



**FY 2004 QUARTERLY REPORT (4TH QUARTER)**

**Cooperative Agreement No. 119-A-00-00-00039-00**

**REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN**

**Submitted to the  
U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT  
By IFES**

**July 1 - September 30, 2004**

## **I. GENERAL**

During the fourth quarter of FY2004, IFES posted significant strides in achieving its workplan and program goals by conducting a series of regional political party trainings, preparing for the upcoming period prior to elections, and firming up its civic education program through a strengthened agreement with the Ministry of Education. The upcoming school year offered the opportunity to improve and expand the civic education textbook project, and momentum achieved through the Democracy Summer Camps carried over as students began in earnest to participate in school-based activities at the end of the quarter, including Student Action Committees, Student Local Government Day, and University Conversation Clubs. With elections only five months away, IFES worked on a local and national level to help parties prepare strategies for competing fully and effectively in the elections in a series of activities that will continue well into the next two quarters. IFES achieved progress towards meeting its stated workplan objectives through the following activities:

## **II. PROGRAM ACTIVITIES**

### **Civic Education**

#### *Memorandum of Understanding*

Mr. Safarali Rajabov, Tajik Minister of Education, Mr. Richard Hoagland, U.S. Ambassador to Tajikistan and Katherine Müller, IFES-Tajikistan Chief of Party signed an amendment to the Agreement between IFES and the Ministry of Education on September 7, 2004 that provides a five-year extension to a program that has successfully strengthened civic education in Tajikistan. Mr. Peter Argo, Country Director of the US Agency for International Development (USAID) in Tajikistan, represented USAID at the ceremony.

The enhanced agreement affirms IFES and the Ministry's close work in providing secondary school students with new opportunities to study participatory civics to prepare them for ascension into adulthood, with all the rights and responsibilities that citizens have and should expect living in an emerging democracy. While extracurricular activities have very favorably augmented the IFES program, the civic education course based on the textbook Citizenship and Participation in Governance: Your Role in Civil Society in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century has been the focal point of the IFES-Ministry partnership. For the first time, IFES, with Ministry support, will print part I of the textbook and teacher's guides in three languages: Tajik, Russian, and Uzbek. The civics course improves students' civic knowledge through classroom instruction with a focus on learning through interactive exercises rather than merely a read and lecture format. The course will help Tajik youth learn about the democratic process and their civic responsibilities, and relevant information they need to become future leaders and active, responsible citizens. Methodology of the approach places a premium on the preparation and training of teachers, who hold the key in getting students actively involved in the learning process. The books have been a new and welcome resource for the teachers, students and schools,

which have suffered at the lack of sufficient and quality learning materials. Teachers will benefit from their participation in teacher training activities promoting interactive methodologies, and will receive extensive resource information from a supplemental guide to the course.

Signed in November 2002, the original agreement between IFES and the Ministry of Education established guidelines for the cooperation on a variety of civic education initiatives. The Amendment to the Agreement extends the program of the civic education textbook and scope of overall activities, and includes school-based initiatives such as Student Action Committees, Student Local Government Days, Democracy Summer Camps, Student Conversation Clubs and Student Parliamentary Days.

The teacher's newspaper "Omuzgor" published the amendments to the Agreement with the Ministry of Education so that teachers in all participating schools can receive it.

#### *Civic Education Course/Textbook Project*

IFES completed an Uzbek language translation of part I of the textbook and teacher's guide. IFES Local Editor Turghon Dadabaev completed a review of both documents, while Textbook Coordinator Sayora Grezova oversaw the design of part I of the Uzbek language Teachers Guide. IFES worked with the printing house *Status* on finishing the design of part II of the Russian language Teachers Guide. According to the IFES workplan, it will begin using Part II in the 18 schools that have completed Part I in the Russian language.

IFES met with Mr. Alisher Rahmonberdiev, the Director of Educational Programs of the Informational – Educational Centre *Manizha*. The Center provides professional trainings and will be working with IFES Tajikistan to train teachers for the upcoming 2004-2005 school year in teaching civics through the IFES course. Twenty-three trainings were scheduled to take place, which will include teachers from at least 325 new schools and regions. IFES and *Manizha* planned the trainings for the first quarter of FY05, based on the revised textbook and teacher's guides.

