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ACCOUNTING/CERTIFIED INTERNATIONAL PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANT (CIPA) PROJECT

SIXTH QUARTERLY REPORT

DECEMBER 2007 – FEBRUARY 2008

March 11, 2008

This report was produced for review by the United States Agency for International Development. It was prepared by the USAID A/CIPA Project implemented by The Pragma Corporation.

ACCOUNTING/CERTIFIED INTERNATIONAL PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANT (A/CIPA) PROJECT

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DECEMBER 2007 – FEBRUARY 2008

CONTRACT NUMBER: 176-M-00-06-00006

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The author's views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.

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INTRODUCTION

Highlights for the Quarter:

- In December 2007 USAID participated in the handover of CIPAEN to ECCAA and as from January 1, 2008, CIPAEN will be a financially sustainable organisation operated as an Independent Examination Network within the ownership and control of the IFAC Acknowledged Regional Grouping, ECCAA.
- In Uzbekistan the Project trained, developed and graded the First Certificate of Tax Consultants examinations for over 30 nominated experts for this brand new qualification.
- As part of USAID's Programme for Economic Development (PED) the first IFRS training began in Astana in January 2008 and will be cascaded through a total of 17 cities in Kazakhstan until April 2008.
- Training of Trainers (TOT) in Turkmenistan for CIPA FA-2 through UNDP and The Central Bank of Turkmenistan began in February 2008, and 3 working groups were established by A/CIPA to shape IFRS adoption in Turkmenistan.
- A/CIPA supported the First Accounting and Auditing Conference in Kyrgyzstan.
- The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland (ICAS) conducted a key governance assessment of ECCAA.

KAZAKHSTAN

Implementation Issues

We asked HEIs with professors who took November CAP exams to compile a list of teachers in order to reimburse a part of their exam fees (50% to those who passed exam and 25% to those who failed) to encourage their exam participation after TOT CAP was completed. The Project met with RK Ministry of Education to update them on the TOT (CAP) for university professors conducted in September- December 2007 in 5 cities of Kazakhstan. We discussed opportunities to provide Competencies based methodology training for specialists of Kazakh Economic University named after Ryskulov who are developing the State Educational Standards for Accounting.

As part of USAID's PED the Project met with RK Ministry of Finance to discuss status of the IFRS training being conducted by Hock Training and financed by the A/CIPA project at the request of the Ministry. Ten-day IFRS courses have been successfully completed in Astana, Petropavlovsk, Shymkent, Kzyl-Orda, Taldy-Korgan and Taraz.

Student Club meetings were held at The Kazakh University of Economics, Finance and International Trade in Astana on the subject of "Job Opportunities for University Graduates". Guest lecturer, Jonathan Crum - Regional Liaison, Data Management and Administrative Coordinator of USAID Business Environment Improvement Project - shared his business experience with students, explained how to write a CV and resume, how to prepare for an interview, and answered their questions.

Progress towards Benchmarks

Deliverable	Measurement	1st Year Target	1st Year Actual	2nd Year Target	Progress
A minimum of 10 universities substantially upgrade their Accounting Curriculum	Number of universities	4	12	Complete	Completed in first year with 12 universities upgraded
A minimum of an additional 150 CAP courses, taught by qualified professors, are introduced in the HEIs throughout Central Asia	Monitored Courses	45	62	35	86 courses taught by KZ teachers that completed the TOT(CAP)
During the second year of A/CIPA, 1000 CAP exams are taken by students in Central Asia	Number of registered students	N/A	N/A	450	140 student registrations for November 2007 CAP exams
A minimum of an additional 3000 CAPs, 50 CIPAs are certified; Certifications should be tracked by gender and capital city vs. regions	CAP+CIPA candidates meaning that participant has passed the 3 exams for CAP level or 7 exams for CIPA level.	1050 CAP level; 15 CIPA level	983 CAP level; 8 CIPA level	1058 CAP level; 12 CIPA level	See table in the Appendix

Deliverable	Measurement	1st Year Target	1st Year Actual	2nd Year Target	Progress
CIPAEN program integrity in Central Asia is maintained during the project and an HR review conducted to assess and report on the competence of the current CIPAEN staff to manage an examinations network	Number of exam sessions held	N/A	Exam sessions successfully conducted in Nov 2006, Mar 2007, and Jul 2007	3 sessions - Nov 2007, Mar 2008, Jul 2008	Nov 2007 session successfully conducted
Online registration for CIPA exams in each country office is developed, implemented, marketed, and tracked for performance	Percentage of registrations done online	10%	0%	10%	Nil
The CAP/CIPA syllabus will be reviewed, benchmarked and remodeled according to competency based approach.	At least 15 competencies identified	N/A	N/A	20	Nil
ECCAA has adopted and adapted the version of the complete IFAC International Education Standards (IES)	IES adopted formally by board of directors	First 6 standards adopted and implemented	ECCAA formally adopted IFAC requirements for international best practice	Standards 7 and 8 adopted and implemented	Discussions with ICAS have started and it is expected that the Scottish Institute have agreed to provide a template for the planning process. ICAS performed a key governance assessment in February.

