thirty-two students from Tbilisi State University. Each course provided both theoretical training as well as practical assignments, and were taught by local instructors and Georgian ICT professionals working in the United States. The most successful eight students were enrolled in the collaborative research project with a US based Oxford LLC. The center received a license to administer Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) tests. The stream of revenues from TOEFL administration will sustain the computer laboratory. This year the Center is enrolling students in the ICT and financial mathematics courses. It is currently negotiating with Rutgers University, US to start a new collaborative research project. The program will continue using outside expertise to expand opportunities for Georgian students interested in ICT and will promote transfer of knowledge between the United States and Georgia.

Uzbekistan

International Business School Kelajak Ilmi

T04-1238

\$72,098

Tashkent, Uzbekistan

9/27/2004 - 12/31/2006

From 2004 to 2006, the project sought to enhance the institutional sustainability of the International Business School (IBS) Keladjak Ilmi through offering grants to qualified students from poor families and rural regions. IBS held a series of activities to to recruit freshmen. As a result, enrollment increased overall as did disadvantaged students.

“Khukukiy Kzizmat (Legal Services)”

T05-0107

\$11,153

Ferghana Region, Uzbekistan

9/26/2005- 9/25/2006

Lack of trust in the legal system prevents people who have had their rights violated from seeking legal redress, enabling official abuses. The grantee initiated 14 lawsuits in Ferghana oblast on widespread cases of illegal acts by tax agencies and violations of labor and costumer rights. These cases were publicized in six articles. As a result, a case regarding non-payment of student stipends by Ferghana State University was investigated by the Ministry of Higher Education. The project was funded by USAID and the Dutch government.

Attorney Firm “Fides”

T05-0103

\$43,604

Ferghana Region, Uzbekistan

9/26/2005- 12/31/2006

Lack of trust in the legal system prevents people who have had their rights violated from seeking legal redress, enabling official abuses. The grantee initiated 15 lawsuits on widespread cases of illegal acts by tax agencies and violations of labor and consumer rights. These cases were publicized in five state newspapers and plaintiffs received compensation of more than \$36,000. The project had a role in the acceptance by government of three guidelines regulating issues of illegal tax control and unenforced judgments. This project was supported by the Dutch Government.

Regional Partnership Program

“SodBi” Business Incubator

P06-0014

\$15,744

Tashkent, Uzbekistan

12/1/2006 - 4/30/2007

SodBi Business Incubator accomplished most of the activities during the reporting period from end 2006 to April 2007. Project staff developed 1 Uzbekistan-specific and 1 Kazakhstan-specific manual for potential entrepreneurs and start-ups, existing private entrepreneurs, associations and companies, registered and unregistered companies consultants and entrepreneurs from Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. The grant was terminated as the grantee signed a contract with an individual rather than a legal entity, which violates the grant agreement signed. The grantee can be supported in future Eurasia Foundation projects.

Appendix C

US Government Grants by Country and Strategic Objective

October 1, 2007 - March 31, 2008

Armenia

1.3 Private Enterprise Development

Armenian Marketing Association

\$5,976

Armenia

The proposed linkage grant will contribute to the economic development of the countries of the South Caucasus by developing the capacity of local businesses to export goods and services. The partners will focus on promoting locally produced goods and services through the development of quality print, electronic, and web-based versions of a South Caucasus Export Catalog. The catalog will feature comprehensive information on producers and service providers located in Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia and will be distributed through embassies, consulates, and large importing-exporting organizations in foreign countries. The successfully implemented project will support the establishment of new cross-border business links both within and outside the South Caucasus region.

2.1 Citizen Political/Economic Participation

Agriculture Support Center

\$6,045

Armenia (Syunik Region)

To improve the financial sustainability of the “Banugorts” newspaper through the introduction of new technologies and the implementation of innovative marketing strategies. The project will launch a web site which will contain an electronic version of the newspaper, commercials and classifieds, as well as materials from peer newspapers from other regions. The project will also support market research to identify the interests of the newspaper's readers, print regular advertisement inserts to attract local advertisers, place four regularly-updated “Reader Stands” in target communities in the Region, and broadcast TV announcements to publicize the content of each upcoming issue of the newspaper. As a result the newspaper will enlarge its readership and will increase its sales and revenues.

Freedom of Information Center

\$6,853

Armenia

To increase access to government information for the Armenian media. The project will publish comprehensive research assessing awareness of the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act among Armenian media, as well as the media's access to meetings, parliamentary sessions and election authorities. The grantee will also hold public hearings and develop country-specific recommendations to government agencies and media to increase access. As a result of the project, the number of journalists requesting information from state bodies will increase and the percentage of positive responses from state bodies should also increase

“Armauthor”

\$20,725

Armenia

To increase understanding of intellectual property rights, copyrights and related rights in Armenia. The grantee will produce three television programs on the subject, which will be broadcast on three national TV stations, and an educational TV commercial on piracy, which will be periodically aired by national TV stations. The project will also organize three round table discussions, supported Microsoft Armenia, on copyright issues and new technologies, as well as seven seminars on intellectual property rights in outlying regions. Finally, the project will support a nine-month certificate program and publication of a university textbook on intellectual property rights for a group of 30 professionals. As a result of the project, the public will better understand how to protect intellectual property rights, copyrights and related rights, which will promote the development of business, science, literature and the arts in Armenia.

International Center for Human Development

109

\$33,156

Armenia

The project will contribute to improved public policy making in the South Caucasus through the use of the Town Hall Meeting (THM) system, which has already been tested and implemented in Armenia. The Project's partners will develop multi-language support for the computer-based elements of the system, and the Armenian partner will train their Azerbaijani and Georgian counterparts on related facilitation and system implementation skills. After the completing the skills and system transfer, the partners will jointly implement a pilot demonstration of the THM system in Georgia. Eurasia Foundation-SCCP anticipates collaborating with the OSCE's Environmental Security Initiative (ENVSEC) to implement an environment-related THM project in all three countries. More broadly, EF-SCCP expects the project to increase the level of the public participation in the decision-making processes in the South Caucasus.

Sisian Development Center

\$16,778

Armenia

To develop the capacities of community based organizations (CBOs) in Sisian region. The grantee will establish a resource center for community development which will provide a number of services to local CBOs, including training, consulting and technical assistance, as well as access to communication and information resources. As result of the project, CBOs in the region will be better equipped to solve problems of local importance, and cooperation between donor organizations, local government structures and CBOs will be strengthened.

Internews Armenia

Armenia

To promote ideals of common humanity and tolerance among the youth and wider viewing public of the South Caucasus countries through strengthening mutual understanding and sustained collaboration among young journalists and film directors from Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia. The project is a follow-up activity proposed by the same partnership group, and it will further strengthen the established region-wide mechanism that enables young journalists and film directors to undertake joint creative work. This year the project partners will select 10 young media professionals from each South Caucasus country to take part in the project. The multi-national group of 30 journalists and film directors will form 15 two-country production teams each comprising one lead and one assistant participant. Under the guidance of the partner organizations, the participants will have a chance to review and accept the project's code of ethics, take master classes, and produce from 15 to 21 documentaries promoting the ideals of compassion, humanity, and tolerance. The project partners will ensure a more extensive publicity campaign for the project throughout the region, which will culminate with the second South Caucasus documentary film festival in Tbilisi in which the best films will be selected by an independent jury. This will also include broadcasting the best documentaries in the air of select national TV channels, and a series of stakeholder discussions in each country. The project will further stimulate people-to-people diplomacy and public dialogue in the South Caucasus region.

Analytical Center in Globalization and Regional Cooperation

\$18,149

Armenia

In order to promote improved dialogue and cooperation between the Armenian and Turkish societies, Eurasia Foundation Armenia will support a dialogue between the analytical communities of the two countries on issues of mutual concern including European integration and global/regional challenges and threats. In particular, the grantee and its partners in Turkey will arrange for a survey among the political and civil society elites of both countries on the above issues. The results of the survey will be discussed at two consecutive conferences in Yerevan. A series of articles in Armenian newspapers, as well as two issues of the Turkish Policy Quarterly will feature articles on the research findings and the two conferences. The project will examine the validity of the assumption that at some point the European aspirations of Turkey and Armenia, as well as the global/regional challenges and threats facing these two countries are able to diminish the historical and political differences between the two nations.

Information Systems Development and Training Center

\$7,716

Armenia

To strengthen the organizational performance of the Information Systems Development and Training Center (hereafter ISDTC). An external consultant will conduct a needs assessment, and the grantee's staff will develop a strategic plan for the organization. The grantee's management will then develop written policies and procedures for administrative, information management, and human resources systems and provide training for staff in these areas. An external audit will be conducted in order to improve the financial management systems of the organization. The NGO will develop a marketing system and website to promote new services.

“Dilnet Service”

\$9,430

Armenia

To strengthen the organizational performance of Business Promotion Center “Dilnet Service”. The grantee will conduct a needs assessment of its target beneficiaries, develop a strategic plan based on that assessment, hold a general meeting to improve the organization's charter, develop a mechanism for evaluating its services and recruit new members to its governing bodies. As a result of this project, the organization will provide better services to its client businesses.

“Unison”

\$7,374

Armenia

To strengthen the organizational performance of NGO “Unison” by improving the organization's responsiveness to the needs of its constituency; improving the efficiency of the organization's operations; and improving Unison's service delivery capacities. In order to achieve these objectives, the grantee staff, management and members will assess the needs of the organization's constituency, clarify the roles and responsibilities of the organization's governing bodies, management and staff, and develop a new strategic plan for the organization. Unison's staff will receive training in website design and layout, which will help the organization develop a website in Armenian. The grant will also support the purchase of equipment that will give blind individuals Internet access.

Chamber of Commerce and Industry

\$6,458

Armenia (Gegharkunik Region)

To strengthen the organizational capacities of Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Gegharkunik Region. The grantee will implement various structural and strategic changes, including growing membership, engaging members more closely in the Chamber's activities, attracting volunteers, training and consultations to improve the organization's marketing and PR strategy, short term planning, internal communication and team work. The project will also foster the development of a B2B web site, which will link member businesses with other businesses outside the Gegharkunik Region. As a result of the project, the organization will improve its image, be able to provide new consulting and advisory services and increase its members and volunteers

Maternity Fund of Armenia

\$5,020

Armenia

To strengthen the organizational capacities of Maternity Fund of Armenia. The grantee will implement various structural and strategic changes, including involving five new members in its governing bodies, engaging volunteers, five trainings and consultations on managerial skills and service provision, research and analysis to expand services and make strategic decisions on financial sustainability of the organization. As a result of the project, the organization will improve its image, provide services beyond Yerevan, and have a system in place to engage volunteers in fundraising events.

Eurasia Partnership Foundation: Armenia

\$1,015,776

Armenia

Eurasia Partnership Foundation: Georgia

\$982,036

Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan

To create a new indigenous foundation, the Eurasia Partnership Foundation (EPF) in the South Caucasus. EPF inherits a strong array of programs from EF in all three countries of the region. With a diverse, international Board of Trustees, it will position itself as one of the South Caucasus' leading civil society organizations. EPF will implement programs to increase citizen participation in public administration; encourage community volunteerism and activism among the youth; build local capacity for research and policy making; and build relationships across borders.

Young Women's Association

\$11,544

Armenia

To promote youth activism in the Vayots Dzor Region by building the capacities of local youth organizations. The grantee will organize training of trainers, who will train more than 225 young men and women in entrepreneurship, political literacy, and legal awareness on human rights. The grantee will also establish a Youth Council, which will design and implement youth activities in the region. As a result of the project, NGOs and youth organizations in the region will be better able to educate local young people and help them participate in their communities.

Armenia-Turkey Cross-Border Dialogue and Cooperation Program

The goal of this competition is to promote improved dialogue and cooperation between representatives of the non-government, government and private sectors in Armenia and their Turkish counterparts. The competition will support the implementation of cross-border projects by Armenian organizations in multiple areas, including education, culture, youth development, business development, and local governance.

Komitas State Quartet

\$34,045

Armenia

To promote improved dialogue and cooperation between the Armenian and Turkish societies, which will be achieved through the establishment of a bridge of tolerance and collaboration between the artistic and music-lover communities of the two countries. In particular, the grantee and its partners in Turkey will arrange for a cycle of exchange concerts by the Komitas State Quartet and Bosphorus Quartet in Turkey and Armenia respectively, as well as for an exchange visit by one Armenian and one Turkish artist to and their performance in Turkey and Armenia respectively. The project partners will ensure an effective publicity campaign in both Armenia and Turkey. The project will rehabilitate the process of cultural exchanges between the two countries that first started back in 2002, which will hopefully accelerate the process of normalization of bi-lateral relations at both the grass-roots and formal levels.

“Patker” LLC

\$29,371

Armenia

In order to promote improved dialogue and cooperation between the Armenian and Turkish societies, Eurasia Foundation Armenia will support the establishment of a visual art bridge of tolerance and collaboration between photographers and border communities of the two countries. In particular, the grantee and its partner in Turkey will arrange for a cycle of exchange trips by Turkish and Armenian photographers to Turkey and Armenia, will publish and distribute the photographic material in print and electronic modes, and will ensure proper media coverage and publicity of the whole project. The project will reinforce the process of exchanges between the photographic communities of the two countries that first started in 2006, which will

hopefully accelerate the process of normalization of bi-lateral relations at both the grass-roots and formal levels.

Youth Academy

\$13,952

Armenia

In order to promote improved dialogue and cooperation between the Armenian and Turkish youth, Eurasia Foundation Armenia will support the establishment of a virtual Armenian-Turkish Youth Club. The project partners will establish a number of jointly managed web-resources including a web-site hosting on-line forums and featuring latest regional news, as well as a quarterly on-line magazine Club Zone. In addition, the partners will organize a series of exchange visits to hold seminars and round table discussions, as well as will initiate the establishment of a bi-lateral team of off-shore software developers and chip designers. The project will contribute to the increased awareness of the Armenian and Turkish youth of each other, as well as will examine the willingness and capacity of the youth to play a role in mitigating the historical and political differences between the two countries

“Azg Oratert” LLC

\$17,524

Armenia

To promote improved dialogue and cooperation between the Armenian and Turkish societies by breaking the popular stereotype of enduring mutual hostility and mistrust. The grantee will translate into Armenian, publish, and widely distribute in Armenia the recently issued album of century-old Ottoman post-cards depicting different aspects of peaceful and in many cases prosperous life of the Armenian community throughout the former Ottoman Empire. The grantee will ensure proper media coverage and publicity throughout the whole project, which will reinforce the projected objectives. The project will accelerate the process of the normalization of bi-lateral relations at both the grass-roots and institutional levels.