### **School-Based Civic Education Activities**

#### *Democracy Summer Camps*

Summer camp activities held in the Zuhai Campground in Kairakkum (Sughd Oblast) concluded on July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Students representing all regions of Sughd Oblast participated in the ten-day event. The local NGO *Chasmai Hayot* assisted IFES in conducting the Camp, with the help of eight local university students. Among the myriad of daily activities at the Camp, a mock election was held through which students gained knowledge and experience of their rights, roles, and responsibilities as voters. There were three candidates for the camp presidency, two girls and a boy. The boy won with 52% of the vote due to his activeness in the Forum of Candidates and his ability to provide concrete and clear answers to voters' questions. The exercise demonstrated the importance of delivering concise messages to the electorate and taught all students of the value in connecting with the voters. The hope of this project was that students and, by

association their parents and friends, would hold real-life candidates to higher standards and accountability in the future, with the students themselves inspired enough to one day seek office.

A second and final Democracy Summer Camp (DSC) for 15-16 year old students was held in the Varzob region north of Dushanbe. 74 students from Gorno-Badakhshan, Khatlon Oblast, Dushanbe and the Districts of the Republican Subordination participated, of which there were 27 girls and 37 boys. Both the US Embassy and USAID were present at various times during the Camp to provide their support. IFES worked with eight different local NGOs in leading activities and providing training for the students, which focused on human rights, critical thinking, women's rights and gender equality, international standards of democracy, voter's rights, youth rights, trafficking and labor migration, and training in other IFES extracurricular activities. Teachers were selected from different districts to participate in the trainings and provide support for the extra-curricular activities. In addition, eight local university students volunteered to provide assistance throughout the duration of the DSC.

A group of monitors and students from the Varzob Summer Camp met with Nadezda Yegay, Civic Education Specialist from the USAID Mission in Almaty, sharing impressions of the camp and lauding the interactive methodology used by the trainers. Also the group monitors and students positively evaluated the conducted events such as "Youth against drugs," and "AIDS," and the competitions. Students said that their expectations were met and they obtained thorough information on the importance of being responsible, active citizens in social issues and matters of political participation.

#### *Student Conversation Clubs*

A University Student Conversation Club took place in September, featuring a discussion of the Afghan presidential elections. His Excellency Ambassador Muhammad Dovud Panjsheri of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan participated as a guest speaker, leading student discussions and monitoring debates. The Ambassador was particularly interested in meeting with students and talking about the election system in Afghanistan, and was pleasantly surprised at the variety of opinions of the students and the convictions with which they were held. Students compared the situation in Afghanistan with that in Tajikistan, and offered their opinions on the progress achieved in establishing peace and the rule of law in the country. The Ambassador was very impressed with the exchange and offered his presence in the future to support the Conversation Clubs. IFES achieved its goal of getting students to think a bit more broadly about the world they live in and regional politics in which Tajikistan plays a part. The Conversation Clubs project is about voicing one's opinion without reservation and seeing multiple sides to an argument. Students perfect their public speaking skills, ability to reason out sound arguments, and defend their positions, all skills which will make them effective and informed citizens.

#### *Student Action Committees*

IFES Tajikistan coordinated with IFES/Azerbaijan and Project Harmony of Azerbaijan to organize a Discussion Board on Student Action Committees (SACs). Project Harmony in

Azerbaijan is engaged in the Schools Connectivity Project (as IFES is in Tajikistan) and assisted IFES in conducting the Discussion Board through the Internet. Teachers and SAC Mentors from Tajikistan were invited to IFES partner Relief International-Schools Online's Internet Centers in Kulyab, Khujand and Vahdat to participate online during the session. Others worked from the IFES office in Dushanbe. The main objective of this Discussion Board was for SAC Mentors to share their experiences and elaborate on new ideas to develop SACs, and to introduce teachers of Azerbaijan to SAC activities in Tajikistan and vice versa. Teachers and students discussed the importance of SACs in their schools and the role played by other organizations with whom they must partner to achieve their goals. They also analyzed how students are selected for SACs, and how SACs are different from other school organizations supervised by the Ministry of Education.