Deliverable	Measurement	1st Year Target	1st Year Actual	2nd Year Target	Progress
All ECCAA full members in Central Asia have the CAP designation as requirement for full membership of individuals	Requirement listed in every charter; Members have taken and passed at least all 3 CAP level exams	ECCAA charter audited	COMPLETE	N/A	Completed in first year
Engage ICAS to monitor the work of ECCAA to develop a strategic plan, to form a Department of Education, to institute IFAC compliant CPD, to strengthen certification and develop quality control.	Course list created and published on ECCAA website; Requirement listed in every charter; Members of member associations start taking courses	ECCAA charter audited; Member charters audited; Course list published on website	Requirement listed in every charter, 148 members trained but no common course list created	Course list published and at least 100 members trained	Discussions with ICAS have started and it is expected that the Scottish Institute have agreed to provide a template for the planning process. ICAS performed a key governance assessment in February.
IFRS training to be made available to Government officials, Regulators and any other financial sector Overseers.	At least one course in each year for a minimum of 10 officials in each country	1 course in KZ	0 courses	14 courses in KZ	6 courses completed (Astana, Petropavlovsk, Shymkent, Kzyl-Orda, Taldy-Korgan, and Taraz)

Deliverable	Measurement	1st Year Target	1st Year Actual	2nd Year Target	Progress
Participate in IFRS roundtable discussions	Provide or be speakers at, or participate in roundtables, conferences, etc on IFRS and education issues	1 in KZ	1 roundtable	10 in KZ	No conferences in the sixth quarter; 3 total in 2 nd year.
IFRS/ISA articles are written for the accounting press	At least 12 articles per annum in Kazakhstan.	12 articles in KZ	67 articles	12 articles in KZ	19 Articles in the sixth quarter, 39 total in 2 nd Year
Establish student clubs in selected universities in Kazakhstan	At least 2 student clubs	N/A	N/A	2 clubs	3 Student Clubs Opened – 1 In Astana And 2 In Almaty. COMPLETE
Support special methodological / pedagogical training to accounting professors in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan	Number of professors taught	N/A	N/A	100	160 Teachers received attendance certificates COMPLETE
Conduct teaching methods workshop for selected group of professors	Number of professors taught	N/A	N/A	25 in KZ	Planned for summer 2008

Deliverable	Measurement	1st Year Target	1st Year Actual	2nd Year Target	Progress
Conduct exam site audits in March 2008 and July 2008	At least 8 audits in Central Asia	N/A	N/A	4 audits in KZ	Planned for March
Replace existing MIS examination papers	At least 3 new exams	N/A	N/A	3 new papers	Nil
TOT in IFRS Teaching Methodology for MOF training center	Number of Trainers trained	N/A	N/A	10 trainers	Nil
TOT(IFRS) for MOF training center teachers	Number of Trainers trained	N/A	N/A	10 trainers	Nil

Obstacles encountered, possible delays in achieving the established benchmarks

1. The MOF has issued new regulations on Accreditation of Accounting qualifications for Public Interest Entities and Professional Bodies
2. ECCAA has a staff of 3; the ED, an Accountant and an Assistant and until its human resources are added to, the progress on capacity building is limited

Proposed Changes to the Work Plan

A year 2 work plan has been submitted to USAID and is under active consideration.

Forecast of Activities for the Quarter March to May 2008

1. At least three articles published in the accounting and auditing press
2. TOT (EXAMS) commences in April 2008
3. PED commitments with the MOF to be progressed with IFRS courses until April 2008
4. PED commitments with the MOF training section to be progressed in March 2008
5. STTA for Examinations and Education Expert for CIPAEN progressed.

KYRGYZSTAN

Implementation Issues

From December 18-20, 2007, the USAID Accounting and Certified International Professional Accountant Project (A/CIPA) in collaboration with Financial Market Oversight and Regulation Service (FMORS) of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Institute for Accounting and Auditing Development (IAAD) held the 1st National Conference on Accounting and Auditing Reform aimed at coordinating activities in the reform of the accounting and auditing system.

The goal of the conference was to develop recommendations for regulators on the further development of accounting and auditing in the Kyrgyz Republic.