Government, Civil Society and Media Participation in the Fight against Corruption

Current competition is conducted among print and electronic media organizations. Eurasia Foundation will provide at least six grants in support of anti-corruption activities to media outlets and journalist associations. The goal of the competition is to increase the role of Armenia's media in the fight against corruption. The related objectives of this competition are:

- To strengthen the capacities of journalists and media organizations in anti-corruption reporting;*
- To establish an effective anti-corruption network for improved cooperation and information exchange between the media, civil society organizations and the government*

“Achilles” Society for Defence of Drivers Rights

\$22,620

Armenia (Yerevan City)

To reduce corruption risks in the regulation of road traffic. The grantee will provide ongoing free legal support to drivers through a hot-line service and in-person consultations provided by the lawyer, road traffic consultants and an expert on traffic security. Along with the consultations the grantee will carry out a thorough analysis of the existing legislation regulating the roads and prepare a report and recommendations to respective bodies. The grantee will also carry a public awareness campaign by developing and publishing a comprehensive manual on drivers' license examinations; placing information stands in Yerevan and three urban regional communities; organizing three training courses for drivers on new traffic regulations and organizing a final public hearing on project results and recommendations.

Investigative Journalists

\$27,940

Armenia

To increase transparency of Local Government bodies in the Ararat, Armavir, Kotayk, Tavush and Lori regions of Armenia. The grantee will recruit and train a group of reporters in the five targeted regions to produce investigative journalism materials for a monthly insert. The insert will be disseminated through one

of the largest national dailies. The grantee will also conduct a series of public awareness activities including publication of annual budget reports, meetings with the local population and two round table discussions with representatives of civil society organizations and local governments. During the final phase of the project a series of talk shows and five short films will be broadcast on local TV stations in the five targeted regions to highlight the issues covered during the project and to draw wider attention to them among the public

“Asparez”

\$10,391

Armenia

To reduce the risk corruption in three northern regions of Armenia. The project will conduct a series of training courses on the use of the Freedom of Information Law (FOI Law) as a tool against corruption for more than 300 participants including practicing and student journalists, officials managing information of public interest, civil society representatives, lawyers and politicians. At least 11 TV debates will be broadcast, covering issues related to FOI Law and the risk of corruption in the region, through 8 TV companies in cities in northern Armenia. Additionally, 3 round table discussions will be held in regional centers of Gyumri, Vanadzor and Ijevan to discuss issues related to the implementation of the FOI Law. During the course of the project at least 300 requests for information will be addressed to responsible parties and the results qualitatively and quantitatively analyzed. Major achievements and results of the project will be highlighted through 1) a special web-portal created in the web-site of the organization; 2) initial and final press conferences and 3) a final conference which will bring together major parties involved in the project and will draw up final recommendations resulting from the project.

“Tsayg”

\$13,485

Armenia

To increase public awareness in the Shirak Region on the problem of corruption. The grantee will produce and broadcast a series of TV debates with the participation of experts and politicians. Following the debates, talk shows will be organized to engage the citizenry in the discussion of the topics with government officials and experts. Additionally the grantee will produce and broadcast public service announcements (PSAs) to provoke citizen activity on the problem of corruption in specific spheres (such as education, healthcare, army, elections, labor market). The PSAs will be broadcast through TV and radio.

“Lori TV”

\$12,009

Armenia

To increase public awareness in the Lori Region on the problem of corruption. The grantee will organize an eight-hour daily hotline service to receive questions and comments from the local population, as well as fourteen talk shows with representatives of government and non-government entities covering corruption-related issues in education, health care, justice, local government, culture management, social security and elections. A direct phone line will be acting during the live broadcast of the talk show to receive on-line questions from audience. As a result of the project, coverage of corruption-related issues in the region will grow and public awareness and participation in the fight against corruption will increase.

Labor Migration Program

EF funded program will assist Kyrgyz labor migrants to work legally in Russia. This project aims to provide Kyrgyz immigrants with legal support, as well as to identify available jobs and skills needed to fill the vacancies in Russian labor market. The project will also try to establish a dialogue between civil society and government bodies to improve migrant labor laws. This would have a tremendous social and economic impact on the region. At the end of the project EF will commission an external impact evaluation, including a survey of labor migrant, employers and local government officials, to identify best practices and lessons learned.

Gorisi Yeritasardakan

114

\$8,605

Armenia

To protect the rights of labor migrants and returnees in the Syunik Region of Armenia, the grantee will establish a Migration Resource Center. This center will conduct public awareness campaigns for potential labor migrants on the risks of illegal labor migration, provide legal consultations to potential labor migrants and returnees on migration legislation and registration procedures in Armenia and Russia, and assist returnees to help them reintegrate into society. Returnees will also be provided with information on local employment opportunities, business development, and entrepreneurship. As a result of the project, potential labor migrants from Syunik will be better informed about the risks of illegal labor migration and returnees will be more aware of employment opportunities.

Union of Sisian Communities

\$4,184

Armenia

To protect the rights of labor migrants and returnees in the Syunik Region of Armenia, the grantee will establish a Migration Resource Center. This center will conduct public awareness campaigns for potential labor migrants on the risks of illegal labor migration, provide legal consultations to potential labor migrants and returnees on migration legislation and registration procedures in Armenia and Russia, and assist returnees to help them reintegrate into society. Returnees will also be provided with information on local employment opportunities, business development, and entrepreneurship. As a result of the project, potential labor migrants from Syunik will be better informed about the risks of illegal labor migration and returnees will be more aware of employment opportunities.

Martuni Women's Community Council

\$12,057

Armenia

To protect the rights of labor migrants and returnees in the Gegharkunik Region of Armenia, the grantee will establish a Migration Resource Center. This center will conduct public awareness campaigns for potential labor migrants on the risks of illegal labor migration, provide legal consultations to potential labor migrants and returnees on migration legislation and registration procedures in Armenia and Russia, and assist returnees to help them reintegrate into society. Returnees will also be provided with information on local employment opportunities, business development, and entrepreneurship. As a result of the project, potential labor migrants from Gegharkunik will be better informed about the risks of illegal labor migration and returnees will be more aware of employment opportunities.

Development Center of Armavir

\$5,371

Armenia

To protect the rights of labor migrants and returnees in the Armavir Region of Armenia, the grantee will establish a Migration Resource Center. This center will conduct public awareness campaigns for potential labor migrants on the risks of illegal labor migration, provide legal consultations to potential labor migrants and returnees on migration legislation and registration procedures in Armenia and Russia, and assist returnees to help them reintegrate into society. Returnees will also be provided with information on local employment opportunities, business development, and entrepreneurship. As a result of the project, potential labor migrants from Armavir will be better informed about the risks of illegal labor migration and returnees will be more aware of employment opportunities.

Hope and Help

\$9,848

Armenia

To protect the rights of labor migrants and returnees in the Lori Region of Armenia, the grantee will establish a Migration Resource Center. This center will conduct public awareness campaigns for potential labor migrants on the risks of illegal labor migration, provide legal consultations to potential labor migrants and returnees on migration legislation and registration procedures in Armenia and Russia, and assist returnees to

help them reintegrate into society. Returnees will also be provided with information on local employment opportunities, business development, and entrepreneurship. As a result of the project, potential labor migrants from Lori will be better informed about the risks of illegal labor migration and returnees will be more aware of employment opportunities

Resource Center of Charentsavan

\$7,915

Armenia

To protect the rights of labor migrants and returnees in Kotayk Region of Armenia, the grantee will establish a Migration Resource Center. This center will conduct public awareness campaigns for potential labor migrants on the risks of illegal labor migration, provide legal consultations to potential labor migrants and returnees on migration legislation and registration procedures in Armenia and Russia, and assist returnees to help them reintegrate into society. Returnees will also be provided with information on local employment opportunities, business development, and entrepreneurship. As a result of the project, potential labor migrants from Kotayk Region will be better informed about the risks of illegal labor migration and returnees will be more aware of employment opportunities

“Yerevak”

\$4,745

Armenia

To protect the rights of labor migrants and returnees in the Tavush Region of Armenia, the grantee will establish a Migration Resource Center. This center will conduct public awareness campaigns for potential labor migrants on the risks of illegal labor migration, provide legal consultations to potential labor migrants and returnees on migration legislation and registration procedures in Armenia and Russia, and assist returnees to help them reintegrate into society. Returnees will also be provided with information on local employment opportunities, business development, and entrepreneurship. The project will also establish a partnership with the Lipetsk Regional Union of Armenians (most migrants from Tavush go to Lipetsk) for the purpose of improved information sharing. As a result of the project, potential labor migrants from Tavush will be better informed about the risks of illegal labor migration and returnees will be more aware of employment opportunities.

Regional Print Media Strengthening Program

Following the recommendations of trainers and the trainees and having analysed the results of the first cycle of the RPM program EF Armenia announces closed grant competition among the 28 identified RPMOs. The competition aims at increasing the financial viability and sustainability of the outlets that have received trainings in strategic areas of newspaper operation. Each grant will support activities of one RPMO or network of some outlets for the development of the grantee's long-term financial sustainability.

“Sevan” Newspaper

\$5,295

Armenia

To improve the sustainability of Sevan Newspaper by building the professional skills of newspaper staff and applying innovative marketing strategies. The project will assess the interests of local readers and the advertising needs of businesses, recruit and train new staff, purchase and install new equipment to increase print quality, increase circulation from 1,000 to 1,500 copies, and increase the frequency of publication from once to twice per month. As a result of the project, the newspaper will enlarge its readership and will increase its sales and revenues.

“Apujanian ev Vordiner” LLC

\$5,604

Armenia

To improve the financial sustainability of the Lusardzak Independent Weekly in the Lori Region. The grantee will develop its retail and individual subscription systems, recruit new couriers and volunteers, design a marketing strategy, and improve the layout and content of the newspaper. In order to expand readership, the grantee will create a web version of the newspaper and organize public round table discussions on different local issues. As a result of the project, the newspaper will increase its circulation and advertising revenues.

“Syunats Ashkhar” LLC

\$6,505

Armenia

To improve the financial sustainability of the Syunyats Yerkir newspaper by increasing the readership of the outlet; strengthening partnerships with peer organizations in Armenia and abroad; and increasing newspaper revenues from advertising. The project will launch an online version of the newspaper which will also include materials from peer newspapers in other regions. The project will also establish information exchange with major national newspapers and increase the frequency of publication from two to three times per month. As a result of the project, the paper will enlarge its readership and will increase its sales and revenues from advertising.

“Kumayri-Banvor”

\$8,316

Armenia

To increase the local readership of the Kumayri-Banvor Newspaper. The project will organize 50 public hearings on socio-economic issues with the participation of sociologists, lawyers, representatives of local government and non-government organizations, who will respond to questions raised by community members. Following these public hearings, regular inserts will be printed in the newspaper which cover the issues discussed, as well as recommendations for addressing these problems by the invited specialists. The hearings will be widely publicized through local TV channels. As a result of the project, the local readership of the newspaper will increase.

Epraksya Mekhakyan

\$5,687

Armenia

To strengthen the financial sustainability of the Shrajpat Newspaper. The project will launch a web resource which will contain an electronic version of the newspaper and additional materials not included in the printed edition. The project will also support market research in order to identify the interests of the readership of the newspaper and adjust its content accordingly. A marketing strategy will be developed based on the results of the research. The applicant will also work to increase its circulation by up to 4,900 copies per issue and to expand its distribution area to smaller communities of the Shirak Region. As a result the newspaper will enlarge its readership and will increase its sales and revenue.

Syunik Agriculture Support Regional Center

\$6,044

Armenia

To improve the financial sustainability of the Banugorts Newspaper through the introduction of new technologies and the implementation of innovative marketing strategies. The project will launch a web site which will contain an electronic version of the newspaper, commercials and classifieds, as well as materials from peer newspapers from other regions. The project will also support market research to identify the interests of the newspaper's readers, print regular advertisement inserts to attract local advertisers, place four regularly-updated Reader Stands in target communities in the Region, and broadcast TV announcements to publicize the content of each upcoming issue of the newspaper. As a result the newspaper will enlarge its readership and will increase its sales and revenues.

Resource Centers for Community Development

Eurasia Foundation is planning to establish multiple resource centers for community development (RCCD) in Armenia's regions

Nvatshum Youth

\$2,585

Armenia

To develop the capacities of community based organizations (CBOs) in the Tavush region. The grantee will establish a resource center for community development which will provide a number of services to local CBOs, including training, consulting and technical assistance, as well as access to communication and information resources. As result of the project, CBOs in the region will be better equipped to solve problems of local importance, and cooperation between donor organizations, local government structures and CBOs will be strengthened.

Civil Initiatives Center “Vahagni XXI”

\$1,555

Armenia

To develop the capacities of community based organizations (CBOs) in Alaverdi, Lori Region. The grantee will establish a resource center for community development which will provide a number of services to local CBOs, including training, consulting and technical assistance, as well as access to communication and information resources. As result of the project, CBOs in the region will be better equipped to solve problems of local importance, and cooperation between donor organizations, local government structures and CBOs will be strengthened.

Kaghni Social Ecological

\$1,408

Armenia

To develop the capacities of community based organizations (CBOs) in Shamshadin, Tavush region. The grantee will establish a resource center for community development which will provide a number of services to local CBOs, including training, consulting and technical assistance, as well as, access to communication and information resources. As result of the project, CBOs in the region will be better equipped to solve problems of local importance, and cooperation between donor organizations, local government structures and CBOs will be strengthened.

The A. D. Sakharov Armenian Human Rights Protection Center

\$4,235

Armenia

To develop the capacities of community based organizations (CBOs) in Shirak region. The grantee will establish a resource center for community development which will provide a number of services to local CBOs, including training, consulting and technical assistance, as well as access to communication and information resources. As result of the project, CBOs in the region will be better equipped to solve problems of local importance, and cooperation between donor organizations, local government structures and CBOs will be strengthened.

2.3 More Accountable Local Government

Zinvori Mair Republican Committee of Armenia

\$31,785

Armenia

To protect the rights of labor migrants and returnees in Armenia. The grantee will conduct a series of events publicizing the risks of illegal labor migration, such as roundtable discussions with government and non-governmental entities. The grantee will also provide legal consultations to potential labor migrants, returnees and their families on legislation related to migration, compulsory military service, registration procedures in Armenia and Russia. As a result of the project, potential labor migrants will be better informed about the risks of illegal labor migration, including issues related to their military service

Azerbaijan

2.1 Citizen Political/Economic Participation

Eurasia Partnership Foundation: Georgia

\$982,036

Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan

Eurasia Partnership Foundation: Azerbaijan

\$415,304

Azerbaijan

To create a new indigenous foundation, the Eurasia Partnership Foundation (EPF) in the South Caucasus. EPF inherits a strong array of programs from EF in all three countries of the region. With a diverse, international Board of Trustees, it will position itself as one of the South Caucasus' leading civil society organizations. EPF will implement programs to increase citizen participation in public administration; encourage community volunteerism and activism among the youth; build local capacity for research and policy making; and build relationships across borders.