IFES began SAC monitoring in Dushanbe for the autumn school semester as part of its overall monitoring and evaluation program. Though some schools have already held elections for SAC officers in their schools, SAC activities across participating schools will begin in earnest in October.

#### *Student Local Government Day*

A Student Local Government Day (SLGD) training was conducted in Khujand on September 21. Twenty-seven teachers and students from 21 schools of Khujand attended the training. An SLGD event was conducted in Khujand three days later, with the participation of 19 government officials and 27 students. The local TV station SM-1 filmed part of the event, which it broadcast the same evening. The students had a unique chance to see the work of their local government officials and learn the functioning of the system and the structure of the local Hukumat first hand.

Mr. Usmonjon Olimov, the Head of Finance Department of the Sughd Oblast Hukumat said: "We are happy to see the students in our offices. It helps create a link between the students and the government bodies, so I am sure they will have a positive and real understanding of the Hukumat after this day and will share their experience with their schools, parents and other citizens. Let's also organize such a day for political parties too! Let them come and see our work!"

Mr. Naim Malikislomov, the Head of Regional Education Department stressed that schools and Hukumats should work to expand the SLGD initiative. He asked students who participated in this project to visit the government offices at least once a month to obtain more experience and knowledge.

The SLGD conducted in Khujand served as an engine to promote the relationship between the Hukumats, students, schools and citizens-at-large. It is expected that Khujand city will be the first in Tajikistan to take over the SLGD project and continue its development independently.

### *School Connectivity Project*

IFES met with Anastasiya Reshetova, the Education Coordinator for Relief International - Schools Online and discussed basic issues of the joint cooperation between IFES and Relief International-Schools Online. Reshetova provided IFES with the list of contact persons involved in the School Connectivity project, which will be helpful for the coordination of future activities. The project involves IFES teaching the methodology of conducting Student Action Committees to students and teachers in nearly two dozen “wired” schools across the country, who will record and report on their activities using an online database. IFES Civic Education Coordinator Salohiddin Shamsiddin coordinated the database over the summer, and will continue to work with Mallaev in providing updates and measuring success in student performance. The project represents an extension of the Student Action Committee project, piloting for the first time the use of modern technologies to conduct an IFES civic education project in Tajikistan.

During the course of the summer, IFES visited several RI-SOL Internet Centers, in Isfara, Kanibadam, Istaravshan, Gulakandoz and Khujand. Meetings were held with school directors and online educators of Internet Centers to introduce the IFES Civic Education program and its connectivity with the RI-SOL centers.

### **Political Party Development**

IFES Consultant Mark Foehr arrived in Tajikistan to work with Katherine Müller in support of IFES’ political party development initiatives. Foehr was contracted to lead the regional seminar series for local party branches and help make the transition from post-election law to pre-election activities for the parties.

### *Seminar Series on Gender and Political Activeness in Rural Areas begins*

From July through September, IFES conducted a total of sixteen “Gender Awareness and Political Parties Skill-building” trainings across Tajikistan. Sessions were conducted in Isfara, Konibodom, Kulyab, Vose, Yavon, Khujand, Ghonchi, Shahrinav, Vakhsh, Vahdat, Rudaki, Faizabad, Hissor, Gafurov, Leninskii and Garm. Funding was provided from USAID, the Swiss Development Corporation, and the British Embassy in Dushanbe

IFES trainers presented material and facilitated small group exercises for the gender-based, political party skill building workshops. 400 persons participated representing political parties, government officials, local women NGO leaders, community women-leaders. Representatives from the People’s Democratic Party, Communist Party, Islamic Renaissance Party and Social Democratic Party attended most of the training, with participants from the Democratic and Socialist parties somewhat less numerous in attendance.

Around 30% of the participants said that it was the first time they had received training on their rights. One of the participants said that women in rural areas have fewer opportunities as there is lack of information in those areas. Some participants, who were non-partisan, said that they obtained information about registered political parties and entities and persons subject to run as candidates for the elections. The participants

identified, through discussions and exercises, the main problems that women face in smaller towns, such as: unemployment, lack of skills, low salary, reproductive health issues, extended families and families with many children, adherence to customs, non-working pre-school establishments, shortages of matches and fuel (coal, diesel, firewood), husbands working abroad for long time and being away from the family, and polygamy.