The reports delivered during the conference included: Issues in the application of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) in the business environment including methodological aspects; Significance of disclosures in businesses' financial statements; Continuous professional education and development among accountants and auditors; Quality control; Education standards as promulgated by International Federation of Accountants (IFAC); and other acute and relevant issues.

The conference was attended by representatives of state bodies, professional associations of accountants and auditors, auditing firms including the 'Big Four' public accounting firms (the world's four largest accounting and consulting companies), businesses, commercial banks, insurance companies, higher education institutions and other stakeholder organizations.

The outcome of the conference was a Resolution, which was agreed by all participants unanimously and given in the form of recommendations to the Financial Market Oversight and Regulation Service (FMORS) of the Kyrgyz Republic on the further development of accounting and auditing in the Kyrgyz Republic.

The Project met with Ms. Aza Migranyan, senior teacher of accounting of Kyrgyz Russian Slavic University to discuss further details of planned Conference/Training for Heads of Accounting Departments.

We received the following materials from the University of Central Asia: MA-I, practice and T&L, Kyrgyzstan for quality control examination.

The Head of the Accounting Department of Osh Technological University, Mr. R. Uzenbaev, presented an idea for professional development of HEI instructors in the southern part of the Kyrgyz Republic. Mr. Uzenbaev offered technical assistance, venues for possible trainings and a list of HEI instructors and interested parties for professional development training. A/CIPA Kyrgyzstan may negotiate with professional bodies so that they could provide trainers.

Progress towards Benchmarks

Deliverable	Measurement	1st Year Target	1st Year Actual	2nd Year Target	Progress
A minimum of 10 universities substantially upgrade their Accounting Curriculum	Number of universities	1	8	COMPLETE	Completed in the first year
A minimum of an additional 150 CAP courses, taught by qualified professors, are introduced in the HEIs throughout Central Asia	Monitored Courses	20	16	35	6 courses taught by KG teachers that completed the TOT(CAP)
During the second year of A/CIPA, 1000 CAP exams are taken by students in Central Asia	Number of exams registered by students	N/A	N/A	250	132 student registrations for November 2007 CAP exams
A minimum of an additional 3000 CAPs, 50 CIPAs are certified; Certifications should be tracked by gender and capital city vs. regions	CAP+CIPA candidates meaning that participant has passed the 3 exams for CAP level or 7 exams for CIPA level.	175 CAP level; 2 CIPA level	126 CAP level; 6 CIPA level	153 CAP level; 7 CIPA level	See table in the Appendix
Online registration for CIPA exams in each country office is developed, implemented, marketed, and tracked for performance	Percentage of registrations done online	10%	0%	10%	Nil

Deliverable	Measurement	1st Year Target	1st Year Actual	2nd Year Target	Progress
All ECCAA full members in Central Asia have the CAP designation as requirement for full membership of individuals	Requirement listed in every charter; Members have taken and passed at least all 3 CAP level exams	1 Member charter audited	COMPLETE	N/A	Completed in first year
All ECCAA full members in Central Asia have IFAC compliant CPE programs in place	Course list created and published on ECCAA website; Requirement listed in every charter; Members of member associations start taking courses	All member charters audited;	Member charters audited	At least 50 members trained	To follow ECCAA/ICAS progress
IFRS training to be made available to Government officials, Regulators and any other financial sector Overseers.	At least one course in each year for a minimum of 10 officials in each country	1 course in KG	0 courses	1 course in KG	Technical Assistance offered to the National Bank.
Support special methodological/pedagogical training to accounting professors in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan	Number of professors taught	N/A	N/A	35	43 attendance certificates were distributed. COMPLETE

Deliverable	Measurement	1st Year Target	1st Year Actual	2nd Year Target	Progress
Participate in IFRS roundtable discussions	Provide or be speakers at, or participate in roundtables, conferences, etc on IFRS and education issues	1 roundtable in KG	1 roundtable held in February 2007	3 roundtables in KG	“1st National Conference on Accounting and Auditing Reform” and “Basic Trends of Changes in the Content of Education and Quality Assessment Systems” in the 6 th quarter; total of 3 in Year 2. COMPLETE
IFRS/ISA articles are written for the accounting press	At least 2 articles per year in Kyrgyzstan.	2 articles in KG	19 articles	6 articles in KG	11 articles in the sixth quarter; 19 total in Year 2
Conduct teaching methods workshop for selected group of professors	Number of professors taught	N/A	N/A	10 in KG	Planned for summer 2008
Exam Delivery and Grading will be reviewed and benchmarked with international best practice including the use of technology and multiple choice questions	At least 1 paper per CAP subject	N/A	3 exams	7 exams	3 MCQ exams have been created and used
Conduct exam site audits in March 2008 and July 2008	At least 8 audits in Central Asia	N/A	N/A	1 audit in KG	Planned for March
Exam question quality control team recruited and trained	Team members recruited and trained	N/A	N/A	4 members	Nil

Deliverable	Measurement	1st Year Target	1st Year Actual	2nd Year Target	Progress
IFRS awareness training for senior managers in KG	Number of managers trained	N/A	N/A	10 managers	Nil
Post IFRS in Russian on a website downloadable for free.	Number of hits on website	N/A	N/A	100 hits	Nil

Obstacles encountered, possible delays in achieving the established benchmarks

Political uncertainty with Government Agencies has made progress in all areas slower than we would have expected, however we continue to progress our contacts with the State Regulatory Body and the University of Central Asia.

