

**TASK ORDER PROGRESS  
AND COST REPORT**

**COURSE ON  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL FISCAL  
RELATIONS IN EASTERN  
EUROPE**

**COUNCIL OF EUROPE YOUTH  
CENTER, BUDAPEST**

**APRIL - JUNE  
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Prepared for



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Prepared by



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**BACKGROUND**

In April 2000, USAID, the World Bank Institute (WBI) and the Urban Institute (under USAID contract EPE-C-00-59-00110-00, Request for Services 452) delivered a course on intergovernmental fiscal relations, decentralization and municipal credit for national and local government officials from countries in eastern Europe. In 2001, as part of this Local Government Assistance Task Order and based on the success of the previous year's course, UI, USAID and WBI again collaborated for a course on intergovernmental fiscal relations, this time for World Bank and USAID local government project managers in eastern Europe. The course was held at the Council of Europe Youth Center in Budapest from 30 May - 1 June 2001. As in the 2000 course, Training Resources Group, Inc. (TRG), provided technical assistance in preparing, facilitating and evaluating the course.

**PROGRESS DURING THE PREVIOUS QUARTER**

UI coordinated with USAID, WBI, presenters, participants and the Council of Europe Youth Center to technically and logistically prepare the Course. Prior to the Course, UI experts Francis Conway and Juliana Pigey reviewed materials to be used by other presenters to ensure complementary sessions and a coherent Course. Conway, Pigey and Graeme Frelick of TRG each presented and facilitated sessions of the Course.

More than 30 officials from USAID, the World Bank and other organizations, such as UNDP and OSI, participated in the Course. Participant evaluations indicate the training was effective and useful for participants and USAID. The course inspired plans for similar events in future.

UI prepared a final report that includes all of the presentation materials and an accompanying CD ROM that includes electronic files of all presentation materials, including the actual slides used by presenters. UI conscientiously sought these materials because original presentations on the Course topics are not readily available. Part of the World Bank Institute's cofunding for this Course includes incorporation of these materials into the Sourcebook on Intergovernmental Fiscal Relations produced by UI with funding originally from USAID (under USAID contract EPE-C-00-59-00110-00, Request for Services 453) and most recently from the World Bank Institute.

**SIGNIFICANT FINDINGS AND DELAYS**

Just a few days prior to the beginning of the Course, USAID recommended and agreed to the participation of UI's Resident Advisor in Kyrgyzstan, Charles Undeland. His participation was invaluable because of the exchange among donor staff members and contractors, project designers/supervisors and implementers. UI recommends the participation of project staff from USAID and World Bank contractors in similar events in future.

The participation of professionals from Central Asia and the Caucasus helped to identify and refine issues specific to those regions and/or Central and Eastern Europe. UI recommends the participation of professionals from other regions and sub-regions in similar events in future. The course could be held



jointly with a conference on the same issues that would permit and facilitate increased interaction among the various participants.

During preparation for the Course, UI learned that the Council of Europe plans to hold the Second Forum of Cities and Regions of South-East Europe in Istanbul from 2-3 November (contact: [Sylvie.Affholder@coe.int](mailto:Sylvie.Affholder@coe.int)). This may be an excellent co-sponsorship opportunity for USAID.

USAID, WBI and UI successfully have collaborated on several projects and products in the area of intergovernmental fiscal relations. These include the two courses in Budapest and the Sourcebook. There are many other potential activities for this de facto consortium. One of them is co-sponsorship and co-implementation of the Council of Europe conference mentioned above.

## **PROJECT PRODUCTS**

Course on Intergovernmental Fiscal Relations in Eastern Europe, held in Budapest from 30 May to 1 June, 2001

*Final Report: Course on Intergovernmental Fiscal Relations, Budapest, May 30 to June 1, 2001 and accompanying CD ROM*

## **WORK PLANNED FOR NEXT REPORTING PERIOD**

The Task Order includes a follow-up evaluation to try to measure the impact of the Course. TRG will conduct the evaluation approximately eight months after the Course. For this reason, the Task Order will continue until July 2002.

## **SPECIFIC ACTION REQUESTED**

UI requests USAID to consider institutional and financial arrangements for a similar course on intergovernmental and local governmental finance that would include staff members from donors, their contractors (both local and international) and governments (local and national) throughout the region. The course could be held jointly with a conference on the same issues that would permit and facilitate increased interaction among the various participants.

## **UP-TO-DATE SCHEDULE OF WORK**

The Task Order includes a follow-up evaluation to try to measure the impact of the Course. TRG will conduct the evaluation approximately eight months after the Course. For this reason, the Task Order will continue until July 2002.

## **KEY PERSONNEL**

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