

**USAID/Macedonia**  
**ANNUAL REPORT FY 2003**

3/13/2003

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## **A. Program Level Narrative**

### **Program Performance Summary:**

Country Setting: Macedonia's challenge is to promote peace and stability and seize the subsequent opportunity to make the democratic and market reforms required for European integration and economic development. Macedonia's first major step in furthering stability took place in September 2002 when it carried out its most peaceful and fair parliamentary elections to date. These elections were an essential component of last year's Framework Agreement, the peace accord that brought an end to the conflict between ethnic Albanian extremists and Macedonian security forces and established the conditions for a unitary, multi-ethnic state that respects minority rights. The elections led to a new multi-ethnic coalition government, with a broad mandate from Macedonia's citizens regardless of their ethnicity. The new government's smooth formation demonstrated progress toward stability as well as a commitment to the standards for European integration. To continue this positive momentum, the Government must now address a number of serious concerns such as rebuilding interethnic confidence, and undertaking a series of legal, social and economic reforms.

This past year, significant progress was made in implementing the Framework Agreement, but much work still needs to be done. One of the Agreement's key areas is the decentralization of many central government authorities to local government, initiated by the Law on Local Self Government. The Macedonian Government started policy reforms for decentralization, but their actual implementation is lagging. Another of Macedonia's critical challenges is to overcome the numerous hurdles for democratic development. Confidence in democracy is still fragile; political parties must be more responsive to popular needs; and patronage and corruption continue to exist. Ordinary citizens, regardless of their ethnicity, generally feel alienated by the country's elite-dominated party system, and civil society has not developed to where it can exert significant influence over the political players' actions or function in a proactive way to meet citizens' needs. Lastly, the judiciary remains unable to provide adequate checks and balances in the system.

The Macedonian economy in 2002 experienced a modest recovery from the negative growth of the previous year. However, Gross Domestic Product growth is estimated between 0% and 2%, and exports declined by 8%, which shows that the economy continues to suffer from the effects of the previous year's conflict. Political uncertainty and foreign investors' lack of confidence caused per capita foreign direct investment to be extremely low, ranking the lowest in the Central and Eastern Europe region. The unemployment rate is over 30%; half of unemployed persons are under the age of 30; and salaries in real terms for those who are employed remain well below their early 1990s levels. Even though the financial system remained stable and regained citizens' confidence, it still fails to provide the necessary capital for economic growth of the private sector. However, some positive events have helped to improve the economy. In September 2002, Macedonia made a key step forward in its integration into the world economy by completing the protocol for accession to the World Trade Organization. This will introduce Macedonia to an improved global trade system by creating a more predictable environment for investment, commerce, and trade in the country. A recently-passed Company's Law also initiated the creation of an environment that facilitates investment.

Despite these economic, political, and social difficulties, Macedonia still made significant progress towards ending the recent conflict, including partial implementation of the Framework Agreement through constitutional changes for decentralization and improved election administration, support for multiethnic police patrols in former crisis areas, disarmament of extremists, peaceful elections in September 2002, and the preparation for and conduct of a census in November 2002 to count the number of Macedonian citizens and accurately depict the ethnic composition of population. The March 2002 Donors' Conference provided necessary financial support for the Macedonian Government to implement the Framework Agreement and allowed it to emerge with a sound financial and democratic package after the crisis. However, Macedonia remains a tinderbox - interethnic confidence must be rebuilt and stability is still fragile, especially once NATO downsizes its peacekeeping forces over the next year. The new coalition government (with one party being the political wing of the ethnic Albanian extremists in last year's conflict) still has to address the painful issues of the return of ethnic Macedonian internally displaced persons

(IDPs), recovery of kidnapped persons, participation of "extremists" into the government and parliament, full acceptance of ethnically-mixed police forces in the former crisis regions, disbanding of the reserve police forces, and reestablishment of law and order throughout the whole county. One of the more controversial hurdles for Macedonia to overcome is the release of the preliminary census results around January 2003. The actual percentage of the ethnic Albanian population has long been an issue of contention. Given that these results will determine the percentage of ethnic minorities in the public sector, including security forces, the results could be disputed. What will be important is how the Macedonian government handles these disputes and maintains the credibility of the census results.