Internews Azerbaijan

Azerbaijan

To promote ideals of common humanity and tolerance among the youth and wider viewing public of the South Caucasus countries through strengthening mutual understanding and sustained collaboration among young journalists and film directors from Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia. The project is a follow-up activity proposed by the same partnership group, and it will further strengthen the established region-wide mechanism that enables young journalists and film directors to undertake joint creative work. This year the project partners will select 10 young media professionals from each South Caucasus country to take part in the project. The multi-national group of 30 journalists and film directors will form 15 two-country production teams each comprising one lead and one assistant participant. Under the guidance of the partner organizations, the participants will have a chance to review and accept the project's code of ethics, take master classes, and produce from 15 to 21 documentaries promoting the ideals of compassion, humanity, and tolerance. The project partners will ensure a more extensive publicity campaign for the project throughout the region, which will culminate with the second South Caucasus documentary film festival in Tbilisi in which the best films will be selected by an independent jury. This will also include broadcasting the best documentaries in the air of select national TV channels, and a series of stakeholder discussions in each country. The project will further stimulate people-to-people diplomacy and public dialogue in the South Caucasus region.

Independent Consumers Union

\$14,585

Azerbaijan

To contribute to the establishment of effective and efficient food standards and safety systems in the three countries of the South Caucasus through the development of high quality comparative policy options for relevant government agencies in the context of the EU's European Neighborhood Policy (ENP). The partners will undertake comprehensive research and analysis of legal and practical aspects of food standards and safety in Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia. This includes a unified research methodology and comparative analysis across all three countries of the South Caucasus. Each partner will also periodically convene a working group consisting of local stakeholders in their respective country to help shape the contents of the policy report. The partners will deliver one integrated regional public policy report that features an overview of food standards and safety problems in the three countries of the South Caucasus, country-by-country policy analysis, EU and ENP-related mechanisms for addressing food standards and safety, and policy advice to be brought to the attention of national governments. Part of the research will focus on legal and practical options for diminishing corruption in the food standards and safety system. The project should contribute to the improved national policies on food standards and safety, decreased corrupt opportunities in the area and

greater government-civil society dialogue on the issue, as well as should assist all three countries in meeting ENP commitments.

Belarus

1.3 Private Enterprise Development

Riga Business School of Riga Technical University

\$213,813

Belarus

To provide Belarusian private sector executives, managers and future business professionals with high quality training opportunities in international business management. The grantee will offer a new MBA-level certificate course for employees of private enterprises to increase their management skills, particularly related to international business. Latvian business professors will provide intensive pedagogical and content related training to their Belarusian counterparts with the goal of sustaining the program. The grantee will also host selected master's degree students from Belarus to enhance their education through an intensive four month program in Riga, Latvia. Funded by USAID and the governments of Latvia, Finland and Sweden, the project will help better prepare young managers to engage in international business.

2.1 Citizen Political/Economic Participation

Institute for Strategic Studies

\$33,560

Belarus

To identify opportunities for public dialogue in Belarus. The grantee will conduct research to learn about “social contracts”, or how authorities relate and interact with various societal demographics, such as youth, wage earners (urban and rural workers), entrepreneurs, public officials and pensioners. The grantee will lead and supervise research by a consortium of Belarusian analytical organizations in order to objectively investigate public dialogue and make policy recommendations specific to demographic groups. Political parties and movements, nongovernmental organizations, public policy and legal experts and community organizers will benefit from this knowledge by understanding why the general population tolerates or even favors a non-democratic political regime. The grantee and other interested parties will be better equipped to reach out to the public, using popular messages that effectively advocate for democratic and economic reforms in Belarus. The initiative is funded by USAID and Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung.

Georgia

1.3 Private Enterprise Development

Training and Development Group

\$10,290

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To promote tourism development by building awareness of service standards and business management principles among tourism small and medium enterprises (SME) in Imereti, Guria, and Kvemo Kartli. The project will provide five-day trainings for around sixty tourism SMEs in Kutaisi, Ozurgeti, Marneuli/Dmanisi in Bed and Breakfast management standards, basics of marketing, financial accounting, taxes, and customer services. The training complements the government-sponsored Employment Initiative 2007, which provides subsidized loans to tourism SMEs through a partnership with Procredit Bank. The training will target the clients of the Bank as well as other individuals interested in starting or expanding a tourism business. The Bank credit officers will be involved in the trainings to discuss loan application and management procedures. As a result of the project, owners of small tourism businesses will increase their knowledge of service standards, and improve their financial management capacity to handle a bank credit.

Women's Fund

\$33,366

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To promote entrepreneurship among women in the rural Georgia by improving their understanding of how to start a business and facilitating access to credit. Fifty women from Imereti and Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti regions will be trained according to a seven-day course How to Start a Business designed by Friends of Georgia Foundation and University of Groningen, Holland to empower women. In addition to trainings, a special guarantee fund will be created with the assistance of Dutch Rotary Clubs. The guarantee fund will back up the loan applications of the trainees to Georgian microfinance organizations. The project will increase enthusiasm for entrepreneurship and improve understanding of business planning among less advantaged women in rural areas. With a guarantee back-up of 20,000 euros at least 20 women will have an opportunity to access microcredit and start their own business.

Association of Marketing

\$5,019

Georgia

To promote business education in Georgia by increasing access of Georgian students and practitioners to modern marketing literature. The first stage of the project envisions translation of Georgia's most widely-used marketing textbook, Marketing: An Introduction, by Gary Armstrong and Philip Kotler, from English into Georgian, allowing a wider audience access to contemporary marketing concepts. Teams of lecturers and students from Georgia's two leading business schools, European School of Management and Caucasus School of Business, will develop 19 case studies and 16 marketing vignettes about Georgian companies to be included with book publication. The case studies and vignettes relate general marketing concepts to concrete cases, further building on the accessibility of marketing literature in Georgia. Central and Eastern European Management Development Association (CEEMAN) experts will review and comment on the cases. 200 copies of the 2,000 copies published will be distributed among universities and libraries, and the remaining copies will be sold. The revenues from book sales will be spent on the translation and publication of Marketing Research by Naresh Malhotra and Mark Peterson, a more advanced marketing textbook, for further education. The books will increase Georgian students' and business practitioners' understanding of basic principles of marketing and their practical applications in Georgia and abroad, and will improve Georgian lecturers' and students' grasp of business case writing techniques.

International Business Development and Investment Center

\$800

Georgia

To promote employment among youth through professional development of young individuals from the mountainous areas of Adjara region. The project will provide 15-day training in various aspects of small hotel operation to around 25-30 youngsters interested in the tourism business in the rural Shuakhevi district of Adjara. The workshops will cover such issues as business planning, marketing, tour guiding etc. The project team will further assist the trainees in taking advantage of internship opportunities at local travel companies. The project also complements the efforts of CHF International Georgia Employment and Infrastructure Initiative, which provides small funding for the renovation of guesthouses in this area, by targeting young people who have access to CHF funds. The project will be covered in the local media. By addressing the lack of professional knowledge among young people in this less developed part of Adjara, the project will contribute to their employment and simultaneously improve the quality of service in the local guesthouse business.

“Elkana”

\$10,725

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To promote tourism development by building awareness of service standards and business management principles among tourism small and medium enterprises (SME) in Samtskhe-Javakheti region. The project will provide four five-day trainings for around sixty tourism SMEs in Borjomi/Bakuriani, Akhalktsikhe, Abastumani, and Aspindza in service standards for guesthouses and catering facilities, introduction to business administration, building renovation and maintenance needs, promotion and sales etc. The workshops include four days of class work and one-day study trips to experienced local SMEs. The training complements the government-sponsored Employment Initiative 2007, which provides subsidized loans to tourism SMEs through a partnership with Procredit Bank. The training will target the clients of the Bank as well as other individuals interested in starting or expanding a tourism business. The Bank credit officers will be involved in the trainings to discuss loan application and management procedures. As a result of the project, owners of small tourism businesses will increase their knowledge of service standards, and improve their financial management capacity to handle a bank credit.

American Chamber of Commerce in Georgia

\$903

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To provide informational support to the tourism industry by equipping tourist information centers, specific tourist sites, and the official web-site with the high quality and accurate information on the Georgian tourism sector. The project will produce electronic versions of high quality Georgian-English brochures and foldable maps on major regions, such as Mtskheta-Mtianeti, Upper Svaneti, Racha-Lechkhumi, Samegrelo, Guria, Pshav-Khevsureti, Iemerti, Tusheti, Lower Kartli, Javakheti, the sites such as Vardzia and around, Kazbegi, David Gareja and around, Britvisi, and Tbilisi surroundings. In addition tourism product leaflets will be developed promoting different types of tourism such as cultural, ecological, bird watching, arts and crafts, harvest, jeep safari and agricultural tours. The samples of the publications will be discussed through the focus groups involving representatives of the expatriate community, local tourists, and tourism professionals. Eurasia Foundation will further pursue the project by printing the electronic versions of the publications. The brochures will be distributed among tourist information centers and will be posted on the official site of State Department of Tourism and Resorts. The project will increase access to quality and accurate information on the Georgian tourism sector for both local and international tourists.

Training and Consultancy Center

\$13,008

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To promote development of the tourism industry in Georgia by building awareness of service standards and business management principles among small and medium-sized tourism enterprises (SMEs) in Mtskheta Mtianeti and Kakheti. The project will provide four six-day trainings for around sixty tourism SMEs in Signaghi, Telavi, Pasaunauri/Gudaunauri, and Kazbegi in tourism-specific service marketing and financial management. The training complements the government-sponsored Employment Initiative 2007, which provides subsidized loans to tourism SMEs through a partnership with Procredit Bank. The training will

target the clients of the Bank as well as other individuals interested in starting or expanding a tourism business. ProCredit Bank credit officers will be involved in the trainings to discuss loan application and management procedures. As a result of the project, owners of small tourism businesses will increase their knowledge of service standards, and improve their financial management capacity to handle a bank credit.

International Trade Policy and Law Center

\$12,749

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

The proposed linkage grant will contribute to the economic development of the countries of the South Caucasus by developing the capacity of local businesses to export goods and services. The partners will focus on promoting locally produced goods and services through the development of quality print, electronic, and web-based versions of a South Caucasus Export Catalog. The catalog will feature comprehensive information on producers and service providers located in Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia and will be distributed through embassies, consulates, and large importing-exporting organizations in foreign countries. The successfully implemented project will support the establishment of new cross-border business links both within and outside the South Caucasus region.

2.1 Citizen Political/Economic Participation

Liberty Institute

\$15,810

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

The project will contribute to improved public policy making in the South Caucasus through the use the Town Hall Meeting (THM) system, which has already been tested and implemented in Armenia. The Project's partners will develop multi-language support for the computer-based elements of the system, and the Armenian partner will train their Azerbaijani and Georgian counterparts on related facilitation and system implementation skills. After the completing the skills and system transfer, the partners will jointly implement a pilot demonstration of the THM system in Georgia. Eurasia Foundation (EF)-SCCP anticipates collaborating with the OSCE's Environmental Security Initiative (ENVSEC) to implement an environment-related THM project in all three countries. More broadly, EF-SCCP expects the project to increase the level of the public participation in the decision-making processes in the South Caucasus.

Policy Research Group

\$26,605

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To support advancement of political science in Georgia through the promotion of research capacity of young Georgian scholars. The project will create four original monographs on the issues central to current politics and security issues. The books will undergo a preliminary external review and will be discussed in workshops with the participation of peer scientists. The monographs will be distributed among universities teaching political sciences as well as major libraries and governmental agencies. They will serve as reading materials for political and security studies courses. The project will result in an improvement of the level of research and teaching of political studies and will inform the policy making process.

Hypertension Study Society

\$19,968

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To monitor the progress of primary health care reform in three regions of Georgia, particularly as it impacts the early detection and treatment of cardiovascular disease. The project will actively involve medical personnel in the primary healthcare service and the target groups of the population, who are beneficiaries of the reform. The activities will include survey, training and public information campaign in Tbilisi, Kakheti and Imereti. The project will elaborate recommendations about improving the management of cardiovascular diseases at a primary healthcare level. As a result of the project, family doctors and nurses who are on the frontline of the primary healthcare reform process and who largely determine the quality of medical service, will be equipped with skills and knowledge of civic monitoring. Public awareness of the monitoring of the

healthcare reforms will increase and the authorities will receive evidence-based recommendation for improving the management and prevention of endemic cardiovascular diseases in the country.

Economic Policy Research Center

\$17,100

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To support creation of efficient trade flow system in Georgia through valuable research and recommendations in the field by a team of experts from Economic Policy and Research Center. The project seeks to evaluate the link between negative balance of trade in the Georgian agricultural sector and rural unemployment, and will develop concrete recommendations for improving Georgia's trade competitiveness in this sector, which employs over 40% of Georgia's population. This research is very timely as Georgia is considering a bilateral trade agreement with the EU. The grantee will disseminate findings through a broad public outreach campaign by preparing articles for print in leading Georgian daily newspapers, developing informational bulletins and organizing roundtable discussions. At the end of the project the grantee will organize the conference to evaluate the impact of the project to stakeholders in the Georgian government and international financial institutions.

Eurasia Partnership Foundation: Georgia

\$982,036

Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan

To create a new indigenous foundation, the Eurasia Partnership Foundation (EPF) in the South Caucasus. EPF inherits a strong array of programs from EF in all three countries of the region. With a diverse, international Board of Trustees, it will position itself as one of the South Caucasus' leading civil society organizations. EPF will implement programs to increase citizen participation in public administration; encourage community volunteerism and activism among the youth; build local capacity for research and policy making; and build relationships across borders.

Civic Education Youth Center

\$12,553

Georgia

To promote transparency and efficiency of land reform and its major component privatization of the state-owned agricultural lands by civic monitoring and proactive citizen participation in the land reform. The project implemented in partnership with the regional civil society organizations will accomplish civic control over the whole process of privatization of the municipal agricultural lands in Signakhi and Kvareli by qualified monitoring, proactive media campaign informing the public about all aspects of privatization of these lands, including possible violations. The project will involve local communities in the monitoring of the land privatization in these regions and contribute to the mutually advantageous dialogue between the local governments and communities.

Human Rights Protection Center

\$15,100

Georgia

To enhance citizen participation and information in the budget planning and thereby increase transparency of budget spending for the municipal improvements service of the city of Batumi. The project aims at establishing a continuous public oversight over the budgeting of the Batumi municipal improvement service by involvement of civil society organizations, ordinary citizens and the local media. The monitoring of the municipal improvements service will accompany a dialogue between civic sector, condominiums and the local government about improvements of public services. The project will enhance cooperation between the Media and Civil Society organizations (CSO) during the monitoring, contribute to the establishing a culture of mutually advantageous cooperation and dialogue between citizens and government and increase capacity of the grantee in civic monitoring and make newly created condominiums in the city efficient and proactive participants of civic control over the municipal government.