During the trainings, IFES trainers presented material and facilitated small group exercises, which provided a greater understanding of the issues and concerns facing rural women in Tajikistan. Trainers taught participants how to encourage women from all sectors of the country to become more politically and socially active.

The exchange allowed all participants to truly understand the importance of increased female participation in the political process. Many of the female participants appreciated hearing of the importance women play in other societies.

The seminar was geared towards training women in skills such as public speaking and communications so that they can more effectively reach out to their peers and fellow citizens. Additionally, participants discussed the basic structure and functions of the Tajikistan political system.

The seminars contributed to increasing the participation and role of women in the political and democratic process and significantly empowering women to be a greater force in decision-making. IFES conducted the seminars with an eye towards preparing women to participate actively in the forthcoming parliamentary elections in February 2005.

#### *Skill-Building Seminars for Party Branch Members*

Five Communications and Skill-Building Training Seminars were conducted during the fourth quarter for 119 representatives of regional political party branches, public associations, and local Hukumats. The seminars were conducted in Khujand, Vose, Yovon, Vahdat and Isfara is to prepare local political party representatives to conduct party informational outreach activities to the general public. Representatives of all parties participated in the seminars.

IFES and its team of trainers provided leadership, public speaking, and organizational training in addition to basic information about the system of elections in order to increase their effectiveness as communicators and professionals. Participants were provided with the skills and tools necessary to increase their abilities to act as conduits with their constituents about Tajikistan's political system and work to expand their party's base by reaching out to ordinary citizens and generating interest in their party platforms. IFES promoted motivational techniques to encourage participants to become more creative and active in their outreach approaches to the general public and as they refine their party platforms. Additionally, the training seminars were designed to prepare political parties to compete in local and national parliamentary elections with training provided in campaign organization, voter outreach, and other skills.

Participants favorably evaluated the seminars and expressed that all topics were very useful; in particular, they underlined the discussions on the Election Law, the development of political parties, the structure of the central and local governments and responsibilities of each individual branch, as well as the Principles of Democracy. All participants were provided with handout materials and booklets which contain text of the amended Constitution of the RT, extraction of various domestic laws concerning political parties and the Election Law with the new amendments.

#### *Political Party Study Tour*

IFES Tajikistan, supported by AED-Tajikistan and USAID/CAR, organized and conducted a one-week Study Tour of Tajik political party representatives to Slovenia. IFES worked with a local Slovenian NGO, the *Center for Information Services, Cooperation, and the Development of NGOs*, to arrange the portion of the training conducted in-country. Slovenia was chosen as the country for this Study Tour due to a multitude of similarities in the development of democracy and the challenges faced in the transition from communism to democracy. The Study Tour was directed to representatives of the six registered political parties (two persons from each party), a presidential advisor and a representative of the Central Commission for Elections and Referenda (CCER). A brief description of participants' backgrounds and of the selection process is included in the full report. The Socialist Party of Tajikistan did not participate due to internal difficulties between two factions prior to the Tour.

The training activities were organized for five days in three types of sessions. The first type of session included meetings with local counterparts. In turn, these were organized in three different sections, as follows: meetings with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, City Hall/Town House, and Embassy of the United States of America; meetings with NGOs related to issues that must be considered in any political party and governmental program (this included meetings on human rights, children's rights, and human trafficking); meetings at the media station and information center; meetings with the Elections Commission; and meetings with political parties and members of Parliament.

Through the extensive contacts and information gained, the group gained knowledge on a number of technical and practical features of campaigning and participating in elections. Participants learned of the need for cross-party cooperation and coalition building, and gained new ideas on developing strategies for conducting outreach during the campaign period. The group saw first hand the valuable role the mass media can play in an election, how the media should maintain objectivity, and how parties can work with them to convey their messages. They learned about message development and ways, such as through electronic and print media, that they could make voters aware of their platforms. As many Tajik political parties are better known for individual personalities within the parties, participants learned of the need to define the party more widely through platform development. They also viewed the work of local election commissions and how they organize polling stations to operate efficiently.