The very successful March 2002 Donor's Conference for Macedonia proved the international community's commitment to assuring peace in the country. The international community in Macedonia continues to provide extensive support to establish credible political processes and find solutions to political problems. Many donors, led by the European Union, assisted in rebuilding the destroyed houses and return of IDPs. The U.S. Government, in coordination with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), helped train ethnic Albanian policemen to participate in the multi-ethnic police patrols in villages. USAID programs, including the Office of Transition Initiative's Confidence Building Initiative, are working on a local level to bring ethnic groups together to jointly work on identifying and solving problems that affect their day to day lives. Even so, Macedonia remains in a state of cold peace where a small event could easily trigger the resurgence of conflict. In addition to ethnic tensions, the deteriorating economic and social situation along with no quick solution in sight for the unemployment and poverty problems leaves Macedonia hanging on the edge of social unrest. USAID must maintain a mode of conflict prevention, attempt to foresee possible future conflict triggers, and utilize a series of conflict modifiers in its programs to target weaknesses in the political, social, and economic systems. This approach has been supported by USAID's inclusion of conflict management models in its development strategy in Macedonia in late 2001.

USAID Program: The current USAID strategy for Macedonia, of which this is the first year of implementation, includes three principal strategic objectives that address the main challenges of the country. In the USAID program for economic reform, the financial sector is being strengthened; private sector firms are being made more competitive; and improvements are made to the enabling environment to make the commercial sector more conducive to investment and trade. The democratic reform program is building confidence of Macedonians in democratic institutions by supporting a range of activities. These include improving political processes, strengthening local government, establishing the foundations for the rule of law, increasing local citizen participation, and enhancing objective information flow through an improved media. The social sector is concentrating on workforce and education, and issues related to youth and its employment. This program includes support to local economic development efforts to generate new jobs and new education reform programs that will help improve the quality of education to make instruction more relevant to a 21st Century market, as well as improve minority access to education, particularly through assisting the establishment of a multilingual, multicultural university. USAID works closely with other donors on issues such as decentralization, education reform, financial sector reform, and pension reform.

USAID's program is designed to address multiple types of beneficiaries. The main focus is on people at the grassroots level since transition processes most directly affect them. Individual citizens' needs for a larger income, better education, more participation in community decision-making, and greater representation at the government level comprise the driving forces for many of USAID's programs. The business community is another big piece of the development puzzle. Without healthy, competitive firms that generate jobs and profits, there can be no development. Rather than working with individual firms, USAID's technical assistance is targeted to improve the competitiveness of industry clusters so that the effects are exponential. Lastly, technical assistance is also provided directly to the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of the Macedonian government to prepare them to be the drivers of the reforms needed for Macedonia's development and eventual NATO and European Union membership.

There are several cross-cutting issues that are interwoven into USAID's programs. Bringing people from different ethnicities and genders to work together, thus building ethnic tolerance and mitigating conflict, is an essential part of each activity. Such examples include organizing business-to-business meetings,

supporting non-governmental organization (NGO) coalitions, establishing a multi-lingual and multicultural university, producing a multicultural children's television program, and supporting multilingual newspapers. Another underlying objective is to combat the corruption that is pervasive in both the public and private sector in Macedonia. USAID believes that its multi-pronged approach through programs in fiscal policy, financial sector, corporate governance, legal reform, and civil society will increase the accountability and financial transparency of government and business, increase the effectiveness in prosecuting corruption cases, and build effective watchdog civil society organizations. The Presidential Water for the Poor Initiative is supported through the Community Self-Help Initiative, which built or renovated water supply systems in 30 villages throughout Macedonia. Finally, reducing gender disparities continues to be addressed by including gender considerations in all program design.