Ilia Chavchavadze State University

128

\$18,089

Georgia

To support the reform of Georgia's social service system through the advancement of social work education. The project will enhance the newly-established Master of Social Work (MSW) Program at Ilia Chavchavadze State University through creation of a departmental resource center, development of Georgian language teaching materials, and training of field work instructors. The resource center will be equipped with computers, hard copies of textbooks and access to electronic libraries. Georgian language readers with major texts will be developed for thirteen courses. In addition, a special web-site will be created to serve as an updatable repository of syllabi and various teaching materials. To improve the quality of internships, an international consultant will train thirty field instructors in how to provide supervision for the second-year master's students. The trainees will also be equipped with a field manual with specific recommendations on how to coordinate and assess student work. The project will improve both the theoretical and practical components of the MSW Program by equipping the Department with teaching and research resources and strengthening the link between students and social service agencies where they will receive practical training.

Social Science Center

\$25,431

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To promote broad and informed participation by the electorate during the upcoming 2008 parliamentary and presidential elections. The project will train Georgian media, especially in the regions, in providing citizens with unbiased information about political candidates in the pre-election period, and ensure professional and unbiased coverage of the elections. The objectives will be achieved through a baseline needs assessment of the professional preparedness of journalists in covering of elections, training of journalists and training of selected journalists as trainers in the regions. The project will create and manage a network of the trained journalists and media organizations in Tbilisi and 10 target cities. The project will conduct follow-up evaluation of its activities. The expected outcomes are enhanced professionalism and analytical skills of the involved journalists, which will lead to balanced and comprehensive coverage of the elections, and informed decision-making by citizens on election day. The project represents both a continuation and expansion of the activities implemented within the project Citizens' Informed Choice: Media and Elections funded by European Commission Delegation to South Caucasus in 2007.

Justice and Liberty Association

\$526

Georgia

To support strengthened civic oversight over Georgia's defense and security agencies and to increase transparency and public awareness about the process under which Georgia is seeking admission to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). As Georgia enters into the intensified dialogue stage of its push towards membership in NATO, effective public oversight over the reforms in the defense and security fields will be essential if Georgia is to be accepted into the next Membership Action Program phase. To achieve these goals the project will train media and government officials on transparency in security agencies, provide civic monitoring on the implementation of NATO-related programs by the government, conduct a public information campaign about the findings, and develop recommendations, including legal initiatives for improved cooperation between NGOs and Georgia's defense and security structures.

International Society for Fair Elections and Democracy

\$19,047

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To promote the participation of first-time voters in Georgia's upcoming parliamentary elections. The three-month project will deliver 100 interactive training sessions for young people in four regions of Georgia: Kvemo Kartli, Shida Kartli, Samtskhe-Javakheti and Adjara, including youth from ethnic minority groups, and will also wide disseminate a brochure 'I Vote among the beneficiaries. The project's target is to reach up to 2300 young people. The project's activities will reduced the possibility for election fraud, of elections, increase interest of first-time voters in civic activism and equip them with the skills and knowledge for election monitoring. These activities will develop a sense of active citizenship among the first-time voters.

Young Lawyers Association

\$12,234

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To increase the turnout of well-informed voters, including representatives of ethnic minorities, in Georgia's upcoming presidential election and plebiscite (to determine the date of parliamentary elections). The project will target a large group of voters in Tbilisi and the regions densely populated with Armenian and Azeri minorities through newspaper articles, hotline communication, and a regional network of activists and experts to provide voters with accurate information and quick answers to all election-related questions. The project will focus on developing a close ties to the local media during the pre-election period and is expected to contribute to greater voter interest and turnout on the election day, increasing the likelihood of an election that accurately reflects the will of the people.

Internews Georgia

\$34,322

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To promote a fair and transparent presidential election and plebiscite on January 5, 2008 in Georgia through the proactive participation of well-informed voters in regions and balanced media coverage of the pre-election period. Voters are especially confused about the plebiscite on the timing of parliamentary elections, and it is important for them to understand exactly what they are voting for to avoid low turnout or potential election fraud. The project will educate voters about election-related issues and increase their awareness of and participation in the January 5 poll through round-table discussions and televised talk-shows with election experts. The project will provide training for staff at 24 regional television stations in production and promotion of television programs on socio-political issues. The project will reach a relatively large number of voters in the short time remaining before the actual day of poll, contributing to a more informed electorate. Some of the project activities will be supported by the Institute for Sustainable Communities and the International Foundation for Election Systems.

Internews Georgia

\$46,675

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To promote ideals of common humanity and tolerance among the youth and wider viewing public of the South Caucasus countries through strengthening mutual understanding and sustained collaboration among young journalists and film directors from Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia. The project is a follow-up activity proposed by the same partnership group, and it will further strengthen the established region-wide mechanism that enables young journalists and film directors to undertake joint creative work. This year the project partners will select 10 young media professionals from each South Caucasus country to take part in the project. The multi-national group of 30 journalists and film directors will form 15 two-country production teams each comprising one lead and one assistant participant. Under the guidance of the partner organizations, the participants will have a chance to review and accept the project's code of ethics, take master classes, and produce from 15 to 21 documentaries promoting the ideals of compassion, humanity, and tolerance. The project partners will ensure a more extensive publicity campaign for the project throughout the region, which will culminate with the second South Caucasus documentary film festival in Tbilisi in which the best films will be selected by an independent jury. This will also include broadcasting the best documentaries in the air of select national TV channels, and a series of stakeholder discussions in each country. The project will further stimulate people-to-people diplomacy and public dialogue in the South Caucasus region.

Georgian-Abkhazian Mixed Families Union

\$11,619

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

The project is a contribution to the confidence and tolerance building between the Georgians and Abkhazians through the restoration of relations between the mixed Georgian-Abkhaz families separated by the conflict. The project activities, which will target 200 mixed Georgian-Abkhaz families, include confidence-building

and awareness-raising activities to establish and strengthen dialogue between the Georgians and Abkhaz using the methods of public diplomacy. This includes roundtable meetings, seminars, training and joint public activities for restoration of the family ties and reconciliation between Georgians and Abkhaz people. Through these measures, the project can enhance links between Georgian and Abkhaz civic organizations, increase awareness of the role of public diplomacy and create better conditions for continued dialogue between private citizens. The project is a contribution to the Georgian state policy for peaceful settlement of the conflict.

Education Development Institute

\$18,159

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To support the reform of university education through the promotion of Georgia's participation in the Bologna process. The project will develop the National Qualifications Framework (NQF) with the participation of academics, nongovernmental organizations, and the Ministry of Education and Science. The framework will be developed in accordance with the requirements of the Bologna process. It will consist of the general part and descriptions of sixteen fields of study. The document will include the following elements, the cycles of university education described by learning outcomes, workload, title of qualification, types of award for different cycles, link between cycles, and life-long learning. The framework for each field of study will be developed by a work group involving representatives of all accredited universities. The information will be posted on the web to ensure maximum access. The framework is expected to be adopted by the Ministry of Education and Science as a guiding document in the process of programmatic accreditation. The project will increase public understanding of the Bologna process and create a basis for curricular reform at Georgian universities.

Green Alternative Association

\$13,872

Georgia

To build capacity and increase involvement of local community groups and civil society organizations of Kvemo Svaneti and Racha Lechkhumi to monitor, effectively participate and influence decision-making related to the local forestry sector management. Through the monitoring and advocacy activities the project aims at mobilizing all stakeholders in the reform of forest sector to increase efficiency of power decentralization and ensure fair and equal distribution of benefits regarding forest ownership and management. The project is designed to produce long-lasting impact regarding increased involvement of citizens in decision-making. The project's beneficiaries are expected to be 50 civil society organizations (CSO) in Oni, Ambrolauri and Lentekhi municipalities of Racha Lechkhumi and Kvemo Svaneti regions, about 32,000 inhabitants of these municipalities, about 75 representatives of local self-governance bodies of these municipalities and forestry department of the Ministry of Environment and Protection of Natural Resources.

“Saphari”

\$28,549

Georgia

To address the issue of domestic violence in Georgia through expansion of the regional victims support network and targeted public information campaigns and trainings to raise awareness of Georgia's newly passed law on domestic violence. The project will enhance the results achieved during two previously-funded projects by strengthening the regional network of assistance to victims and creating two new support centers in Batumi and Akhmeta. The project will continue to refine methods of psycho-social rehabilitation for victims living in the special shelter, and provide training for target groups responsible for enforcement of the law on domestic violence, in addition to further public information campaigns on the signs of domestic violence and how victims can seek help. The grantee will work closely with other civil society organizations and governmental agencies to monitor the issue of domestic violence in Georgia. This project is co-funded with Phillip Morris.

Young Lawyers Association

131

\$18,847

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To increase the turnout of well-informed voters, including representatives of ethnic minorities, in Georgia's upcoming presidential election and plebiscite (to determine the date of parliamentary elections). The project will target a large group of voters in Tbilisi and the regions densely populated with Armenian and Azeri minorities through newspaper articles, hotline communication, and a regional network of activists and experts to provide voters with accurate information and quick answers to all election-related questions. The project will focus on developing a close ties to the local media during the pre-election period and is expected to contribute to greater voter interest and turnout on the election day, increasing the likelihood of an election that accurately reflects the will of the people.

Association of Young Economists

\$9,341

Georgia

To improve information of local communities about authorities and services of local government of the city of Kutaisi with increased citizen participation in the local budgetary processes and apply modern form of management and administration of public finances in the local self-governance. The project will organize meetings between communities and governments in Kutaisi about topical aspects of budget spending; create nine groups of advocacy of citizens' interests, conduct training about advocacy in budgetary process for citizens and local authorities. After civic monitoring and expert analysis of the budgetary process of 2007 and analysis of the draft budget 2008 the develop recommendations for the local government about improvement of citizen participation in budgetary issues and advocate it together with communities. The monitoring will be supported by wide-scale public information campaign. To improve quality of civic monitoring the grantee will collaborate with the local branch of Georgian Young Lawyers' Association local communities and other civil society organizations and enhance their capacity of becoming proactive public watchdogs in the budgetary process. The project's outcome is to increase citizen participation component in the city budget planning to make the budget more oriented on communities needs.

Institute of Social Studies and Analysis

\$14,929

Georgia

To prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases among Georgian youth through an educational campaign and discussions in public schools throughout Georgia. As drug abuse is the leading causes of HIV/AIDS in Georgia, the grantee will conduct a wide-range study on the issues of drug abuse and safe sex targeting 2, 800 young people between the ages 15-18 in order to define the level of awareness and attitudes in youth and to develop the appropriate outreach messages. The second phase of the project involves a series of seminars and public meetings in over 100 schools across Georgia, aimed at increasing awareness of young people in schools as well as teachers and other school administrators on the issues of drug abuse and unsafe sex. Along with the educational campaign the experts from the project team will help develop special, easy to understand outreach and promotional materials. There will also be a special documentary prepared on HIV/AIDS awareness. The expected outcome of the project is increased understanding among young people that drug abuse and unsafe sex can lead to HIV infection.

Transparency International

\$9,454

Georgia

To promote efficiency of reforms in healthcare system and improve capacity of civil society to monitor the reform in a secondary healthcare. The project will focus on transparency of reforms in secondary healthcare and conduct civil monitoring of privatization of hospitals and tenders announced for privatization to double-check fairness of this process and compliance with respective laws and regulations. The monitoring of implementation of privatization agreements will produce recommendations to be submitted to the relevant state bodies. In parallel, training of journalists will be conducted to increase coverage of healthcare sector in the media and help media to provide professional and fair coverage of the ongoing healthcare reform. Promoting of public oversight of healthcare sector, involvement of media in civic

monitoring and profound analysis of the course of reform will enable the state bodies concerned to refine privatization in healthcare system and contribute to increased public participation in this process.

Junior Achievement

\$9,531

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To improve the quality of economics instruction in Georgian high schools using the Junior Achievement model. The project will train around 300 teachers to use the Civic Economics Program, which is based on the Junior Achievement Applied Economics textbooks. The three-part program contains two units on economic theory and a practical unit called Student Company, during which students learn how to start and manage a real business. The seminars, to be conducted both in Tbilisi and the regions of Georgia, will train teachers both in theory and practical aspects of the program. After completion of the training the teachers will be regularly advised by the Junior Achievement trainers. The activities are co-funded by Procredit Bank, which is financing publication of Civic Economics textbooks and the re-training of the Junior Achievement trainers at the beginning of the project.

“Icarus”

\$8,803

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To promote vocational education reform in the service sector by supporting the development of the first tourism vocation school. The project will make curricula and study materials for 9-month training and 3-month retraining programs for 7 professions: barmen, cooks, confectioners, waiters, housekeepers, hotel receptionists, and hotel reservation employees. The programs will be based on the professional qualification standards to be developed in cooperation with the representatives of the private sector. The project will also develop a set of outreach materials for potential applicants and employers such as leaflets, a brochure and the college web-site. During the first year around 300 individuals will be enrolled in these courses. After completion of the project, in the years 2008-2009 the college is planning to develop curricula and study materials for four advanced professional programs. The school will become a source of professionals for hotels, restaurants, travel companies, and so on. Introducing even a small number of qualified professionals into the tourism workforce will raise the standards and expectations of the industry. The school will also affect the overall education reform. If successful, it can be emulated and modified for vocational education in other industries.

Support Monitoring of Election Administrations

In support of monitoring the administration of upcoming parliamentary elections. The grant competition is a part of a larger EPF program aimed at building and strengthening vibrant civil society in Georgia by supporting citizens engagement in the decision making process in a more effective and sustained way. The competition is open to civil society organizations registered in Georgia.

Regional Media Association

\$28,850

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To support fair and transparent parliamentary elections in Georgia through a print media campaign to provide voters with up to date information on candidates and voting procedures. A coalition of nine popular newspapers in 7 regions (Ajara, Imereti, Kakheti, Samtskhe-Javakheti, Guria, Shida Kartli, Samegrelo) of Georgia will publish special inserts in their newspapers, hold town hall meetings and form election monitoring groups. The project represents an extension of an earlier successful project implemented in Guria region during the January 5, 2008 presidential elections. Through a combination of activities for voters' education and monitoring of voting in the regions the project contributes to raising public awareness about the need for fair elections and increasing transparency and accountability of local election administration.

Public Movement Multinational Georgia

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To mobilize local communities in Kvemo-Kartli and Samtskhe-Javakheti regions for pre-election and election monitoring and preparing them for a public response to possible violations. Over 200 community activists who have been trained on election procedures for the January 5 presidential election campaign will conduct monitoring of parliamentary elections and simultaneously assist their fellow citizens in realization and protection of their voting rights to prevent vote-rigging and other violations. The project will collect election-related complaints and proceed with furthering them to the courts and central election commission for response. A proactive media campaign will enhance publicity of the project activities and contribute to better and wider involvement of communities in the monitoring and protection of their votes. The civic monitoring of election administration in the regions that have been subject to voting fraud in the past will contribute to the overall transparency of the election in Georgia.