Proposed Changes to the Work Plan

A year 2 work plan has been submitted to USAID and is under active consideration.

Forecast of Activities for the Quarter March to May 2008

1. TOT (EXAMS) to begin in April 2008
2. Articles to be published in accounting press
3. Kyrgyz Russian Slavic University conference with A/CIPA

TAJIKISTAN

Implementation Issues

The Project met with USAID representatives and Farogat Gafurova regarding the adoption of IFRS in Tajikistan. The Ministry of Finance through an initiative group consisting of Public Institutes representatives, members of different audit and consultant companies etc., is working on methodological recommendations and how to use International Standards in practice. They have already discussed 4 standards and work is really progressing well. Many companies appear to be making IFRS conversion, but they need to re-educate their chief accountants on IFRS.

The Project met with Abir Mengniev (PIPAART), John Irons, USAID/ Director of Economical Development programs, Svetlana Golovatskaya and Daler Asrorov concerning further development of CIPA Exams in Tajikistan and the relationships between ECCAA and the Tajik association. Abir Mengniev hired a person who carries out the registration and fee collection and he intends to conduct March exams in Khorog and Khujand regions as well as in Dushanbe. The contracts with Universities who will assist in registration have been signed and they also will provide an exam room for free. During the meeting IFRS issues were also discussed. Mengniev recommended attaching the CAP/CIPA program by legislation to the MoF. He also suggested that every Chief accountant should have to pass the FAI exam in order to work in that position.

Gulmira Hamrakulova the Head of the Methodology Department of the Tajik Ministry of Finance explained that the Ministry issued a Decree according to which all enterprises will have to transfer to IFRS gradually; this will take place from January 1, 2008 to 2010. She said that 36 enterprises in Tajikistan have already transferred to IFRS from January 1, 2008. She explained that they understand the importance of IFRS, have created subsequent governmental decrees that have specified the dates for IFRS transfer and made IFRS legally binding for all enterprises in Tajikistan, and showed a publication in a newspaper as proof. Because of lack of resources they would like USAID to assist them in IFRS implementation. Currently they are working on methodological recommendations and how to use International Standards. They will also revise the Accounting and Auditing law.

Progress towards Benchmarks

Deliverable	Measurement	1st Year Target	1st Year Actual	2nd Year Target	Progress
A minimum of 10 universities substantially upgrade their Accounting Curriculum	Number of universities	0	7 universities	COMPLETE	Completed in the first year
A minimum of an additional 150 CAP courses, taught by qualified professors, are introduced in the HEIs throughout Central Asia	Monitored Courses	15	25	15	8 courses taught by TJ teachers that completed the TOT(CAP)
During the second year of A/CIPA, 1000 CAP exams are taken by students in Central Asia	Number of exams registered by students	N/A	N/A	100	24 student registrations for November 2007 CAP exams
A minimum of an additional 3000 CAPs, 50 CIPAs are certified; Certifications should be tracked by gender and capital city vs. regions	CAP+CIPA candidates meaning that participant has passed the 3 exams for CAP level or 7 exams for CIPA level.	40 CAP level; 2 CIPA level	13 CAP level; 2 CIPA level	22 CAP level; 3 CIPA level	See table in the Appendix
Online registration for CIPA exams in each country office is developed, implemented, marketed, and tracked for performance	Percentage of registrations done online	10%	0%	10%	Payments system pilot will be run first in TJ, but is on hold pending authorization of CIPAEN bank account to accept payments