In addition to the primary strategic objectives, USAID supports a few special initiatives. At the March 2002 Donor's Conference, the U.S. Government pledged \$16.5 million to the Macedonian Government to overcome the gap in the balance of payments that arose as a result of the recent crisis in the country. USAID will provide these funds to service Macedonia's debt owed to the U.S. Government and to international financial institutions. USAID is funding the U.S. Bureau of the Census to provide technical assistance to the Government of Macedonia (GOM) for a census in November 2002, an event that is required to take place in the peace agreement. In addition, the U.S. Department of Justice's International Criminal Investigative Training Assistance Program (ICITAP) provides assistance to improve the capacity, professionalism, and multi-ethnicity of Macedonia's police force. The U.S. Treasury and Commerce Department are also delivering assistance for the achievement of U.S. objectives.

**Key Achievements:** By providing key input into almost every area for the Framework Agreement's implementation, USAID significantly contributed to Macedonia's progress last year. Most notable in the governance arena, USAID's technical, material, and financial assistance was visible in almost every aspect of Macedonia's most peaceful, free, and fair parliamentary elections ever, held in September 2002. USAID's role was instrumental in this process by training election and government officials in proper election administration, encouraging political parties to refrain from nationalistic platforms and rhetoric, women candidates to improve their campaigning, and citizen organizations to provide domestic monitoring, media organizations to provide balanced coverage. USAID's multitude of activities addressed election-related issues including media coverage, domestic and international monitoring, voter education campaigns, an exit poll, improved election administration, and encouragement of issues-based political party platforms. New ballot security provisions reduced irregularities at the polling stations and significantly increased citizen confidence in the electoral process.

In other areas related to the Framework Agreement, USAID provided the primary technical assistance to the Macedonian Government for drafting and implementing the new Law on Local Self-Government that establishes the basis for decentralization and strengthening local communities' rights for self-determination. The Law passed in January 2002. The significance of the passage of this law was augmented by the exceptional involvement of local governments in its passage through the national association of mayors (ZELS). USAID worked with the ZELS to prepare the mayors to manage the additional responsibilities related to decentralization. Moreover, USAID supported them in the first ZELS Exposition where each mayor set up a booth to educate participants on their municipality's products and culture and provide a venue to explain and answer questions about what they are doing to improve the municipality. The fair was a resounding success with more than 60 municipalities participating.

The poor economy is seen as a factor that exacerbated the ethnic tensions that led to the 2001 conflict. USAID helped to mitigate further conflict through many significant interventions that improved Macedonia's economic development. One was USAID's technical assistance that accelerated the process for Macedonia's accession into the World Trade Organization (WTO). By the end of FY 2002, Macedonia completed the Protocol of Accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO) and sent it to the WTO's general counsel to formally complete the negotiating process. USAID's advice and the professional support was key in moving the process forward, leading the Minister of Economy, who headed Macedonia's WTO Accession process, to publicly praise USAID's technical assistance. Accession to the WTO will help integrate Macedonia into the world trading system, encourage Macedonia to implement the necessary legal and regulatory framework, reform its trade policy, facilitate trade and

investment, and strengthen the private sector. A second noteworthy achievement was the passage of the Companies Law that was written with substantial assistance from USAID advisors and will lessen the time required for business registration and also provide the basis for improved corporate governance and for protection of shareholder rights. A third achievement relates to USAID's technical assistance in agribusiness marketing that was provided to meat and dairy processors and led to a successful Seal of Quality program with the Macedonian meat and dairy products associations. USAID's technical support to the meat and dairy industries resulted in the following: 26 client companies adopting advanced Seal of Quality standards; 15% increase in sales by 20% of processor clients; and 10 ethnically-mixed sheep breeders associations achieving product and brand standardization for traditional cheese. Consumers of meat and dairy products now eat healthy, clean food with confidence.

Many say that high unemployment among young men is one factor that encouraged the breakout of the conflict. USAID also helped to mitigate conflict by tackling the high youth employment rate, particularly among young men. This was accomplished by creating a youth volunteer program (MakAction) throughout the country as well as through the Youth Employment Support program, implemented in cooperation with UNDP that generated short-term jobs for 2,000 young workers.