Moldova

2.1 Citizen Political/Economic Participation

Center for Independent Journalism

\$45,162

Moldova

To strengthen media participation in combating widespread corruption in Moldova. With support from the Millennium Challenge Corporation and USAID, the grantee will research and propose amendments to national legislation on public funding for media, advocating for their adoption in Parliament. In addition, the grantee will monitor and analyze media coverage of corruption-related issues, including researching sources of media financing and focusing on the types and conditions of public money used for this purpose. The report will be distributed both in electronic and print form to all the stakeholders during the major project events and other relevant activities involving the grantee.

League for Defense of Consumers Rights

\$19,893

Moldova

To improve the legal and institutional framework of consumer rights protection in Moldova. The grantee will monitor consumer rights in Moldova, recommending legislative and regulatory improvements to responsible institutions and state bodies. Additionally, the grantee will inform citizens on consumer rights and provide legal consultations through a newspaper and a website. The project will lead to improved legislative and regulatory framework for consumer rights and assist citizens in protecting their rights as consumers of goods and services.

League for the Defence of Human Rights

\$19,869

Moldova

To monitor the Gagauz-Yeri Popular Assembly Election by conducting a domestic non-partisan observation campaign. The grantee will identify and train a mission of over 80 observers to monitor different aspects of the campaign and Election Day, and conduct a parallel tabulation of votes cast at each polling station. Funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and co-funded by OSCE Mission to Moldova, the project will reduce the likelihood of administrative and other election violations, helping to ensure that the results are a true reflection of the intention of voters.

Local Anticorruption Initiative

The goal of this initiative is to increase the role of civil society and media in reducing systemic corruption in the Republic of Moldova at local and regional level

Institute for Democracy

\$14,454

Moldova

To promote anticorruption education for students and to decrease corruption at Comrat State University and other universities in the region. The grantee will develop a new course on corruption at Comrat State University and promote it to other area universities. To campaign against corruption, the grantee will organize a variety of education and outreach initiatives to inform teachers and students of the negative consequences of corruption and encourage them to report incidences of it. Supported by USAID and the Swedish International Development Agency, this project will increase general awareness of corruption issues, decreasing tolerance for corruption among students, teaching staff and the general public in Comrat and surrounding regions.

Moldova National Anticorruption Initiatives

Transparency and Human Rights Center

\$21,696

Moldova

To introduce a new mechanism for preventing corruption at higher education institutions in Moldova. The grantee will monitor two universities and propose recommendations combating academic fraud and for increased transparency in governance and financial management at higher education institutions. Supported by USAID and the Swedish International Development Agency, the project will create a successful model for diminishing corruption within the educational system in Moldova.

“Access-Info” Center

\$46,752

Moldova

To improve access to public information and enhance the Moldovan government's transparency. The grantee will monitor the application of the law on access to information and conduct public awareness campaigns, consulting and assisting the general public on issues of free access to public information. The project will also advocate changes to improve public information legislation and organize trainings for public authorities, NGO representatives and media about public access to information. Funded by USAID and Sida, the project will contribute to growing citizens' demands for free public information and a more transparent governing process.

Association of Independent Press

\$40,002

Moldova

To raise awareness and increase public debate on national anticorruption policies. The grantee will publish 10 issues of a newspaper insert through 18 national and regional newspapers across the country. The inserts will provide readers with information on the status, progress and setbacks of state anticorruption programs, advocate policy changes and educate the public on corruption. The publications will also stimulate investigative journalists to disclose corrupt activities. Funded by USAID and Sida, the project will encourage citizens to participate in the discourse to improve government-run anticorruption programs and decrease tolerance of corruption among the general public.

2.1 Citizen Political/Economic Participation

East Europe Foundation (EEF)

\$468,349

Ukraine

To create a new Ukrainian foundation, the East Europe Foundation (EEF). EEF will implement a diverse portfolio of local, national and international programs to build on the work of the Eurasia Foundation in Ukraine over the past 14 years. EEF will position itself as one of Ukraine's leading civil society organizations, pursuing development programs at the local level while empowering citizens to participate in nation-wide policy debates. This new foundation will be driven by local needs, financed by public and private donors and governed by a board comprised of local leaders and international figures with deep knowledge and commitment to the region.

Appendix D

**Non-U.S. Government Grants and Co-Funded Grants
by Country and Strategic Objective**

October 1, 2007 – March 31, 2008

Armenia

1.3 Private Enterprise Development

Marketing Association of Armenia

\$5,976

Armenia

The proposed linkage grant will contribute to the economic development of the countries of the South Caucasus by developing the capacity of local businesses to export goods and services. The partners will focus on promoting locally produced goods and services through the development of quality print, electronic, and web-based versions of a South Caucasus Export Catalog. The catalog will feature comprehensive information on producers and service providers located in Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia and will be distributed through embassies, consulates, and large importing-exporting organizations in foreign countries. The successfully implemented project will support the establishment of new cross-border business links both within and outside the South Caucasus region.

2.1 Citizen Political/Economic Participation

Center for Agribusiness and Rural Development

\$12,006

Armenia

To contribute to the establishment of effective and efficient food standards and safety systems in the three countries of the South Caucasus through the development of high quality comparative policy options for relevant government agencies in the context of the EU's European Neighborhood Policy (ENP). The partners will undertake comprehensive research and analysis of legal and practical aspects of food standards and safety in Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia. This includes a unified research methodology and comparative analysis across all three countries of the South Caucasus. Each partner will also periodically convene a working group consisting of local stakeholders in their respective country to help shape the contents of the policy report. The partners will deliver one integrated regional public policy report that features an overview of food standards and safety problems in the three countries of the South Caucasus, country-by-country policy analysis, EU and ENP-related mechanisms for addressing food standards and safety, and policy advice to be brought to the attention of national governments. Part of the research will focus on legal and practical options for diminishing corruption in the food standards and safety system. The project should contribute to the improved national policies on food standards and safety, decreased corrupt opportunities in the area and greater government-civil society dialogue on the issue, as well as should assist all three countries in meeting ENP commitments.

Eurasia Partnership Foundation: Armenia

\$55,025

Armenia

Armenia-Turkey Cross-Border Dialogue and Cooperation Program

The goal of this competition is to promote improved dialogue and cooperation between representatives of the non-government, government and private sectors in Armenia and their Turkish counterparts. The competition will support the implementation of cross-border projects by Armenian organizations in multiple areas, including education, culture, youth development, business development, and local governance.

Komitas State Quartet

\$34,045

Armenia

To promote improved dialogue and cooperation between the Armenian and Turkish societies, which will be

achieved through the establishment of a bridge of tolerance and collaboration between the artistic and music-lover communities of the two countries. In particular, the grantee and its partners in Turkey will arrange for a cycle of exchange concerts by the Komitas State Quartet and Bosphorus Quartet in Turkey and Armenia respectively, as well as for an exchange visit by one Armenian and one Turkish artist to and their performance in Turkey and Armenia respectively. The project partners will ensure an effective publicity campaign in both Armenia and Turkey. The project will rehabilitate the process of cultural exchanges between the two countries that first started back in 2002, which will hopefully accelerate the process of normalization of bi-lateral relations at both the grass-roots and formal levels.

Government, Civil Society and Media Participation in the Fight against Corruption

Current competition is conducted among print and electronic media organizations. Eurasia Foundation will provide at least six grants in support of anti-corruption activities to media outlets and journalist associations. The goal of the competition is to increase the role of Armenia's media in the fight against corruption. The related objectives of this competition are:

- *To strengthen the capacities of journalists and media organizations in anti-corruption reporting;*
- *To establish an effective anti-corruption network for improved cooperation and information exchange between the media, civil society organizations and the government*

Association for Education and Research

\$26,084

Armenia

To increase the transparency of Local Government bodies in the Syunik and Gegharkunik regions of Armenia. The grantee will develop a curriculum based on international best practices that can be used to train municipal staff on preventing, identifying and fighting corruption. For this purpose, the experience of Bolivia in promoting municipal transparency and World Bank resources in this field will be used. The grantee will conduct a series of trainings for 10 municipalities in the two regions and will engage the staff in the development of long-term anticorruption strategic plans for their communities. A national workshop will create a forum for community leaders to discuss and revise their strategies. The results of the project will be disseminated through the publication of guidelines for combating corruption in local government and a press conference. The guidelines and training modules developed by the project can be used to replicate the project in other regions as well.

Union of Government Employees

\$18,056

Armenia

To reduce the risk of corruption in the civil service through increased civil society participation in the work of the Civil Service Council and three targeted ministries (Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Armenia, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs). The grantee will work with a team of four local NGOs to monitor 170 recruitment and attestation events for senior and chief civil servants at the Civil Service Council and three target ministries. The team will use a modified questionnaire and a monitoring manual developed during their recent Eurasia Foundation funded project. As a result of the monitoring process, the grantee will produce three interim and one final report that describe the results and findings of the monitoring process. The results of these reports will be discussed in three interim workshops. An action plan for improving the recruitment and attestation process as well as any resulting legislative recommendations will be discussed at the workshop. The results of the project will also be disseminated to a wider stakeholder community and the general public through two TV discussions and published reports.

Union of Government Employees

\$3,651

Armenia (Yerevan City)

The goal of the project is to reduce corruption risks in the civil service through increased civil society participation in the work of the Civil Service Council and three targeted ministries. In order to achieve this goal the project will build on the findings and experience of a completed project implemented by the grantee

in partnership with the Civil Service Council. The grantee will work with a team of four local NGOs to monitor 170 recruitment and attestation events for senior and chief civil servants at the Civil Service Council and three targeted ministries. The team will use a modified questionnaire and a monitoring manual developed during their recent project for this program as well. As a result of the monitoring process, the grantee will produce three interim and one final report that describe the results and findings of the monitoring process. The results of these reports will be discussed in three interim workshops. An action plan for improving the recruitment and attestation process as well as any resulting legislative recommendations will be discussed at the workshop. The results of the project will also be disseminated to a wider stakeholder community and the general public through two TV discussions and the dissemination of the published reports. As a result of the project, stronger cooperation will be established between NGOs and state agencies and the recruitment and attestation processes at the CSC and the target ministries will be improved.

Azerbaijan

1.3 Private Enterprise Development

Marketing Specialists of Azerbaijan

\$4,105

Azerbaijan

The proposed linkage grant will contribute to the economic development of the countries of the South Caucasus by developing the capacity of local businesses to export goods and services. The partners will focus on promoting locally produced goods and services through the development of quality print, electronic, and web-based versions of a South Caucasus Export Catalog. The catalog will feature comprehensive information on producers and service providers located in Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia and will be distributed through embassies, consulates, and large importing-exporting organizations in foreign countries. The successfully implemented project will support the establishment of new cross-border business links both within and outside the South Caucasus region.

2.1 Citizen Political/Economic Participation

Buta Children Humanitarian Foundation

\$31,460

Azerbaijan

This program seeks to increase the transparency of educational budgets by developing the financial management capacities of school administrators and increasing citizen oversight over schools' budget expenditures. In addition to working with a team of local lawyers to analyze draft education legislation, EF is partnering with two local organizations, BUTA-Children's Humanitarian Foundation in Baku and Knowledge Public Union in Ganja, to train school administrators on assessing and prioritizing their most pressing needs and designing annual budgets with parental and community members' involvement.

Eurasia Partnership Foundation

\$ 357,000

Union of Independent Consumers

\$14,585

Azerbaijan

To contribute to the establishment of effective and efficient food standards and safety systems in the three countries of the South Caucasus through the development of high quality comparative policy options for relevant government agencies in the context of the EU's European Neighborhood Policy (ENP). The partners will undertake comprehensive research and analysis of legal and practical aspects of food standards and safety in Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia. This includes a unified research methodology and comparative analysis across all three countries of the South Caucasus. Each partner will also periodically convene a working group consisting of local stakeholders in their respective country to help shape the contents of the policy report. The partners will deliver one integrated regional public policy report that features an overview of food standards and safety problems in the three countries of the South Caucasus, country-by-country policy analysis, EU and ENP-related mechanisms for addressing food standards and safety, and policy advice to be brought to the attention of national governments. Part of the research will focus on legal and practical options for diminishing corruption in the food standards and safety system. The project should contribute to the improved national policies on food standards and safety, decreased corrupt opportunities in the area and greater government-civil society dialogue on the issue, as well as should assist all three countries in meeting ENP commitments.

Internews Azerbaijan

\$39,673

Azerbaijan

To promote ideals of common humanity and tolerance among the youth and wider viewing public of the South Caucasus countries through strengthening mutual understanding and sustained collaboration among young journalists and film directors from Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia. The project is a follow-up activity proposed by the same partnership group, and it will further strengthen the established region-wide mechanism that enables young journalists and film directors to undertake joint creative work. This year the project partners will select 10 young media professionals from each South Caucasus country to take part in the project. The multi-national group of 30 journalists and film directors will form 15 two-country production teams each comprising one lead and one assistant participant. Under the guidance of the partner organizations, the participants will have a chance to review and accept the project's code of ethics, take master classes, and produce from 15 to 21 documentaries promoting the ideals of compassion, humanity, and tolerance. The project partners will ensure a more extensive publicity campaign for the project throughout the region, which will culminate with the second South Caucasus documentary film festival in Tbilisi in which the best films will be selected by an independent jury. This will also include broadcasting the best documentaries in the air of select national TV channels, and a series of stakeholder discussions in each country. The project will further stimulate people-to-people diplomacy and public dialogue in the South Caucasus region.

Youth for Development

\$23,816

Azerbaijan

The project will contribute to improved public policy making in the South Caucasus through the use the Town Hall Meeting (THM) system, which has already been tested and implemented in Armenia. The Project's partners will develop multi-language support for the computer-based elements of the system, and the Armenian partner will train their Azerbaijani and Georgian counterparts on related facilitation and system implementation skills. After the completing the skills and system transfer, the partners will jointly implement a pilot demonstration of the THM system in Georgia. EF-SCCP anticipates collaborating with the OSCE's Environmental Security Initiative (ENVSEC) to implement an environment-related THM project in all three countries. More broadly, EF-SCCP expects the project to increase the level of the public participation in the decision-making processes in the South Caucasus.

Georgia

1.3 Private Enterprise Development

Women's Fund of Georgia

\$33,366

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To promote entrepreneurship among women in the rural Georgia by improving their understanding of how to start a business and facilitating access to credit. Fifty women from Imereti and Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti regions will be trained according to a seven-day course How to Start a Business designed by Friends of Georgia Foundation and University of Groningen, Holland to empower women. In addition to trainings, a special guarantee fund will be created with the assistance of Dutch Rotary Clubs. The guarantee fund will back up the loan applications of the trainees to Georgian microfinance organizations. The project will increase enthusiasm for entrepreneurship and improve understanding of business planning among less advantaged women in rural areas. With a guarantee back-up of 20,000 euros at least 20 women will have an opportunity to access microcredit and start their own business.