Deliverable	Measurement	1st Year Target	1st Year Actual	2nd Year Target	Progress
All ECCAA full members in Central Asia have the CAP designation as requirement for full membership of individuals	Requirement listed in every charter; Members have taken and passed at least all 3 CAP level exams	1 Member charter audited	COMPLETE	N/A	Completed in the first year
All ECCAA full members in Central Asia have IFAC compliant CPE programs in place	Course list created and published on ECCAA website; Requirement listed in every charter; Members of member associations start taking courses	All member charters audited;	Member charters audited	At least 20 members trained	To follow ECCAA/ICAS progress
IFRS or CAP/CIPA training to be made available to Government officials, Regulators and any other financial sector Overseers.	At least one course in each year for a minimum of 10 officials in each country	1 course in TJ	1 course	1 course in TJ	IFRS course for MinFin completed in September 2007 COMPLETE
Participate in IFRS roundtable discussions	Provide or be speakers at, or participate in roundtables, conferences, etc on IFRS and education issues	1 roundtable in TJ	1 roundtable in Feb 2007	1 roundtable in TJ	Nil
IFRS/ISA articles are written for the accounting press	At least 2 articles per year in Tajikistan.	2 articles in TJ	3 articles	2 articles in TJ	4 articles in the 6 th quarter; total of 8 in Year 2.

Deliverable	Measurement	1st Year Target	1st Year Actual	2nd Year Target	Progress
Support special methodological/pedagogical training to accounting professors in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan	Number of professors taught	N/A	N/A	10	30 attendance certificates were distributed. COMPLETE
Conduct teaching methods workshop for selected group of professors	Number of professors taught	N/A	N/A	3 in TJ	Planned for Summer 2008
Conduct exam site audits in March 2008 and July 2008	At least 8 audits in Central Asia	N/A	N/A	1 audit in TJ	Planned for March

Obstacles encountered, possible delays in achieving the established benchmarks

The lack of drive from the Government of Tajikistan is hampering any progress with curriculum reform, which in turn is reducing the number of candidates for CAP and CIPA courses. As a result, the Accounting and Auditing Professional Bodies are not as active as they could be.

Proposed Changes to the Work Plan

A year 2 work plan has been submitted to USAID and is under active consideration.

Forecast of Activities for the Quarter March to May 2008

1. Articles to be produced for the accounting press
2. ECCAA members' meeting in Dushanbe in April 2008

TURKMENISTAN

Implementation Issues

Based on the MOU signed between the UNDP Accounting Modernization in Banking Sector Project and USAID A/CIPA Project on December 12, the Project's STTA commenced in February 2008 working on the TM Banking system with the UNDP and the Central Bank of Turkmenistan and defined four key directions:

1. Improvement of the Accounting System in Banking Sector;
2. Trainings for banking workers;
3. Introduction of the IFRS to the banking sector;
4. Development of audit in banking activity.

The working groups to work under the first two directions were established. The participants of the group discussed issues at a roundtable and defined the tasks for the next two months.

Jeren Rejepova, the UNDP Project Manager, A. Bayramova, the Head of the School of Economy and Business as well as National Consultant of TM Central Bank Seisova Gulsoltan met with J. Alanurova, the Deputy Chairman of the Supreme Council for Science and Technology of TM. During the meeting they discussed the issues of government approval of the CIPA Program and introduction of the subjects into the curriculum of the HEIs. Ms. Alanurova explained to the participants of the meeting the procedure of approving the Program and expressed her readiness to support the CIPA Program in TM.

The USAID A/CIPA Project together with the UNDP Accounting Modernization in Banking Sector Project started a CIPA FA-2 course. USAID Resident Representative Ashley Moretz, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative Inita Pulovich, as well as the USAID and UNDP Project Managers and specialists of the Central Bank of TM took part in the opening ceremony.

A/CIPA Regional Association Coordinator Victor Prodedovich met with the Chairman of the Accountants of TM Public Association. During the meeting they discussed further development of the organization and its role in ECCAA. Victor also met with the Vice President of the Union of Economists of TM and discussed the role of that organization in ECCAA and the creation of an Accounting and Audit Chamber as a structural subdivision of the Union of Economists of TM.

Progress towards Benchmarks

Deliverable	Measurement	1st Year Target	1st Year Actual	2nd Year Target	Progress
A minimum of an additional 3000 CAPs, 50 CIPAs are certified; Certifications should be tracked by gender and capital city vs. regions	CAP+CIPA candidates meaning that participant has passed the 3 exams for CAP level or 7 exams for CIPA level.	40 CAP level; 1 CIPA level	29 CAP level; 0 CIPA level	35 CAP level; 2 CIPA level	See table in the Appendix
Online registration for CIPA exams in each country office is developed, implemented, marketed, and tracked for performance	Percentage of registrations done online	10%	0%	10%	Nil
All ECCAA full members in Central Asia have the CAP designation as requirement for full membership of individuals	Requirement listed in every charter; Members have taken and passed at least all 3 CAP level exams	1 Member charter audited	Member charter audited	COMPLETE	Completed in first year