Another contributing factor to the conflict was the complaint of ethnic Albanians that there was a lack of access to higher education in the Albanian language. USAID's financial and technical support helped to smooth these tensions by providing for the establishment of the South East European University (SEEU), a multilingual, multiethnic, and multicultural private institution. The SEEU opened in November 2001 and offers university-level education in Albanian, English, and Macedonian, increasing the access of all Macedonian citizens to higher education. USAID technical assistance provided through Indiana University, including a revised curricula (entirely new in the case of computer science), is helping to make the SEEU a source of quality instruction unique for the region. In FY 2002, the number of students enrolled increased to 2,400; 90% are ethnic Albanian, and 36% are women, most of whom are Muslim. Other achievements related to gender are the reduction of proxy voting in parliamentary elections and the opening of a legal clinic for victims of domestic violence.

**Environmental Compliance:** In a recent portfolio review, USAID determined that all current activities implementing the strategic objectives are in compliance with approved Initial Environmental Examinations (IEEs), Environmental Assessments, and Categorical Exclusions and that all required mitigations and conditions are being followed.

Plans for new or amended Initial Environmental Examinations or Environmental Assessments include two new activities: Education Sector Support and Local Economic Development/ Workforce. Possible amendments to several activities that may be extended are: Support for WTO Compliance; Commercial Law Reform; Macedonian Agribusiness Marketing Activity; Political Party Assistance; Election Support; and Civic Education.

**Country Closeout & Graduation:** Since Macedonia is only now returning to normalcy following the 2001 armed conflict, graduation from SEED assistance would be unwise within the next few years. Most economic and social indicators show Macedonia lagging far behind its neighbors. Nevertheless, political conditions now exist for rapid progress to be made, and all U.S. Government agencies working in Macedonia recognize that budget pressures and developmental priorities elsewhere may not allow an optimum graduation timeframe. Very preliminary exit strategy planning envisions a six year phase-out beginning in FY 2006 and continuing through FY 2012, at which time Macedonia ideally would be a member of NATO and close to EU accession. For the next 10 years, Macedonia needs the U.S. Government's presence and assistance as it seeks NATO membership and EU accession. The U.S. Government gains another partner in the fight against terrorism, trafficking, drugs and money laundering, all of which are "nurtured" by sluggish economies and undemocratic nations. Initial steps towards a phase-out are already being undertaken. For example, USAID has started partnering with donors and aggressively leveraging other resources. At the same time, USAID is cultivating closer collaboration with governmental actors, seeking ways to strengthen them and reduce their dependency on external resources.

## **D. Results Framework**

### **165-0130 Accelerated Development and Growth of the Private Sector**

SO Level Indicator: Private sector employment as percentage of total employment

SO Level Indicator: Total employment in private sector firms

IR 1.3.1 Bank and non-bank financial institutions strengthened

IR 1.3.2 Private sector firms more competitive

IR 1.3.3 Enabling environment for investment improved

#### **Discussion:**

### **165-0200 More Legitimate Democratic Institutions**

SO Level Indicator: Public perception of effectiveness of key government institutions (Parliament, Government, Local Government, Judiciary and NGOs)

SO Level Indicator: Public perception of respect for democratic values

IR 2.1 Increased Citizen Participation in Political and Social Decision Making

IR 2.2 Adherence to the Rule of Law Enhanced

IR 2.3 More Effective, Responsive and Accountable Local Government

IR 2.4 Increased Confidence in Government Institutions and Political Processes

#### **Discussion:**

### **165-0210 Increased, Better Informed Citizens' Participation in Political and Economic Decision Making**

#### **Discussion:**

### **165-0230 More Effective, Responsive and Accountable Local Government**

#### **Discussion:**

### **165-0340 Mitigation of Adverse Social Impacts of the Transition to Market-Based Democracy**

SO Level Indicator: Human Development Index

IR 3.4.3 Local Economic Development Stimulated

IR 3.4.5 Macedonian Youth Better Prepared for Employment through Education Programs