Association of Marketing

\$5,019

Georgia

To promote business education in Georgia by increasing access of Georgian students and practitioners to modern marketing literature. The first stage of the project envisions translation of Georgia's most widely-used marketing textbook, Marketing: An Introduction, by Gary Armstrong and Philip Kotler, from English into Georgian, allowing a wider audience access to contemporary marketing concepts. Teams of lecturers and students from Georgia's two leading business schools, European School of Management and Caucasus School of Business, will develop 19 case studies and 16 marketing vignettes about Georgian companies to be included with book publication. The case studies and vignettes relate general marketing concepts to concrete cases, further building on the accessibility of marketing literature in Georgia. Central and Eastern European Management Development Association (CEEMAN) experts will review and comment on the cases. 200 copies of the 2,000 copies published will be distributed among universities and libraries, and the remaining copies will be sold. The revenues from book sales will be spent on the translation and publication of Marketing Research by Naresh Malhotra and Mark Peterson, a more advanced marketing textbook, for further education. The books will increase Georgian students' and business practitioners' understanding of basic principles of marketing and their practical applications in Georgia and abroad, and will improve Georgian lecturers' and students' grasp of business case writing techniques.

Training and Consultancy Center

\$13,008

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To promote development of the tourism industry in Georgia by building awareness of service standards and business management principles among small and medium-sized tourism enterprises (SMEs) in Mtskheta-Mtianeti and Kakheti. The project will provide four six-day trainings for around sixty tourism SMEs in Signaghi, Telavi, Pasaauri/Gudaauri, and Kazbegi in tourism-specific service marketing and financial management. The training complements the government-sponsored Employment Initiative 2007, which provides subsidized loans to tourism SMEs through a partnership with Procredit Bank. The training will target the clients of the Bank as well as other individuals interested in starting or expanding a tourism business. ProCredit Bank credit officers will be involved in the trainings to discuss loan application and management procedures. As a result of the project, owners of small tourism businesses will increase their knowledge of service standards, and improve their financial management capacity to handle a bank credit.

American Chamber of Commerce in Georgia

\$903

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To provide informational support to the tourism industry by equipping tourist information centers, specific tourist sites, and the official web-site with the high quality and accurate information on the Georgian tourism sector. The project will produce electronic versions of high quality Georgian-English brochures and foldable maps on major regions such as Mtskheta-Mtianeti, Upper Svaneti, Racha-Lehckhumi, Samegrelo, Guria, Pshav-Khevsureti, Iemerti, Tusheti, Lower Kartli, Javakheti, the sites such as Vardzia and around, Kazbegi, David Gareja and around, Britvisi, and Tbilisi surroundings. In addition tourism product leaflets will be developed promoting different types of tourism such as cultural, ecological, bird watching, arts and crafts, harvest, jeep safari and agricultural tours. The samples of the publications will be discussed through the focus groups involving representatives of the expatriate community, local tourists, and tourism professionals. The Eurasia Foundation will further pursue the project by printing the electronic versions of the publications. The brochures will be distributed among tourist information centers and will be posted on the official site of State Department of Tourism and Resorts. The project will increase access to quality and accurate information on the Georgian tourism sector for both local and international tourists.

Training and Development Group

\$10,290

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To promote tourism development by building awareness of service standards and business management principles among tourism small and medium enterprises (SME) in Imereti, Guria, and Kvemo Kartli. The project will provide five-day trainings for around sixty tourism SMEs in Kutaisi, Ozurgeti, Marneuli/Dmanisi in Bed and Breakfast management standards, basics of marketing, financial accounting, taxes, and customer services. The training complements the government-sponsored Employment Initiative 2007, which provides subsidized loans to tourism SMEs through a partnership with Procredit Bank. The training will target the clients of the Bank as well as other individuals interested in starting or expanding a tourism business. The Bank credit officers will be involved in the trainings to discuss loan application and management procedures. As a result of the project, owners of small tourism businesses will increase their knowledge of service standards, and improve their financial management capacity to handle a bank credit.

International Center of Trade Policy and Law

\$12,749

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

The proposed linkage grant will contribute to the economic development of the countries of the South Caucasus by developing the capacity of local businesses to export goods and services. The partners will focus on promoting locally produced goods and services through the development of quality print, electronic, and web-based versions of a South Caucasus Export Catalog. The catalog will feature comprehensive information on producers and service providers located in Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia and will be distributed through embassies, consulates, and large importing-exporting organizations in foreign countries. The successfully implemented project will support the establishment of new cross-border business links both within and outside the South Caucasus region.

“Elkana”

\$10,725

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To promote tourism development by building awareness of service standards and business management principles among tourism small and medium enterprises (SME) in Samtskhe-Javakheti region. The project will provide four five-day trainings for around sixty tourism SMEs in Borjomi/Bakuriani, Akhalkhtsikhe, Abastumani, and Aspindza in service standards for guesthouses and catering facilities, introduction to business administration, building renovation and maintenance needs, promotion and sales etc. The workshops include four days of class work and one-day study trips to experienced local SMEs. The training complements the government-sponsored Employment Initiative 2007, which provides subsidized loans to tourism SMEs through a partnership with Procredit Bank. The training will target the clients of the Bank as well as other individuals interested in starting or expanding a tourism business. The Bank credit officers will be involved in the trainings to discuss loan application and management procedures. As a result of the

project, owners of small tourism businesses will increase their knowledge of service standards, and improve their financial management capacity to handle a bank credit.

International Business Development and Investment Promotion Center

\$800

Georgia

To promote employment among youth through professional development of young individuals from the mountainous areas of Adjara region. The project will provide 15-day training in various aspects of small hotel operation to around 25-30 youngsters interested in the tourism business in the rural Shuakhevi district of Adjara. The workshops will cover such issues as business planning, marketing, tour guiding etc. The project team will further assist the trainees in taking advantage of internship opportunities at local travel companies. The project also complements the efforts of CHF International Georgia Employment and Infrastructure Initiative, which provides small funding for the renovation of guesthouses in this area, by targeting young people who have access to CHF funds. The project will be covered in the local media. By addressing the lack of professional knowledge among young people in this less developed part of Adjara, the project will contribute to their employment and simultaneously improve the quality of service in the local guesthouse business.

2.1 Citizen Political/Economic Participation

Human Rights Protection Center

\$15,100

Georgia

To enhance citizen participation and information in the budget planning and thereby increase transparency of budget spending for the municipal improvements service of the city of Batumi. The project aims at establishing a continuous public oversight over the budgeting of the Batumi municipal improvement service by involvement of civil society organizations, ordinary citizens and the local media. The monitoring of the municipal improvements service will accompany a dialogue between civic sector, condominiums and the local government about improvements of public services. The project will enhance cooperation between the Media and Civil Society organizations (CSO) during the monitoring, contribute to the establishing a culture of mutually advantageous cooperation and dialogue between citizens and government and increase capacity of the grantee in civic monitoring and make newly created condominiums in the city efficient and proactive participants of civic control over the municipal government.

Institute of Social Studies and Analysis

\$14,929

Georgia

To prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases among Georgian youth through an educational campaign and discussions in public schools throughout Georgia. As drug abuse is the leading causes of HIV/AIDS in Georgia, the grantee will conduct a wide-range study on the issues of drug abuse and safe sex targeting 2, 800 young people between the ages 15-18 in order to define the level of awareness and attitudes in youth and to develop the appropriate outreach messages. The second phase of the project involves a series of seminars and public meetings in over 100 schools across Georgia, aimed at increasing awareness of young people in schools as well as teachers and other school administrators on the issues of drug abuse and unsafe sex. Along with the educational campaign the experts from the project team will help develop special, easy to understand outreach and promotional materials. There will also be a special documentary prepared on HIV/AIDS awareness. The expected outcome of the project is increased understanding among young people that drug abuse and unsafe sex can lead to HIV infection.

Association of Young Economists

\$9,341

Georgia

To improve information of local communities about authorities and services of local government of the city

of Kutaisi with increased citizen participation in the local budgetary processes and apply modern form of management and administration of public finances in the local self-governance. The project will organize meetings between communities and governments in Kutaisi about topical aspects of budget spending; create nine groups of advocacy of citizens' interests, conduct training about advocacy in budgetary process for citizens and local authorities. After civic monitoring and expert analysis of the budgetary process of 2007 and analysis of the draft budget 2008 the develop recommendations for the local government about improvement of citizen participation in budgetary issues and advocate it together with communities. The monitoring will be supported by wide-scale public information campaign. To improve quality of civic monitoring the grantee will collaborate with the local branch of Georgian Young Lawyers' Association local communities and other civil society organizations and enhance their capacity of becoming proactive public watchdogs in the budgetary process. The project's outcome is to increase citizen participation component in the city budget planning to make the budget more oriented on communities needs.

Young Lawyers Association

\$18,847

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To increase the turnout of well-informed voters, including representatives of ethnic minorities, in Georgia's upcoming presidential election and plebiscite (to determine the date of parliamentary elections). The project will target a large group of voters in Tbilisi and the regions densely populated with Armenian and Azeri minorities through newspaper articles, hotline communication, and a regional network of activists and experts to provide voters with accurate information and quick answers to all election-related questions. The project will focus on developing a close ties to the local media during the pre-election period and is expected to contribute to greater voter interest and turnout on the election day, increasing the likelihood of an election that accurately reflects the will of the people.

Union of Georgian-Abkhazian Mixed Families

\$11,619

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

The project is a contribution to the confidence and tolerance building between the Georgians and Abkhazians through the restoration of relations between the mixed Georgian-Abkhaz families separated by the conflict. The project activities, which will target 200 mixed Georgian-Abkhaz families, include confidence-building and awareness-raising activities to establish and strengthen dialogue between the Georgians and Abkhaz using the methods of public diplomacy. This includes roundtable meetings, seminars, training and joint public activities for restoration of the family ties and reconciliation between Georgians and Abkhaz people. Through these measures, the project can enhance links between Georgian and Abkhaz civic organizations, increase awareness of the role of public diplomacy and create better conditions for continued dialogue between private citizens. The project is a contribution to the Georgian state policy for peaceful settlement of the conflict.

Justice and Liberty Association

\$526

Georgia

To support strengthened civic oversight over Georgia's defense and security agencies and to increase transparency and public awareness about the process under which Georgia is seeking admission to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). As Georgia enters into the intensified dialogue stage of its push towards membership in NATO, effective public oversight over the reforms in the defense and security fields will be essential if Georgia is to be accepted into the next Membership Action Program phase. To achieve these goals the project will train media and government officials on transparency in security agencies, provide civic monitoring on the implementation of NATO-related programs by the government, conduct a public information campaign about the findings, and develop recommendations, including legal initiatives for improved cooperation between NGOs and Georgia's defense and security structures.

Center for Social Science

\$25,431

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To promote broad and informed participation by the electorate during the upcoming 2008 parliamentary and presidential elections. The project will train Georgian media, especially in the regions, in providing citizens with unbiased information about political candidates in the pre-election period, and ensure professional and unbiased coverage of the elections. The objectives will be achieved through a baseline needs assessment of the professional preparedness of journalists in covering of elections, training of journalists and training of selected journalists as trainers in the regions. The project will create and manage a network of the trained journalists and media organizations in Tbilisi and 10 target cities. The project will conduct follow-up evaluation of its activities. The expected outcomes are enhanced professionalism and analytical skills of the involved journalists which will lead to balanced and comprehensive coverage of the elections, and informed decision-making by citizens on election day. The project represents both a continuation and expansion of the activities implemented within the project Citizens' Informed Choice: Media and Elections funded by European Commission Delegation to South Caucasus in 2007.

Ilia Chavchavadze State University

\$18,089

Georgia

To support the reform of Georgia's social service system through the advancement of social work education. The project will enhance the newly-established Master of Social Work (MSW) Program at Ilia Chavchavadze State University through creation of a departmental resource center, development of Georgian language teaching materials, and training of field work instructors. The resource center will be equipped with computers, hard copies of textbooks and access to electronic libraries. Georgian language readers with major texts will be developed for thirteen courses. In addition, a special web-site will be created to serve as an updatable repository of syllabi and various teaching materials. To improve the quality of internships, an international consultant will train thirty field instructors in how to provide supervision for the second-year master's students. The trainees will also be equipped with a field manual with specific recommendations on how to coordinate and assess student work. The project will improve both the theoretical and practical components of the MSW Program by equipping the Department with teaching and research resources and strengthening the link between students and social service agencies where they will receive practical training.

Green Alternative Association

\$13,872

Georgia

To build capacity and increase involvement of local community groups and civil society organizations of Kvemo Svaneti and Racha Lechkhumi to monitor, effectively participate and influence decision-making related to the local forestry sector management. Through the monitoring and advocacy activities the project aims at mobilizing all stakeholders in the reform of forest sector to increase efficiency of power decentralization and ensure fair and equal distribution of benefits regarding forest ownership and management. The project is designed to produce long-lasting impact regarding increased involvement of citizens in decision-making. The project's beneficiaries are expected to be 50 civil society organizations (CSO) in Oni, Ambrolauri and Lentekhi municipalities of Racha Lechkhumi and Kvemo Svaneti regions, about 32,000 inhabitants of these municipalities, about 75 representatives of local self-governance bodies of these municipalities and forestry department of the Ministry of Environment and Protection of Natural Resources.

Economic Policy Research Center

\$17,100

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To support creation of efficient trade flow system in Georgia through valuable research and recommendations in the field by a team of experts from Economic Policy and Research Center. The project seeks to evaluate the link between negative balance of trade in the Georgian agricultural sector and rural unemployment, and will develop concrete recommendations for improving Georgia's trade competitiveness

in this sector, which employs over 40% of Georgia's population. This research is very timely as Georgia is considering a bilateral trade agreement with the EU. The grantee will disseminate findings through a broad public outreach campaign by preparing articles for print in leading Georgian daily newspapers, developing informational bulletins and organizing roundtable discussions. At the end of the project the grantee will organize the conference to evaluate the impact of the project to stakeholders in the Georgian government and international financial institutions.

Hypertension Study Society

\$19,968

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To monitor the progress of primary health care reform in three regions of Georgia, particularly as it impacts the early detection and treatment of cardiovascular disease. The project will actively involve medical personnel in the primary healthcare service and the target groups of the population, who are beneficiaries of the reform. The activities will include survey, training and public information campaign in Tbilisi, Kakheti and Imereti. The project will elaborate recommendations about improving the management of cardiovascular diseases at a primary healthcare level. As a result of the project, family doctors and nurses who are on the frontline of the primary healthcare reform process and who largely determine the quality of medical service, will be equipped with skills and knowledge of civic monitoring. Public awareness of the monitoring of the healthcare reforms will increase and the authorities will receive evidence-based recommendation for improving the management and prevention of endemic cardiovascular diseases in the country.