Deliverable	Measurement	1st Year Target	1st Year Actual	2nd Year Target	Progress
All ECCAA full members in Central Asia have IFAC compliant CPE programs in place	Course list created and published on ECCAA website; Requirement listed in every charter; Members of member associations start taking courses	All member charters audited;	Member charter audited	At least 20 members trained	To follow ECCAA/CAS progress
IFRS training to be made available to Government officials, Regulators and any other financial sector Overseers.	At least one course in each year for a minimum of 10 officials in each country	1 course in TM	0 courses	2 courses in TM	FA-2 course for The Central Bank of Turkmenistan started in February to be completed next quarter
IFRS/ISA articles are written for the accounting press	At least 1 article per year in Turkmenistan.	1 article in TM	0 articles	2 articles in TM	1 article in the sixth quarter; total of 2 in 2 nd Year
Conduct teaching methods workshop for selected group of professors	Number of professors taught	N/A	N/A	2 in TM	Planned for Summer 2008
Participate in IFRS roundtable discussions	Provide or be speakers at, or participate in roundtables, conferences, etc on IFRS and education issues	N/A	N/A	1 in TM	Planned for next quarter

Deliverable	Measurement	1st Year Target	1st Year Actual	2nd Year Target	Progress
Conduct exam site audits in March 2008 and July 2008	At least 8 audits in Central Asia	N/A	N/A	1 audit in TM	Planned for March
Conduct TOT(Audit) for Central Bank of TM	Number of bankers taught	N/A	N/A	10 people trained	Planned for 2008
Conduct TOT(FA-2) for Central Bank of TM	Number of bankers taught	N/A	N/A	10 people trained	FA-2 course for The Central Bank of Turkmenistan started in February to be completed next quarter
Conduct presentations on CAP/CIPA to Universities and other government bodies	Number of presentations	N/A	N/A	4 presentations	Nil

Obstacles encountered, possible delays in achieving the established benchmarks

1. The new and welcomed interest of the Turkmenistan Government has arrived after the project has been in existence for 18 months but with only 6 more to go, significant progress will be limited.
2. Visa difficulties.

Proposed Changes to the Work Plan

A year 2 work plan has been submitted to USAID and is under active consideration.

Forecast of Activities for the Quarter March to May 2008

1. IFRS expert continues as part of the Central Bank working group.
2. CIPA courses will continue in Ashgabat.
3. First IFRS Education conference on the adoption and implementation of IFRS in Turkmenistan.

UZBEKISTAN

Implementation Issues

On December 3-15, 2007 A/CIPA organized a training seminar on Certification of Tax Consultants for 36 participants. Representatives of USAID, MOF, and CIPAEN attended the opening ceremony and gave speeches on the importance of launching such project as first preparation course of Tax Consultants in Uzbekistan, to begin the implementation of the Certification of Tax Consultants program as brand new component in accounting reform in Uzbekistan. It was also mentioned that this program will have great prospective for future development and a potential for high recognition. During the seminar a large volume of teaching materials was distributed to participants on the following disciplines:

1. Legal regulation of economic relationships
2. Accounting and reporting
3. Tax Law
4. Taxation of legal and physical entities
5. Legal bases, organization and methods of tax consultation
6. Economic analysis in tax calculations and planning

The trainers conducted lectures and practical sessions and after each section there were organized practice exams for participants. On December 15th the closing ceremony was held and all participants received attendance certificates. The final exam on CoTC occurred on December 29, 2007.

Progress towards Benchmarks

Deliverable	Measurement	1st Year Target	1st Year Actual	2nd Year Target	Progress
A minimum of 10 universities substantially upgrade their Accounting Curriculum	Number of universities	1	2 universities	COMPLETE	Completed in first year
A minimum of an additional 150 CAP courses, taught by qualified professors, are introduced in the HEIs throughout Central Asia	Monitored Courses	30	12	45	7 courses taught by UZ teachers that completed the TOT(CAP)
During the second year of A/CIPA, 1000 CAP exams are taken by students in Central Asia	Number of exams registered by students	N/A	N/A	350	266 student registrations for November 2007 CAP exams
A minimum of an additional 3000 CAPs, 50 CIPAs are certified; Certifications should be tracked by gender and capital city vs. regions	A CAP + CIPA candidate meaning that participant has passed the 3 exams for CAP level or 7 exams for CIPA level.	240 CAP level; 15 CIPA level	287 CAP level; 8 CIPA level	319 CAP level; 12 CIPA level	See table in the Appendix
Online registration for CIPA exams in each country office is developed, implemented, marketed, and tracked for performance	Percentage of registrations done online	10%	0%	10%	Nil