**Discussion:** In the results framework for SO 3.4 a change is introduced in the name of IR 3.4.3. When the strategy was developed, the title of IR 3.4.3 was "Transition of the Workforce to Productive, Market-Appropriate Employment Facilitated". Proposed activities were going to address the rigidity of the labor force by assisting the government, labor and the private sector to establish an ongoing dialogue regarding the type of labor force needed by Macedonia's emerging market economy and how to best manage the transition to minimize the adverse social impacts on the population. In spring 2002 a Labor Market Assessment was conducted to help the Mission to better understand the underlying issues causing the high unemployment and provide an analytic foundation for developing new activities that increase productivity and income generation for the citizens of Macedonia. The assessment identified local economic development as most appropriate approach for solving the labor force problem. The approach would focus on job creation, strengthening labor market supply side mechanisms at the local level, strengthening demand side mechanisms at the industry cluster level and local policy implementation. For this reason, the Mission deemed appropriate to modify the IR title to "Local Economic Development Stimulated".

### **165-0410 Special Initiatives**

#### **Discussion:**

**165-0420 Cross-Cutting Programs**

**Discussion:**

## Selected Performance Measures - Macedonia

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Indicator (all data should pertain to FY or CY 02)	OU Response	Significant Result: Description of the significant result for a strategic objective	Data Quality Factors: Information relevant to the collection of this indicator data, e.g. "this data was not collected last year because it is only collected every five years."
Pillar I: Global Development Alliance			

Did your operating unit achieve a significant result working in alliance with the private sector or NGOs?

a. How many alliances did you implement in 2002? (list partners)	0			
b. How many alliances do you plan to implement in FY 2003?	2			Data for this indicator will be collected from the reports of specific implementers. One expected alliance would be with Microsoft in providing software for schools, while USAID will provide necessary technical assistance in teacher training. The second alliance will be with a private financial institution supporting the FULM saving house, and USAID would be providing the credit guarantee.
What amount of funds has been leveraged by the alliances in relationship to USAID's contribution?	0			

### Pillar II: Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade

#### USAID Objective 1: Critical, private markets expanded and strengthened

Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?

165-0130 Accelerated Development and Growth of the Private Sector	Yes			<p>USAID was instrumental in improving the enabling environment in Macedonia this past year through direct support of the following: The Companies law, the cornerstone of Macedonian commercial legislation, was passed in July 2002. Few months later, Macedonia signed the protocol for accession to the World Trade Organization. These two events set the basis for developing a legal and financial regime that will increase efficiency and transparency of the business environment and open up new markets, thus increasing investor confidence.</p> <p>The protocol for accession to WTO was signed in September 2002 in Geneva. Companies Law was published in the Macedonian Official Gazzette in July 2002.</p>
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#### USAID Objective 2: More rapid and enhanced agricultural development and food security encouraged

Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?

165-0130 Accelerated Development and Growth of the Private Sector

Yes			USAID assistance to the meat and dairy industry achieved notable results. Advanced Seal of Quality standards have been developed and adopted by 26 client companies; 20 % of processor clients have increased their annual sales by more than 15%; product standardization and branding of traditional cheese has been achieved by ten ethnically-mixed sheep breeder associations being assisted through the Ethnic Harmony program.
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**USAID Objective 3: Access to economic opportunity for the rural and urban poor expanded and made more equitable**

Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?

**USAID Objective 4: Access to quality basic education for under-served populations, especially for girls and women, expanded**

Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?

a. Number of children enrolled in primary schools affected by USAID basic education programs (2002 actual)	Male	Female	Total	
b. Number of children enrolled in primary schools affected by USAID basic education programs (2003 target)	Male	Female	Total	

**USAID Objective 5: World's environment protected by emphasizing policies and practices ensuring environmentally sound and efficient energy use, sustainable urbanization,**

Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?

a. Hectares under Approved Management Plans (2002 actual)				
b. Hectares under Approved Management Plans (2003 target)				

**Pillar III: Global Health**

**USAID Objective 1: Reducing the number of unintended pregnancies**

Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?