At the end of the Tour, the participants signed a protocol in which they pledged to disseminate the information learned upon return to Tajikistan and continue a regular

dialogue in which they will form a working group to continue discussing issues related to forthcoming elections and the development of a multi-party political system in Tajikistan. The following excerpt was taken from the group's protocol:

*“As a result of the experience exchange and joint discussions, we decided that only with joint efforts and collaboration of all political parties and government, we could reach considerable success in stabilization and democratization of the society. The gained experience from the study tour to Slovenia will help actively to apply it in practice, especially in conducting of trainings, discussions and seminars in different spheres and regions of the Republic of Tajikistan.”*

#### *Election Observer Training for Political Party Representatives*

IFES and NAPST drafted an Action Plan on training of political party election observers through the February 2005 parliamentary elections, which includes components such as conducting seminar-trainings, radio broadcasting and publishing of posters, manuals and checklists. The project envisions including representatives of Precinct Election Commissions in order to break down barriers normally present between observers and local election officials. IFES worked with Dr. Rahmatillo Zoirov, leader of NGO “Lawyers Consortium,” who assisted in preparation of a draft Observer’s Manual, regulations for observers including a code of conduct, and an observer’s checklist. Political parties were consulted during the development process of the manual in order to have buy-in into the process. NAPST was contracted to jointly organize and implement with IFES the Observer’s Training Program. Training for participants will begin in October.

#### *Study Tour of Elections in Kazakhstan*

A Tajik delegation comprising representatives from 6 registered political parties and led by IFES/Tajikistan Chief of Party Katherine Müller arrived in Almaty to participate in elections to the Majilis as international observers. Prior to election day the group attended training sessions given by other USAID partners, and got to visit the local offices of many of the major political parties and monitoring groups such as the Republican Network of Independent Monitors (RNIM). The delegation learned of the new electronic voting system and discussed the merits of electronic versus paper voting.

Participants were divided into small teams to observe the election process. Also, participants discussed the elections with independent observers from RNIM and a youth election monitoring group called “YISK.” The Tajik observers were able to see the intermediate results of an election – voting preferences survey every hour and talked with people about the election system and voting procedure.

The Tajik group met with the pro-presidential OTAN party (at which 25 OTAN members participated), Democratic Choice of Kazakhstan (DCK), the Civic Party and the Asar party. The Tajiks discussed the political system and development in the Republic of Kazakhstan. They learned about developing party platforms, received information on message development, and compared experiences on reaching out to party supporters, membership solicitation, registration issues and how to work with disabled persons. The group also learned how to attract female voters and build coalitions with other parties to

address common issues. Participants from Tajikistan made suggestions on how to conduct a more transparent election process.

On Election Day, the team visited the 14 stations, spending no less than 40 minutes in each station and observing two closing and counting processes. The results of both countings were followed through to the district levels. The team participated in three different sessions to report the findings. A checklist and report were also presented and the team had a chance to participate in debriefings with other observers once the elections were over. The Tajik political party representatives benefited from the opportunity to liaise with colleagues in a neighboring country and compare notes and experiences from the Kazakh election with their own election coming up in February, with the goal of applying best practices and lessons learned from the Study Tour.

#### *Public Opinion Survey*

As part of our approved work plan for FY 2005, IFES conducted a pre-test of a national public opinion survey to gauge civic attitudes and knowledge of the state of democracy, political parties, and forthcoming elections in Tajikistan. IFES plans on augmenting the project with focus groups that will provide information to be used in subsequent IFES trainings planned as part of the work plan in the coming months before the elections. *Zerkalo*, which has worked before on other USAID-funded survey projects, was selected as the local partner to carry out the survey based on competitive bid. The focus group project will be bid separately. Feedback on the draft questionnaire was received from USAID and the US Embassy. Following the pilot test, revisions to the questionnaire were made and translated into Tajik, Uzbek and Russian. Fieldwork was scheduled to begin in October and conclude in November, with preliminary results being available for briefings and to use in IFES' political party training program leading up to the elections.