Deliverable	Measurement	1st Year Target	1st Year Actual	2nd Year Target	Progress
All ECCAA full members in Central Asia have the CAP designation as requirement for full membership of individuals	Requirement listed in every charter; Members have taken and passed at least all 3 CAP level exams	1 Member charter audited	COMPLETE	N/A	Completed in first year
All ECCAA full members in Central Asia have IFAC compliant CPE programs in place	Course list created and published on ECCAA website; Requirement listed in every charter; Members of member associations start taking courses	All member charters audited;	Member charters audited, 148 members trained	At least 50 members trained	To follow ECCAA/ICAS progress
IFRS training to be made available to Government officials, Regulators and any other financial sector Overseers.	At least one course in each year for a minimum of 10 officials in each country	1 course in UZ	0 courses	2 courses in UZ	1 st Certification of Tax Consultants course held for 36 participants
Support special methodological/pedagogical training to accounting professors in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan	Number of professors taught	N/A	N/A	15	28 attendance certificates were distributed. COMPLETE

Deliverable	Measurement	1st Year Target	1st Year Actual	2nd Year Target	Progress
IFRS/ISA articles are written for the accounting press	At least 2 articles per year in Uzbekistan	2 articles in UZ	17 articles	6 articles in UZ	11 articles in sixth quarter; 50 total in 2 nd Year
Conduct teaching methods workshop for selected group of professors	Number of professors taught	N/A	N/A	10 in UZ	Planned for Summer 2008
Participate in IFRS roundtable discussions	Provide or be speakers at, or participate in roundtables, conferences, etc on IFRS and education issues	N/A	N/A	3 in UZ	"Improvement of Tax System and Tax Legislation" and "Education and Career" for a total of 3 in Year 2
Conduct exam site audits in March 2008 and July 2008	At least 8 audits in Central Asia	N/A	N/A	1 audit in UZ	Planned for March 2008
Recruit trainers to produce tax consultant materials	At least 5 trainers	N/A	N/A	6 trainers	6 CoTC trainers recruited. COMPLETE
Deliver training to a pilot group of tax consultants	At least 25 tax consultants	N/A	N/A	35 tax consultants	First pilot for 36 participants in December COMPLETE
Recruit MCQ question writers for CoTC exam	Writers that submit questions	N/A	N/A	6 writers	6 writers recruited. COMPLETE
Assist CIPAEN to conduct CoTC exams during 2 sittings	Exams administered	N/A	N/A	60 exams	First pilot completed in December

Obstacles encountered, possible delays in achieving the established benchmarks

Agreement on the end date of the MOU between UNDP and USAID A/CIPA Project has not been reached.

Proposed Changes to the Work Plan

A year 2 work plan has been submitted to USAID and is under active consideration.

Forecast of Activities for the Quarter March to May 2008

1. 2nd CoTC exams in March 2008
2. Articles to be produced for the accounting press.

APPENDICES

- A/CIPA Program Certification Candidates for Year 2 (Sept. 1, 2007 through Aug. 31, 2008): as of March 1, 2008
- A/CIPA Organization Chart March 2008

**A/CIPA Program Certification Candidates for Year 2
(Sept. 1, 2007 through Aug. 31, 2008): as of March 1, 2008**

Country	Level	Current Quarter Candidates for Certification	Current Quarter Number of Female	Percentage Female	Current Quarter Number from Regions	Percentage from Regions
Kyrgyzstan	CAP	57	47	82.46%	9	15.79%
	CIPA	4	4	100.00%	-	0.00%
	CAP+CIPA	61	51	83.61%	9	14.75%
Kazakhstan	CAP	456	432	94.74%	269	58.99%
	CIPA	11	9	81.82%	6	54.55%
	CAP+CIPA	467	441	94.43%	275	58.89%
Uzbekistan	CAP	139	82	58.99%	27	19.42%
	CIPA	5	4	80.00%	-	0.00%
	CAP+CIPA	144	86	59.72%	27	18.75%
Tajikistan	CAP	1	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
	CIPA	-	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
	CAP+CIPA	1	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
Turkmenistan	CAP	-	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
	CIPA	-	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
	CAP+CIPA	-	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
Totals Central Asia	CAP	653	561	85.91%	305	46.71%
	CIPA	20	17	85.00%	6	30.00%
	CAP+CIPA	673	578	85.88%	311	46.21%