Percentage of in-union women age 15-49 using, or whose partner is using, a modern method of contraception at the time of the survey. (DHS/RHS)	%			
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**USAID Objective 2: Reducing infant and child mortality**

Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?

Percentage of children age 12 months or less who have received their third dose of DPT (DHS/RHS)	Male	Female	Total	
Percentage of children age 6-59 months who had a case of diarrhea in the last two weeks and received ORT (DHS/RHS)	Male	Female	Total	
Percentage of children age 6-59 months receiving a vitamin A supplement during the last six months (DHS/RHS)	Male	Female	Total	

Were there any confirmed cases of wild-strain polio transmission in your country?				
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**USAID Objective 3: Reducing deaths and adverse health outcomes to women as a result of pregnancy and childbirth**

Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?				
Percentage of births attended by medically-trained personnel (DHS/RHS)	%			

**USAID Objective 4: Reducing the HIV transmission rate and the impact of HIV/AIDS pandemic in developing countries**

Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?				
a. Total condom sales (2002 actual)				
b. Total condom sales (2003 target)				
National HIV Seroprevalence Rates reported annually (Source: National Sentinel Surveillance System)	%			
Number of sex partners in past year (Source: national survey/conducted every 3-5 years)per DHS or other survey)				
Median age at first sex among young men and women (age of sexual debut) ages 15-24 (Source: national survey/conducted every 3-5 years) per DHS or other survey)	Male	Female	Total	
Condom use with last non-regular partner (Source: national survey/conducted every 3-5 years)per DHS or other survey)	%			
Number of Clients provided services at STI clinics				
Number of STI clinics with USAID assistance				
Number of orphans and other vulnerable children receiving care/support				
Number of Orphans and Vulnerable Children programs with USAID assistance				
Number of community initiatives or community organizations receiving support to care for orphans and other vulnerable children				
Number of USAID-supported health facilities offering PMTCT services				
Number of women who attended PMTCT sites for a new pregnancy in the past 12 months				
Number of women with known HIV infection among those seen at PMTCT sites within the past year.				

Number of HIV-positive women attending antenatal clinics receiving a complete course of ARV therapy to prevent MTCT (UNGASS National Programme & Behavior Indicator #4)				
Number of individuals reached by community and home-based care programs in the past 12 months				
Number of USAID-assisted community and home-based care programs				
Number of clients seen at Voluntary Counseling and Testing (VCT) centers				
Number of VCT centers with USAID assistance				
Number of HIV-infected persons receiving Anti-Retroviral (ARV) treatment				
Number of USAID-assisted ARV treatment program				
a. Number of individuals treated in STI programs (2002 actual)	Male	Female	Total	
b. Number of individuals treated in STI programs (2003 target)	Male	Female	Total	
a. Is your operating unit supporting an MTCT program?				
b. Will your operating unit start an MTCT program in 2003?				
a. Number of individuals reached by community and home based care programs (2002 actual)	Male	Female	Total	
b. Number of individuals reached by community and home based care programs (2003 target)	Male	Female	Total	
a. Number of orphans and vulnerable children reached (2002 actual)	Male	Female	Total	
b. Number of orphans and vulnerable children reached (2003 target)	Male	Female	Total	
a. Number of individuals reached by antiretroviral (ARV) treatment programs (2002 actual)	Male	Female	Total	
b. Number of individuals reached by antiretroviral (ARV) treatment programs (2003 target)	Male	Female	Total	

USAID Objective 5: Reducing the threat of infectious diseases of major public health importance

Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?

a. Number of insecticide impregnated bed-nets sold (Malaria) (2002 actual)				
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b. Number of insecticide impregnated bed-nets sold (Malaria) (2003 target)				
a. Proportion of districts implementing the DOTS Tuberculosis strategy (2002 actual)	%			
b. Proportion of districts implementing the DOTS Tuberculosis strategy (2003 target)	%			

Pillar III: Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance

USAID Objective 1: Strengthen the rule of law and respect for human rights

Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?

165-0200 More Legitimate Democratic Institutions	No		
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USAID Objective 2: Encourage credible and competitive political processes

Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?