#### *Political Party Fair*

IFES began preparations for the Political Party Fair program. NAPST and NGO Armughon have provided short-term assistance in order to prepare a draft version of the Action Plan, which is being reviewed by IFES. A meeting was held with the architect who prepared the design of the fair booths for the political parties and the CCER.

#### *Parliamentary Outreach*

IFES met with the Press Secretary of the Majlisi Oli, Muhammadato Sultonov, and decided to delay production of the televised educational programs until closer to the elections. The programs, which will be shown on state and independent television, will educate citizens on the workings of parliament and the election system without focusing on individual parliamentarians. Rather, the programs will explain the duties of both houses of parliament and how deputies get elected, with the goal of putting a "face" on the election and the work of the parliament. Production for the spots will commence in November.

### **III. MATERIALS PRODUCED**

- Draft brochure on “How to Organize Student Action Committees,” Tajik and Russian languages.
- Newsletter for the Democracy Summer Camp 2004 for Sughd Oblast and the Dushanbe area, Tajik and Russian languages.
- Technical report on 2004 Democracy Summer Camps.
- Civic Education Textbook brochure, Tajik, Russian and English languages.
- SAC brochure, Tajik, Russian and English languages.
- Political Party Development brochure, Tajik, Russian and English.
- Informational brochure for Civic Education Textbook, English and Russian.
- Civic Education Brochure, Tajik and Russian languages.
- Draft Election Observer’s manual.
- Revised Civic Education Textbook, Part I, Russian language.
- Revised Civic Education Textbook, Part I, Tajik language.
- Civic Education Textbook, Part I, Uzbek language.
- Civic Education Textbook, Part II, Russian language.
- Civic Education Textbook, Part II, Tajik language.
- Final Report, 2004 Political Party Study Tour to Slovenia.
- Final Report, 2004 Political Party Study Tour to Kazakhstan.
- Final report, Gender-based and Skills Development Political Party Training Seminars.

### **IV. ISSUES AND CHALLENGES**

A revised, expanded Memorandum of Understanding was finally concluded with the Ministry of Education after much delay. U.S. Ambassador Richard Hoagland and USAID Country Director Peter Argo attended the ceremony, with the Ambassador signing the Memorandum together with Minister Rajabov and IFES Chief of Party Katherine Müller. The USAID country office and regional office in Almaty were instrumental in assisting push through the document and overcome significant bureaucratic obstacles. Special mention should be made of the support offered by Ashley Moretz and Mavjuda Nabieva of the country office, and by Nadya Yegay in the regional office.

A question remains of how the course and book will be implemented. IFES learned during the process of negotiating the revised Memorandum that the number of courses in the Tajik national curriculum is being reduced, and “civics” as a subject will not have a dedicated course. While IFES hopes this decision is reconsidered, we have been told that the civics book material can be integrated into two other courses, including history and social studies. It is IFES’ sincere hope that civics as a separate course will be maintained for all grade levels. In any event, IFES received assurances from the Ministry that the civics course material will be taught in the classes, and provided IFES the mandate to produce enough books for all schools in the country. IFES’ goal is to turn the book and

course over to the Ministry in two years' time, and will work to ensure that civics retains a prominent place in the national curriculum.

IFES noted mounting problems with opposition political parties trying to register (Vahdat, Taraqqiyot) and one already registered (the Socialist Party). The former were denied registration on administrative grounds, while the latter faced internal dissent and possible fracturing due to a challenge to that party's leadership as reported in the previous IFES quarterly report (which also forced the party to be excluded from the IFES-led Study Tour to Slovenia in July). Pressures from the government have also been brought to bear on the Democratic Party, which may be forced to withdraw from the Coalition for Free and Transparent Elections. The other two members of that Coalition, the Social-Democratic Party and the Islamic Renaissance Party, have faced their own obstacles in printing party information and campaigning. The closure of a major printing press forced the cessation of print runs of the IRPT's party newsletter, and both parties have reported harassment of members. The Communist Party, though considering joining the coalition, also faced challenges in conducting its activities.