Transparency International

\$9,454

Georgia

To promote efficiency of reforms in healthcare system and improve capacity of civil society to monitor the reform in a secondary healthcare. The project will focus on transparency of reforms in secondary healthcare and conduct civil monitoring of privatization of hospitals and tenders announced for privatization to double-check fairness of this process and compliance with respective laws and regulations. The monitoring of implementation of privatization agreements will produce recommendations to be submitted to the relevant state bodies. In parallel, training of journalists will be conducted to increase coverage of healthcare sector in the media and help media to provide professional and fair coverage of the ongoing healthcare reform. Promoting of public oversight of healthcare sector, involvement of media in civic monitoring and profound analysis of the course of reform will enable the state bodies concerned to refine privatization in healthcare system and contribute to increased public participation in this process.

Education Development Institute

\$18,159

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To support the reform of university education through the promotion of Georgia's participation in the Bologna process. The project will develop the National Qualifications Framework (NQF) with the participation of academics, nongovernmental organizations, and the Ministry of Education and Science. The framework will be developed in accordance with the requirements of the Bologna process. It will consist of the general part and descriptions of sixteen fields of study. The document will include the following elements, the cycles of university education described by learning outcomes, workload, title of qualification, types of award for different cycles, link between cycles, and life-long learning. The framework for each field of study will be developed by a work group involving representatives of all accredited universities. The information will be posted on the web to ensure maximum access. The framework is expected to be adopted by the Ministry of Education and Science as a guiding document in the process of programmatic accreditation. The project will increase public understanding of the Bologna process and create a basis for curricular reform at Georgian universities.

“Saphari”

\$28,549

Georgia

To address the issue of domestic violence in Georgia through expansion of the regional victims support network and targeted public information campaigns and trainings to raise awareness of Georgia's newly passed law on domestic violence. The project will enhance the results achieved during two previously-funded projects by strengthening the regional network of assistance to victims and creating two new support centers in Batumi and Akhmeta. The project will continue to refine methods of psycho-social rehabilitation for victims living in the special shelter, and provide training for target groups responsible for enforcement of the law on domestic violence, in addition to further public information campaigns on the signs of domestic violence and how victims can seek help. The grantee will work closely with other civil society organizations and governmental agencies to monitor the issue of domestic violence in Georgia. This project is co-funded with Phillip Morris.

Policy Research Group

\$26,605

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To support advancement of political science in Georgia through the promotion of research capacity of young Georgian scholars. The project will create four original monographs on the issues central to current politics and security issues. The books will undergo a preliminary external review and will be discussed in workshops with the participation of peer scientists. The monographs will be distributed among universities teaching political sciences as well as major libraries and governmental agencies. They will serve as reading materials for political and security studies courses. The project will result in an improvement of the level of research and teaching of political studies and will inform the policy making process.

Liberty Institute

\$15,810

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

The project will contribute to improved public policy making in the South Caucasus through the use the Town Hall Meeting (THM) system, which has already been tested and implemented in Armenia. The Project's partners will develop multi-language support for the computer-based elements of the system, and the Armenian partner will train their Azerbaijani and Georgian counterparts on related facilitation and system implementation skills. After the completing the skills and system transfer, the partners will jointly implement a pilot demonstration of the THM system in Georgia. EF-SCCP anticipates collaborating with the OSCE's Environmental Security Initiative (ENVSEC) to implement an environment-related THM project in all three countries. More broadly, EF-SCCP expects the project to increase the level of the public participation in the decision-making processes in the South Caucasus.

Internews Georgia

\$46,675

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To promote ideals of common humanity and tolerance among the youth and wider viewing public of the South Caucasus countries through strengthening mutual understanding and sustained collaboration among young journalists and film directors from Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia. The project is a follow-up activity proposed by the same partnership group, and it will further strengthen the established region-wide mechanism that enables young journalists and film directors to undertake joint creative work. This year the project partners will select 10 young media professionals from each South Caucasus country to take part in the project. The multi-national group of 30 journalists and film directors will form 15 two-country production teams each comprising one lead and one assistant participant. Under the guidance of the partner organizations, the participants will have a chance to review and accept the project's code of ethics, take master classes, and produce from 15 to 21 documentaries promoting the ideals of compassion, humanity, and tolerance. The project partners will ensure a more extensive publicity campaign for the project throughout the region, which will culminate with the second South Caucasus documentary film festival in Tbilisi in which the best films will be selected by an independent jury. This will also include broadcasting the best

documentaries in the air of select national TV channels, and a series of stakeholder discussions in each country. The project will further stimulate people-to-people diplomacy and public dialogue in the South Caucasus region.

Civic Education Youth Center

\$12,553

Georgia

To promote transparency and efficiency of land reform and its major component privatization of the state-owned agricultural lands by civic monitoring and proactive citizen participation in the land reform. The project implemented in partnership with the regional civil society organizations will accomplish civic control over the whole process of privatization of the municipal agricultural lands in Signakhi and Kvareli by qualified monitoring, proactive media campaign informing the public about all aspects of privatization of these lands, including possible violations. The project will involve local communities in the monitoring of the land privatization in these regions and contribute to the mutually advantageous dialogue between the local governments and communities.

Junior Achievement

\$9,531

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To improve the quality of economics instruction in Georgian high schools using the Junior Achievement model. The project will train around 300 teachers to use the Civic Economics Program, which is based on the Junior Achievement Applied Economics textbooks. The three-part program contains two units on economic theory and a practical unit called Student Company, during which students learn how to start and manage a real business. The seminars, to be conducted both in Tbilisi and the regions of Georgia, will train teachers both in theory and practical aspects of the program. After completion of the training the teachers will be regularly advised by the Junior Achievement trainers. The activities are co-funded by Procredit Bank, which is financing publication of Civic Economics textbooks and the re-training of the Junior Achievement trainers at the beginning of the project.

“Icarus”

\$8,803

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To promote vocational education reform in the service sector by supporting the development of the first tourism vocation school. The project will make curricula and study materials for 9-month training and 3-month retraining programs for 7 professions: barmen, cooks, confectioners, waiters, housekeepers, hotel receptionists, and hotel reservation employees. The programs will be based on the professional qualification standards to be developed in cooperation with the representatives of the private sector. The project will also develop a set of outreach materials for potential applicants and employers such as leaflets, a brochure and the college web-site. During the first year around 300 individuals will be enrolled in these courses. After completion of the project, in the years 2008-2009 the college is planning to develop curricula and study materials for four advanced professional programs. The school will become a source of professionals for hotels, restaurants, travel companies, and so on. Introducing even a small number of qualified professionals into the tourism workforce will raise the standards and expectations of the industry. The school will also affect the overall education reform. If successful, it can be emulated and modified for vocational education in other industries.

Support Monitoring of Election Administrations in Georgia

In support of monitoring the administration of upcoming parliamentary elections. The grant competition is a part of a larger EPF program aimed at building and strengthening vibrant civil society in Georgia by supporting citizens engagement in the decision making process in a more effective and sustained way. The competition is open to civil society organizations registered in Georgia.

Public Movement of Multinational Georgia

\$20,493

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To mobilize local communities in Kvemo-Kartli and Samtskhe-Javakheti regions for pre-election and election monitoring and preparing them for a public response to possible violations. Over 200 community activists who have been trained on election procedures for the January 5 presidential election campaign will conduct monitoring of parliamentary elections and simultaneously assist their fellow citizens in realization and protection of their voting rights to prevent vote-rigging and other violations. The project will collect election-related complaints and proceed with furthering them to the courts and central election commission for response. A proactive media campaign will enhance publicity of the project activities and contribute to better and wider involvement of communities in the monitoring and protection of their votes. The civic monitoring of election administration in the regions that have been subject to voting fraud in the past will contribute to the overall transparency of the election in Georgia.

Regional Media Association

\$28,850

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

To support fair and transparent parliamentary elections in Georgia through a print media campaign to provide voters with up to date information on candidates and voting procedures. A coalition of nine popular newspapers in 7 regions (Ajara, Imereti, Kakheti, Samtskhe-Javakheti, Guria, Shida Kartli, Samegrelo) of Georgia will publish special inserts in their newspapers, hold town hall meetings and form election monitoring groups. The project represents an extension of an earlier successful project implemented in Guria region during the January 5, 2008 presidential elections. Through a combination of activities for voters' education and monitoring of voting in the regions the project contributes to raising public awareness about the need for fair elections and increasing transparency and accountability of local election administration.

Kazakhstan

1.3 Private Enterprise Development

Association of Microfinancial Organizations

\$14,458

Kazakhstan (Almaty City)

To strengthen microfinance organizations in Mangistau Oblast. Microfinance organizations will receive training in organizational management, attracting commercial financing and financial accounting. As a result, the organizations' sustainability and services should improve, for the benefit of small business borrowers. The project is funded by ABN AMRO and the Netherlands Embassy in Kazakhstan.

Our Heritage Foundaion

\$53,991

Kazakhstan

The project is aimed at logistic providing for 5 craft business trainings in Chimkent, Aktau, Uralsk, Astana and Ust-Kamenogorsk. The grantee will provide logistic on trainings as well as potential assessment of local program partners for formation of craftsmanship resource centers. In the result it is expected, that the trainings organization will be on the high professional level and participants will educate to essential principles on opening and leading the crafts industry and will define the organizations circle for formation of resource centers. The project is funded by the Chevron Corporation within the program framework on Revitalizing crafts in Kazakhstan, realizing by Eurasian Foundation of Central Asia.

“Zubr”

\$13,280

Kazakhstan (Astana City, Aktobe Oblast, East Kazakhstan Oblast)

The project is aimed at working out and conducting 3 trainings for craftspeople. The grantee will develop the program for business trainings, adapting for craftspeople needs and will conduct 3 trainings in Astana, Uralsk and Ust-Kamenogorsk. In the result it is expected that the craftspeople will teach to essential principles of opening and leading crafts industry. The project is funded by Chevron Corporation and USAID within the program framework on revitalizing crafts in Kazakhstan, realizing by EFCA.

2.1 Citizen Political/Economic Participation

IEAWE A-Kenes,Turgen Branch

\$5,200

Kazakhstan (Turgen District)

To support the development of craftsmanship and to create new employment opportunities for oralmans. Two training programmes of patchwork will be prepared to educate 20 oralmans about the designing and quality of products. Artisans in the region will have free access to equipment, which will be provided within the framework of the project. There will also be an exhibition for the sale of their newly prepared products. The project will help to create new employment opportunities and improve the economic status of the immigrants. The project being implemented within the framework of the Community Development Program, and is funded by Philip Morris Kazakhstan and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

“Ak Zhunis”

\$ 5,700

To lower the level of trafficking of women and children. Psychological and legal support will be provided to victims of force, information and educational campaigns will be organized and 90 children and 200 school children will be educated about the protection of the rights of women and children. The project will help to decrease the number of victims of force and the slave trade The project is being financed by Philip Morris Kazakhstan and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

“Tomiris”

\$15,000

Kazakhstan (Pavlodar Oblast)

To promote a policy of deinstitutionalization of orphans. The grantee will work with government agencies to help keep at-risk children in their natural families and to promote foster care. The project should strengthen a public-private approach to assisting children.

Center for Initiative Support

\$15,000

Kazakhstan (Almaty Oblast)

To help children without parental care socialize. The grantee will set up a center which will give social and psychological counseling to orphans and promote foster care. As a result, the chances of orphans becoming well-adjusted adults will increase.

Center for the Social Adaptation of Children

\$15,000

Kazakhstan (Aqmola Oblast, Astana City)

To promote alternatives to orphanages. The grantee will promote foster family placement by giving support to foster parents, orphans and children without parental care. The project should improve the success rate of foster-care arrangements and serve as an example for its wider use.

“Umit”

\$26,000

Kazakhstan (Almaty Oblast, West Kazakhstan Oblast)

To deinstitutionalize orphans. The grantee will work with foster parents and children, and government authorities to place children in foster families. The project should increase the number of orphans placed in families and contribute to changing social stereotypes towards orphans.

Central Asian Network Service

\$295,472

Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan

To strengthen independent media coverage in and about Central Asia through the creation of a Central Asia News Service (CANS) and increase access to fact-based information on the internet. The grantee will set up a new website, select and train a network of journalists from throughout Central Asia in objective, accurate reporting and publish 100 news items daily in Russian and English. Through forums readers will be engaged in an informed discussion on the grantees' website. As a sustainable, region-wide indigenous news service, CANS will provide daily informative, timely, unbiased news from throughout Central Asia to a broad local and international audience. This grant is funded by the U.S. State Department.

Women’s Union of Enbekshikazakh District

\$7,000

Kazakhstan (Almaty oblast, Enbekshikazakh district)

To support the elderly citizens and their involvement in the decision making process. A volunteer movement will be organized involving members of the elderly population, in order to introduce consultations for the social protection of the elderly and there will also be lobbying for their interests at a local legislative level. The project will help to increase the activity of the region's elderly population and improve their social protection. The project is being financed by Philip Morris Kazakhstan and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

Youth Media Soyuz

\$31,200

Kazakhstan

To help integrate orphans into mainstream society. The grantee will teach orphans the basics of journalism, and publish their materials in a newspaper, with 100 children participating. As a result, orphans will gain skills that will help them in their adult lives. The project is funded by Philip Morris Kazakhstan and USAID.

“Bolashak”

\$6,506

Kazakhstan (Almaty Oblast)

To support local NGOs and initiative groups in the Ilii Raion of Almaty Oblast in the implementation of social projects. The grantee held mini grant competitions among raion NGOs and initiative groups and awarded 10 mini grants for the implementation of social projects. The project will increase raion residents' participation in decision-making and will increase the NGOs' potential to implement grant programs. The project is being financed by Philip Morris Kazakhstan and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

Fund for Talented Children Support

\$44,000

Kazakhstan

To increase educational opportunities for orphans and prepare orphanage teachers for the transition to a 12-grade school system. The grantee will run fall and winter camps for teachers and orphans from across Kazakhstan, which should result in improved university-entrance exam scores for orphans and their teachers better prepared for the pending addition of the 12th grade. The project is funded by Philip Morris Kazakhstan and USAID.

“Perekrestok (Crossroad)”

\$15,000

Kazakhstan (Kostanai Oblast)

To promote alternatives to orphanages. The grantee will hold an information campaign to promote foster parenting, and help place children in foster homes. As a result, more children will grow up in families.

