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LTBA

Volunteers for Economic Growth Alliance

# **VEGA Armenia Long Term Business Advisors**

## **Quarterly Report (October – December 2006)**

**LEADER WITH ASSOCIATE AGREEMENT (LWA)  
EEM-A-00-04-00002-00**

**Associate Cooperative Agreement  
111-A-00-05-00061-00**

**Prepared for the United States Agency for  
International Development (USAID)**

*Implementing Organizations:*

INSTITUTE OF  
INTERNATIONAL  
EDUCATION



**Subject:** USAID/Armenia Long Term Business Volunteers

**Dates Covered:** November 1 – December 31, 2006

**Reference:** Associate Cooperative Agreement No. 111-A-00-05-00061-00 (VEGA Associate Award) and Modification 1 for Emerging Markets Development Advisers Program (EMDAP)

**Summary:**

This period marked the transition from the 2005-06 Advisers, all of whom have now completed their assignments, to the new group of recently fielded 2006-07 Advisers.

**Tasks completed this quarter:**

- Fielded four new Advisers, Marshall Chase, Sarah Gray, Jeff Standley, and Anthony Woodham. The Advisers participated in a pre-departure orientation in Washington, DC from November 13-16, 2006.
- Disbursed funds to all Advisers.
- Received initial contact and logistical information from Advisers.
- Received confirmation that the process of obtaining residency permits for all four Advisers is underway with assistance from the Mission and their in-country logistics officer.
- Continued to monitor Case Study development of 2005-06 Advisers.
- Invited 2005-06 group to de-briefing set for March 8-9, 2007 in Washington, DC.

**Volunteers and Assignments:**

**1. Marshall Chase, Senior Adviser for Advocacy, American Chamber of Commerce (AmCham)**

Contact e-mail: [mdchase@umich.edu](mailto:mdchase@umich.edu)

Assignment Period: 10 months, November 27, 2006 – September 27, 2007

Training: TBD

At the start of his assignment, Marshall notified EMDAP that the AmCham Board was asking him to sign a Memorandum of Understanding that would outline the terms of his employment including, among other things, a confidentiality clause, an at will “employment” statement, and a prohibition against Marshall soliciting employment from AmCham member companies when his assignment ends. He requested and received feedback from USAID/Armenia and IIE on suggested compromise language and made clear to the Board his willingness to work towards a mutual solution. Marshall is confident that the final draft, which has



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been shared with the Mission, will be accepted by the Board upon return from their vacation in February. Marshall's deft and tactful handling of the various players in this delicate situation helped prevent a potential impasse and bodes well for his future success in this liaison position.

**2. Sarah Gray, Public Outreach Adviser, USAID Armenia Tax Improvement Project (ATIP), Booz Allen Hamilton (BAH)**

Contact e-mail: [rosiesg9@hotmail.com](mailto:rosiesg9@hotmail.com)

Assignment Period: 10 months: November 27, 2006 – September 27, 2007

Training: TBD

A day-long meeting with Booz Allen Hamilton in the Washington, DC, area was arranged for Sarah and Anthony immediately following the IIE portion of the pre-departure orientation. The meeting provided a comprehensive overview of ATIP and the country context in which the project is being implemented. All key players from BAH who have been involved in the project from its inception gave a detailed presentation on ATIP and explained Sarah and Anthony's respective roles in the project. At the end of the day, both Sarah and Anthony commented on how much better prepared they felt to take on their assignments and were eager to start.

**3. Jeff Standley, Business Consultant, Shirak Competitiveness Center**

Contact e-mail: [JeffStandley@msn.com](mailto:JeffStandley@msn.com)

Assignment Period: 10 months: November 27, 2006 - September 27, 2007

Training: TBD

Jeff's work plan goals are:

- Assist in strategy development and further define mission focus
- Develop capacity of the organization to meet its goals: funding and revenue generation; marketing of products and services; HR development programs

“Initially I will be reviewing higher level strategic issues that the President has not had time to focus on,” Jeff explains. “Then I will begin working on the operational issues of services provided to clients/customers.”

**4. Anthony Woodham, Financial Analyst, USAID Armenia Tax Improvement Project (ATIP), Booz Allen Hamilton (BAH)**

Contact e-mail: [ABWoodham@yahoo.com](mailto:ABWoodham@yahoo.com)

Assignment Period: 10 months: November 27, 2006-September 27, 2007



Training: TBD

See description of meeting with BAH, under Sarah Gray.

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