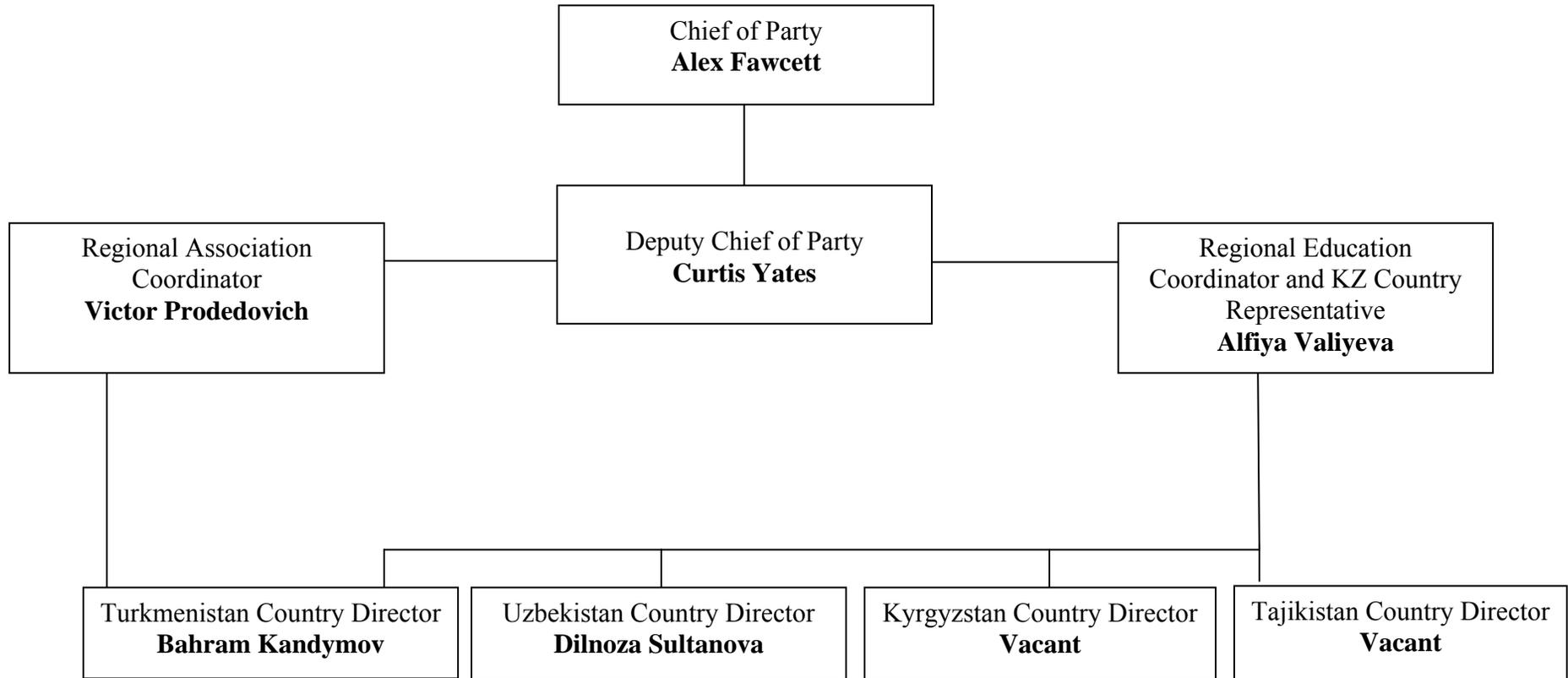
Certification Candidates include all candidates that have passed the required exams, whether they are fully certified or not. Certification Candidates are recorded when the final exam grade for that designation is issued.

**A/CIPA Program Certification Candidates for Year 2
(Sept. 1, 2007 through Aug. 31, 2008): as of March 1, 2008**

Country	Level	Cumulative Candidates for Certification	Year 2 Targets	Total Year 2 Candidates for Certification	Over/Under Deliverable	Percentage of Deliverables
Kyrgyzstan	CAP	1,014	153	57	-96	37.25%
	CIPA	22	7	4	-3	57.14%
	CAP+CIPA	1,036	160	61	-99	38.13%
Kazakhstan	CAP	4,228	1,058	456	-602	43.10%
	CIPA	43	12	11	-1	91.67%
	CAP+CIPA	4,271	1,070	467	-603	43.64%
Uzbekistan	CAP	1,163	319	139	-180	43.57%
	CIPA	45	12	5	-7	41.67%
	CAP+CIPA	1,208	331	144	-187	43.50%
Tajikistan	CAP	213	22	1	-21	4.55%
	CIPA	9	3	-	-3	0.00%
	CAP+CIPA	222	25	1	-24	4.00%
Turkmenistan	CAP	132	35	-	-35	0.00%
	CIPA	-	2	-	-2	0.00%
	CAP+CIPA	132	37	-	-37	0.00%
Totals Central Asia	CAP	6,750	1,587	653	-934	41.15%
	CIPA	119	36	20	-16	55.56%
	CAP+CIPA	6,869	1,623	673	-950	41.47%

Certification Candidates include all candidates that have passed the required exams, whether they are fully certified or not. Certification Candidates are recorded when the final exam grade for that designation is issued.

A/CIPA ORGANIZATION CHART MARCH 2008



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