Local Community Foundation

\$32,000

Kazakhstan

To support the broaden of participation of the local population in the decision making process related to local economical questions. Within the framework of the project, 4 sub-grants will be given, which are aimed to support children and adults with limited opportunities and to strengthen the network of NGOs in the region. The project will help to increase the potential of local NGOs to implement social projects. This will also help the grant beneficiary, as a local institution, to mobilise local resources and support local initiatives. The project is being financed by Philip Morris Kazakhstan and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

2.2 Improved Legal Systems

”Arystanbab College

\$11,350

Kazakhstan (South Kazakhstan Oblast)

To support farmers in South-Kazakhstan Oblast. The grantee taught computer and internet skills to one hundred farmers in the oblast. A permanent training and resource center will be founded to provide consulting services to farmers. The project will increase farmers' access to electronic information resources. The project will improve economic conditions for farmers in the oblast's Saragash, Sairam and Kazygurtov raions. The project is being financed by Philip Morris Kazakhstan and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

Kyrgyzstan

1.3 Private Enterprise Development

Movement of Disabled Young People

\$7,892

Kyrgyzstan (Chui Oblast, Bishkek City)

To improve the socio-economic conditions of disabled youths. The grantee will train disabled youths in professional-level sewing and furniture production skills and in the basics of business management, and will hold roundtables with the participation of representatives from all sectors of the economy in order to develop and lobby for strategic steps to integrate the target group into the labor market. It is expected that the number of disabled individuals having participated in workforce trainings and having obtained stable employment will increase. The project is being realized within the framework of the program Development of Income-Generating Activities Among Disadvantaged Groups with financing from the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Almaty and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

Center of Development and Education

\$7,714

Kyrgyzstan (Chui Oblast)

To improve living conditions for socially disadvantaged groups in Tokmok and 10 aiyl-okmotu in Chui Rayon. The grantee will train single mothers and disabled females in sewing and the basics of business management. Those wanting to start their own businesses will be given consultative support, and mechanisms for improving entrepreneurship at the local level will be developed. As a result of the project, it is expected that that number and activeness of individual enterprises will increase and the wellbeing of socially disadvantaged groups will improve. The project is being realized within the framework of the program Development of Income-Generating Activities Among Disadvantaged Groups with financing from the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Almaty and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

2.1 Citizen Political/Economic Participation

“Zanyatost (Employment)”

\$5,901

Kyrgyzstan (Naryn Oblast)

To assist in finding jobs for young people. The grantee will open a youth employment center in Naryn oblast. The center will establish partnerships with employers and find jobs for unemployed youth in the oblast. As a result of this project, a separate structure will be created to reduce youth unemployment, including a mechanism for interactions with employers on job placement matters for youth in Naryn oblast. This project is supported by the Embassy of New Zealand in Moscow.

Alliance of Disabled People

\$7,996

Kyrgyzstan (Issyk-Kul Oblast)

To help improve socio-economic conditions for people with disabilities. The grantee will find work for the disabled and will conduct events with the participation of representatives from all sectors of the economy to develop and lobby for strategic steps for the integration of disabled individuals into the labor force. It is expected that as a result of the project the number of individuals from the target group that have been integrated into the workforce and have stable incomes will increase. The project is being realized within the framework of the program Development of Income-Generating Activities Among Disadvantaged Groups with financing from the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Almaty.

“Barsem”

\$6,122

Kyrgyzstan (Issyk-Kul Oblast)

To help develop income-generating activities in orphanages and the Archa rehabilitation center, and to improve the wellbeing of disabled individuals in the village of Kyzylsuu of Dzhetioguz Rayon. The grantee will organize a demonstration hands-on learning area on the grounds of the orphanage in order to train the orphanage's children and employees, as well as, the parents of children in the Archa rehabilitation center and disabled individuals in the village in beekeeping. As a result of the project, the orphanage, the Archa rehabilitation center and disabled individuals will use their new skills and knowledge to earn stable incomes through the sale of honey and related products to local villages. The project is being realized within the framework of the program Development of Income-Generating Activities Among Disadvantaged Groups with financing from the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Almaty.

“Kelechek Mekenı (The Future of Homeland)”

\$7,932

Kyrgyzstan (Osh Oblast)

To improve living conditions for disabled individuals and their family members. The grantee will train beneficiaries in poultry farming, will provide technical assistance in starting up and conducting a domestic poultry farming operation. As a result of the project, disabled individuals and their family members will be able to supplement their incomes. The project is being realized within the framework of the program Development of Income-Generating Activities financed by the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Almaty.

“Beipil (Suffering)”

\$7,008

Kyrgyzstan (Issyk-Kul Oblast)

To improve the economic wellbeing of individuals with disabilities from poor families in the village of Bokonbaevo. The grantee will train disabled women and girls in applied folk art, sewing, the basics of household budgeting, and the basics of marketing in applied folk art. It is expected that the disabled women and girls, having mastered these professional qualifications, will be able to find work, and independently design and carry out productions, and, thereby, assure themselves stable incomes. The project is being realized within the framework of the program Development of Income-Generating Activities Among Disadvantaged Groups with financing from the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Almaty.

“Atuul (Hero)”

\$3,722

Kyrgyzstan (Issyk-Kul Oblast)

To increase social activity among rural youth and develop young leaders. The grantee will organize a nationwide competition ‘New Heroes of Kyrgyzstan’ to recognize young activists who have made positive changes in the society. As a result of the project, a Club for Young Leaders will be created that will promote active participation of youth from the regions in the social life of the country.

“Aary Shiresi”

\$8,494

Kyrgyzstan (Talas Oblast)

To improve socio-economic conditions for poor groups in the village of Bakyian. The grantee will train members of poor families and local farmers in beekeeping, the basics of domestic budgeting and the basics of marketing honey and related products. It is expected that poor families and farms will increase their incomes through the sale of honey and related products. The project is being realized within the framework of the program Development of Income-Generating Activities Among Disadvantaged Groups with financing from the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Almaty.

“Talykbas (Tireless)”

\$433

Kyrgyzstan (Bishkek City)

To improve socio-economic conditions for disabled individuals. The grantee will train disabled men in professional furniture making and the basics of business management, and will provide consultations to disabled individuals planning to start their own businesses. Thanks to the skills they will receive, disabled individuals will be able to find work or start their own businesses and thereby improve their economic situations. The project is being realized within the framework of the program Development of Income-Generating Activities Among Disadvantaged Groups with financing from the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Almaty.

Central Asian Network Service

\$295,472

Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan

To strengthen independent media coverage in and about Central Asia through the creation of a Central Asia News Service (CANS) and increase access to fact-based information on the internet. The grantee will set up a new website, select and train a network of journalists from throughout Central Asia in objective, accurate reporting and publish 100 news items daily in Russian and English. Through forums readers will be engaged in an informed discussion on the grantees' website. As a sustainable, region-wide indigenous news service, CANS will provide daily informative, timely, unbiased news from throughout Central Asia to a broad local and international audience. This grant is funded by the U.S. State Department.

“Stimul (Incentive)”

\$5,558

Kyrgyzstan (Bakten Oblast)

To increase the economic wellbeing of rural residents. The grantee will train representatives of self-help groups in business planning skills and in effective technologies for the cultivation and storage of agricultural products. As a result of the project, beneficiaries will be able to make more effective use of their land and will raise their incomes. The project is being realized within the framework of the program Development of Income-Generating Activities Among Disadvantaged Groups with financing from the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Almaty.

“Daanishman Jumgal Kabari”

\$7,991

Kyrgyzstan (Naryn Oblast)

To improve the economic well-being of socially disadvantaged groups in Zhumgal Rayon in Naryn Oblast. The grantee will found an entrepreneurship training center, will teach sewing and will conduct legal consultations on business operation with individuals from socially-disadvantaged groups. As a result of the project activities, representatives of the targeted groups will be able to find work or start their own businesses. The project is being supported by the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Almaty.

“Merciana”

\$6,624

Kyrgyzstan (Zhalalabat Oblast)

To increase the wellbeing of poor families in the city of Zhalalabat and in the Zhalalabat Oblast. The grantee will teach unemployed individuals and pensioners skills in the production and use of biohumus. Receiving and selling biologically active fertilizer will provide employment for the target group and will increase their incomes. The project is being realized within the framework of the program Development of Income-Generating Activities Among Disadvantaged Groups with financing from the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Almaty.

Moldova

2.1 Citizen Political/Economic Participation

Center for Independent Journalism

\$45,162

Moldova

To strengthen media participation in combating widespread corruption in Moldova. With support from the Millennium Challenge Corporation and USAID, the grantee will research and propose amendments to national legislation on public funding for media, advocating for their adoption in Parliament. In addition, the grantee will monitor and analyze media coverage of corruption-related issues, including researching sources of media financing and focusing on the types and conditions of public money used for this purpose. The report will be distributed both in electronic and print form to all the stakeholders during the major project events and other relevant activities involving the grantee.

League for Defense of Consumers Rights

\$19,893

Moldova

To improve the legal and institutional framework of consumer rights protection in Moldova. The grantee will monitor consumer rights in Moldova, recommending legislative and regulatory improvements to responsible institutions and state bodies. Additionally, the grantee will inform citizens on consumer rights and provide legal consultations through a newspaper and a website. The project will lead to improved legislative and regulatory framework for consumer rights and assist citizens in protecting their rights as consumers of goods and services.

League for Defence of Human Rights

\$19,869

Moldova

To monitor the Gagauz-Yeri Popular Assembly Election by conducting a domestic non-partisan observation campaign. The grantee will identify and train a mission of over 80 observers to monitor different aspects of the campaign and Election Day, and conduct a parallel tabulation of votes cast at each polling station. Funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and co-funded by OSCE Mission to Moldova, the project will reduce the likelihood of administrative and other election violations, helping to ensure that the results are a true reflection of the intention of voters.

Local Anticorruption Initiatives in Moldova

The goal of this initiative is to increase the role of civil society and media in reducing systemic corruption in the Republic of Moldova at local and regional level.

Institute for Democracy

\$14,454

Moldova

To promote anticorruption education for students and to decrease corruption at Comrat State University and other universities in the region. The grantee will develop a new course on corruption at Comrat State University and promote it to other area universities. To campaign against corruption, the grantee will organize a variety of education and outreach initiatives to inform teachers and students of the negative consequences of corruption and encourage them to report incidences of it. Supported by USAID and the Swedish International Development Agency, this project will increase general awareness of corruption issues, decreasing tolerance for corruption among students, teaching staff and the general public in Comrat and surrounding regions.

“Access-Info” Center

\$46,752

Moldova

To improve access to public information and enhance the Moldovan government's transparency. The grantee will monitor the application of the law on access to information and conduct public awareness campaigns, consulting and assisting the general public on issues of free access to public information. The project will also advocate changes to improve public information legislation and organize trainings for public authorities, NGO representatives and media about public access to information. Funded by USAID and Sida, the project will contribute to growing citizens' demands for free public information and a more transparent governing process.

Transparency and Human Rights Center

\$21,696

Moldova

To introduce a new mechanism for preventing corruption at higher education institutions in Moldova. The grantee will monitor two universities and propose recommendations combating academic fraud and for increased transparency in governance and financial management at higher education institutions. Supported by USAID and the Swedish International Development Agency, the project will create a successful model for diminishing corruption within the educational system in Moldova.

Association of Independent Press

\$40,002

Moldova

To raise awareness and increase public debate on national anticorruption policies. The grantee will publish 10 issues of a newspaper insert through 18 national and regional newspapers across the country. The inserts will provide readers with information on the status, progress and setbacks of state anticorruption programs, advocate policy changes and educate the public on corruption. The publications will also stimulate investigative journalists to disclose corrupt activities. Funded by USAID and Sida, the project will encourage citizens to participate in the discourse to improve government-run anticorruption programs and decrease tolerance of corruption among the general public.

Russia

Deriglazova Larisa Valerievna

\$2,110

Russia (Tomsk Oblast)

One month scholarship at Oxford

Nefedova Eugenia Viktorovna

\$3,660

Russia

Postgraduate study at the University of Oxford (Lincoln College) for the period 1 April to 30 June 2008.

Children's Order of Charity

\$7,347

Russia (Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Okrug)

To improve leadership of the organizations for children and young people with health disabilities, by including in joint activities. As a result of the project, the prospects on integration in the society were identified.

Tajikistan

1.3 Private Enterprise Development

Association “Nurafshon”

\$14,469

Tajikistan (Khatlon Oblast)

To improve conditions for administrative and ecological migrants in the Nosir , Khursrav District of Khatlon Oblast. The grantee will train women in the production of artisan crafts and business skills, and will organize a visit by district artisans to the Central Asian Crafts Support Association in Kyrgyzstan in order to facilitate the establishment a partnership with the association. As a result of the project, artisans will be able to produce folk crafts and more effectively profit from them, which in turn will increase their incomes.

“Anis”

\$14,022

Tajikistan (Khatlon Oblast)

To mitigate poverty in remote regions of the country. In order to provide employment for youth, especially for young women, the grantee will work closely with local authorities in four border regions of Tajikistan to allow 60 young women to receive specialized trainings in the basics of business management and methods for bringing their food products to market. Manuals with recipes for Tajik dishes will be published to aid in the development of new culinary businesses. The project will allow 40 new private culinary enterprises to open and will provide employment for no fewer than 120 individuals.

2.1 Citizen Political/Economic Participation

New Generation

\$13,998

Tajikistan (Sogdii Oblast)

To increase the level of education and social acculturation of school age girls from vulnerable layers of society in Bobodzhon Gafurov Raion in Sogdii Oblast. The grantee will conduct trainings and seminars for the target group; will hold trainings on working with adolescents for parent committees, teachers and representatives of state agencies; and will organize a public information campaign on the importance of educating young girls. As a result of the project, young girls' interest in receiving an education will increase and popular attitudes towards this issue will change.

Central Asian Network Service

\$295,472

Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan

To strengthen independent media coverage in and about Central Asia through the creation of a Central Asia News Service (CANS) and increase access to fact-based information on the internet. The grantee will set up a new website, select and train a network of journalists from throughout Central Asia in objective, accurate reporting and publish 100 news items daily in Russian and English. Through forums readers will be engaged in an informed discussion on the grantees' website. As a sustainable, region-wide indigenous news service, CANS will provide daily informative, timely, unbiased news from throughout Central Asia to a broad local and international audience. This grant is funded by the U.S. State Department.

Uzbekistan

2.1 Citizen Political/Economic Participation

Central Asian Network Service

\$295,472

Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan

To strengthen independent media coverage in and about Central Asia through the creation of a Central Asia News Service (CANS) and increase access to fact-based information on the internet. The grantee will set up a new website, select and train a network of journalists from throughout Central Asia in objective, accurate reporting and publish 100 news items daily in Russian and English. Through forums readers will be engaged in an informed discussion on the grantees' website. As a sustainable, region-wide indigenous news service, CANS will provide daily informative, timely, unbiased news from throughout Central Asia to a broad local and international audience. This grant is funded by the U.S. State Department.