165-0200 More Legitimate Democratic Institutions	Yes		<p>The September 2002 parliamentary election was viewed internationally and domestically as a potential flashpoint in the already tense political environment. Given these elections' importance to Macedonia's democratic transition, USAID devoted considerable resources to a multitude of activities to address election-related issues including for media coverage, domestic and international monitoring, voter education campaigns, improved elections administration, and issues-based political party platforms. As a result of the assistance provided by USAID and other international organizations, as well as the Macedonians' commitment to take back their elections, the resulting election process can be best summed up by the outgoing prime minister's concession speech: "These elections were the fairest and most democratic in the history of the Republic of Macedonia." Voter turnout was over 70%.</p>	<p>Data for this indicator comes form the official State ELection Committee reports, and was bolstered by the post election polling by IRI which confirmed the results. We also used the reports of international and domestic monitors, our implementors and other donors.</p>
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USAID Objective 3: Promote the development of politically active civil society

Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?

165-0200 More Legitimate Democratic Institutions	Yes		<p>Public participation in political activities (weighthed average of participation in voting, participating in ralies or in political meetings, signing a petition, running for office, etc) has increased from 32.7% to 37% in FY 2002 as measured by a sample survey. USAID activities contribute to this increase by working with NGOs, labour unions and political parties.</p>	<p>The sample survey is performed each year to poll citizenry in Macedonia regarding democratic attitudes and practices. The methodology has been reviewed and is regarded as representative of the population.</p>
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USAID Objective 4: Encourage more transparent and accountable government institutions

Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?

USAID Objective 5: Mitigate conflict

Did your program in a pre-conflict situation achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?  
 Did your program in a post-conflict situation achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?

165-0200 More Legitimate Democratic Institutions

Yes		
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By addressing the lingering negative effects of the 2001 conflict on interethnic cooperation, USAID made remarkable progress during the past year by being a key player in almost every area for the Framework Agreement's implementation and peace process. In the governance arena, USAID's technical, material, and financial assistance was visible in almost every aspect of Macedonia's most peaceful, free, and fair parliamentary elections, held in September 2002 and mandated in the Framework Agreement. USAID also provided the primary technical assistance to the Macedonian Government for drafting and implementing the new Law on Local Self-Government that establishes the basis for decentralization and strengthening local communities' rights for self-determination. The Law passed in January 2002. The significance of the passage of this law was augmented by the exceptional involvement of local governments in its passage through the national association of mayors (ZELS). USAID worked with the ZELS to prepare the mayors to manage the additional responsibilities related to decentraliza

The data is gathered from reports of the implementors

165-0340 Mitigation of Adverse Social Impacts of the Transition to Market-Based Democracy

Yes			<p>The lack of higher education institutions has been a one of primary concerns of ethnic Albanians in Macedonia. Wlth substancial USAID assistance, the South East European University (SEEU), currently in its second year of operation, is preparing students for meeting the requirements of public and private sector employers, through providing curricula relevant to Macedonia's actual and future development needs. The SEEU's ability to offer instruction in both the Albanian and English language in addition to Macedonian while also increasing ethnic minorities' access to tertiary-level education has been an important conflict-mitigating factor. The current enrollment population is 2400 students, with substantial female enrollement (36%) considering that the students are mostly Mislum. The student body consists predominantly of ethnic Albanians although there is a significant increase in the enrollment of ethnic Macedonian students (7% of the student body) and other minorities, confirming the acceptance of the University as a high-quality, multi-cultural education institution.</p>
Number of refugees and internally displaced persons assisted by USAID	Male	Female	Total

Data is taken from official SEEU reports as well as from the implementer, Indiana University.

USAID Objective 6: Provide humanitarian relief

Did your program achieve a significant result in the past year that is likely to contribute to this objective?

Number of beneficiaries			
Crude mortality rates	%		
Child malnutrition rates	%		
Did you provide support to torture survivors this year, even as part of a larger effort?			
Number of beneficiaries (adults age 15 and over)	Male	Female	Total
Number of beneficiaries (children under age 15)	Male	Female	Total