Leadership of the unregistered Taraqqiyot Party applied to three political parties - Social Democratic (SDPT), Democratic (DPT) and Socialist (SPT) - proposing to jointly participate in the upcoming parliamentary elections in Tajikistan. The agreement declared that the DPT and Taraqqiyot Party had realized that the upcoming parliamentary elections were a major event for development of the country, so they combined their efforts to strengthen democratic fundamentals in Tajikistan. According to the conditions of the agreement, the SDPT and Taraqqiyot were considered as partners though not seen as uniting into one party. Under the agreement, SDPT and Taraqqiyot were to act in the upcoming 2005 elections jointly, nominating common candidates to stand for the election in single-mandate constituencies and including common candidates on a party list. In order to prepare and hold election campaigns, the SDPT and Taraqqiyot parties set up common - central and district - pre-election headquarters. In accordance with the agreement, SDPT included eight Taraqqiyot candidates on its party list. Nomination of candidates to the single-mandate constituencies will be implemented by district and city organizations of the SDPT under recommendation of the Central Headquarters. Any disputes raised will be settled via consultations and, when necessary, conciliation commissions will be formed. However, the denial of registration of Taraqqiyot, which has its power base in the Kulyab region, cast serious doubt on the legality and viability of the partnership.

The Socialist Party of Tajikistan (SPT) released a statement accusing the government of interfering with internal affairs of the SPT. The statement indicated that on June 20 of the current year, the Senior Adviser to the President, Qurbon Vosiev, and an employee of the Ministry of Education, Abduhalim Ghafforov, who were no longer members of the SPT, held an illegal congress of "their Socialist Party" in Dushanbe. The SPT chairman Mirhusein Narziyev said that the SPT considered such a step as interference of the president's office and of the government in the internal affairs of the party, trying to turn the SPT into a pro-government political organization.

On July 29, an unknown person severely beat Rajab Mirzo, editor-in-chief of the independent Dushanbe weekly "Ruzi Nav." This was the second time in six months that the journalist was beaten. As Mirzo stressed, he didn't want to disclose the incident in order to not provoke a negative public feeling towards the government. But, he stated, he will not keep silent any more. Mirzo considers this to be a politically motivated incident. Copies of his statement were sent to the Prosecutor General, the Interior Minister, and heads of some diplomatic missions and international organizations in Tajikistan. The incident underscored the deteriorating conditions that Tajik journalists have been operating under over the past several months, a situation that Ambassador Hoagland himself has commented on publicly.

Several independent publications, including Ruzi Nav, Nerui Sukhan, Odam va Olam, and Najot, were unable to print and distribute their circulations due to the closure of the "Jiyonkhon" printing house by the tax police. Other printing houses were reluctant to sign contracts with the mentioned papers for fear of similar repercussions. This attack on the independent press further underscores the worsening environment in which the independent media operates.

In keeping with IFES' requirement to raise outside funds to meet its textbook printing needs, the Hough Family Foundation (USA) approved a \$10,800 grant to IFES for the purpose of printing, distributing and conducting Teacher Training for the first edition of the Uzbek language civic education textbook, Citizenship and Participation in Governance: Your Role in Civil Society in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. The generous donation represented a part of the funds needed to expand to new schools with parts I and II of the textbook and teacher's manual in the Tajik, Russian and Uzbek languages.

#### IV. PERFORMANCE MONITORING

Performance Indicator	Indicator Definition & Unit of Measure	Data Source	Data for Q4 FY04
<b>Curriculum Development</b>			
# of New Students Participating in the Civic Education Course	Student Participation and Reach of the Textbook and New Teaching Methodologies	Participating Schools	For FY 2004, 9440 new students took the course (3500 expected in original benchmarks) 124 new schools added (106 expected in original benchmarks). New schools will be reported under the Q1-05 report for FY2005 to coincide

			with the beginning of the new school year and workplan.
<b>Student Action Committees</b>			
# New Students Participating in SACs (# of Women)	Student Participation and Reach of Extracurricular Civic Education Activities	Teachers/Mentors	50 (30) for FY2004. No new SACs were conducted during Q4-04, as all activities for FY2004 were already completed.
# of SACs Formed (# of Activities)	Reach and Activeness of SACs	Teachers/Mentors	3 (6) for FY2004. No new SACs were conducted during Q4-04, as all activities for FY2004 were already completed.
<b>Student Local Government Days</b>			
# of Students (# of Government Officials) Participating in SLGD	Student Participation and Reach of Extracurricular Civic Education Activities That Promote Real-Life Learning	IFES	27 in one SLGD activity, with 19 local officials participating. For the year, IFES achieved it's projected target of 4 new SLGDs, with 58 students and 45 local officials participating. At least five other SLGDs took place independently, with an average of ten students and five local officials, each.
<b>Information Resources</b>			

# of Hits on the Website	Awareness and Interest in IFES Resources	IFES	9576 (new)
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**Student Conversation Clubs**

# New Students Participating in SACs (# of Women in SCCs)	Participation and Reach of SCCs	IFES	30 (15) new 210 (90) (for the year)
# of New SCC Events	Reach of SCCs	IFES	Monthly in six universities during school year.

**Democracy Summer Camps**

# of Students Applying for Summer Camps (# of Participants)	Student Participation, Awareness, and Interest in Extracurricular Civic Education Activities	IFES	600 (144 accepted) in two summer camps for 2004.
% of Students with a Better Understanding of Democratic Values	Increased Understanding of the Rights and Responsibilities of Citizens Who Value Democracy	IFES	100% (according to test results)
% of Students Expressing Interest in Civic Activism	Impact or Extracurricular Civic Education Activities on Behavior	IFES	100% (according to test results)

**Political Party Development – Communications and Skill-Building Training Seminars**

# of Participants in Political Party Development Programs	Participation and Reach of Training	IFES	New during quarter: 97, in four events.  Total for year: 119, in five events.  Benchmark: 100, in five events.  46 women participated out of 119 total participants, or
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			38.6%. IFES' target had been 50% women's participants, but there are more men as members of parties than women.
Level of Informal Networking Among Women	Impact of Training	IFES	High (based on observation)
Application of Skills Obtained During Training	Impact of Training	IFES	Evident based on exit questionnaires and direct observation.
% of IFES-Trained Party Trainers Conducting Training Programs Independent of IFES	Impact of Training	IFES	Numerous, based on observation.

**Political Party Development – Gender-Based Training Seminars**

# of Participants in Political Party Development Programs	Participation and Reach of Training	IFES	<p>New during quarter: 375 new, in 14 events.</p> <p>Total for year: 395, in 15 events.</p> <p>Benchmarks: 100 participants in 5 training sessions. Funds from British Embassy and Swiss Development Corporation allowed IFES to conduct additional events.</p>
Level of Informal Networking Among Women	Impact of Training	IFES	High, based on observation.

Application of Skills Obtained During Training	Impact of Training	IFES	High, based on observation and exit testing.
% of IFES-Trained Party Trainers Conducting Training Programs Independent of IFES	Impact of Training	IFES	Several, based on reports to IFES.

**Political Party Development – NAPST Round Table Discussions**

# of Events and Participants (including # of “Ordinary Citizens” participating)	Participation of attendees in promoting and advancing discussion of sensitive and topical political issues.	IFES	No new ones, series complete for year.  Year total: 4 (99 total participants, with around 10% non-political party or NGO)
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**Political Party Development – Parliamentary Outreach Project**

# of Viewers Watching the Parliamentary Information Show	Discussions with students and family members.	IFES	0 programs completed; rescheduled for FY 2005 to take place closer to election with election- and parliament-specific information.
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**Political Party Development – Political Party Legislation Review**

# of “productive” discussions held on the PP law	Discussion events on the political party law	IFES, event co-organizers	Project not completed*
# of participating discussants, from parliament and	Political party representatives, deputies, lawyers/experts and other interested parties	IFES	Project not completed*

political parties	attending the discussion sessions		
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\*IFES determined that recent analyses of the Law on Political Parties as conducted by the United Nations and OSCE are sufficient in assessing its status. As the law has not been changed since those analyses were conducted, IFES felt a new analysis would prove redundant. With only 5% of available resources dedicated to the project, it was felt these could be better used in other aspects of the IFES political party development program.