

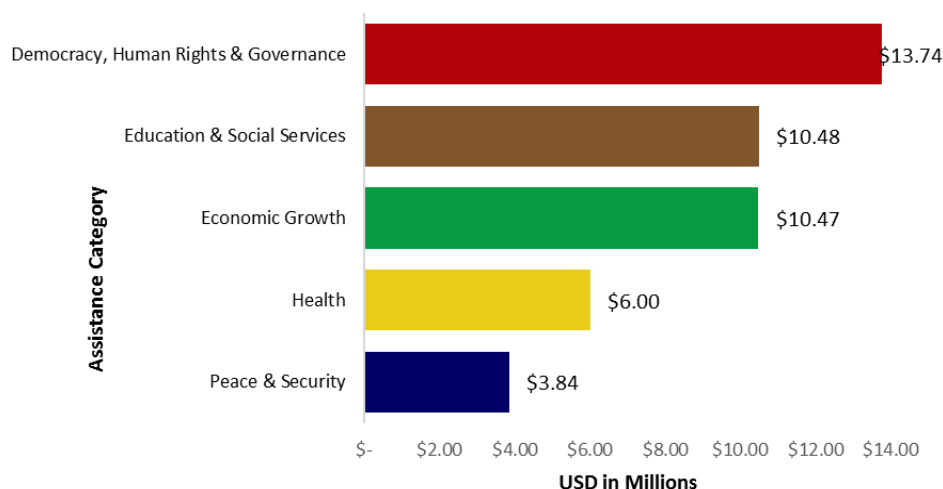


UZBEKISTAN

United States foreign assistance supports a sovereign, prosperous, independent Uzbekistan. U.S. government (USG) assistance has increased significantly since 2016 to support Uzbekistan's reform efforts, particularly in rule of law, education, and the economic sectors. USG-funded implementers work closely with their counterparts in Uzbekistan. The United States uses a "whole of government" approach coordinated by the Office of the Coordinator of Assistance to Europe, Eurasia, and Central Asia (ACE), including the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the Securities and Exchange Commission, and the Departments of State, Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, Interior, and Treasury.

over \$1.6 billion USG assistance since 1992	\$44.5million State/USAID assistance in FY 2020*	\$7.6 million COVID-19 assistance**
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FY 2020 ACE-Coordinated State/USAID Assistance by Category* (\$44.5m), in millions



Source: ACE

*Does not include centrally managed funds or \$5.4 million in FY 2020 COVID supplemental funds.

**COVID assistance includes reprogrammed, supplemental, and other USG funds.

NOTE: The assistance highlights below are examples of results achieved by funding in each category in the chart.



ANTI-CORRUPTION, RULE OF LAW & GOOD GOVERNANCE ASSISTANCE HIGHLIGHT

U.S. assistance supports the Government of Uzbekistan's (GOU) rule of law and anticorruption reforms, including support for its new Anti-Corruption Agency, implementing court reform, revising the criminal procedure and criminal codes, advancing transparency across civil, administrative, and economic courts, and revamping legal education. U.S. partners have trained the staff of the new Anti-Corruption Agency and assisted it to develop a system for income and asset declarations for public employees; they have taught and helped improve the anticorruption curriculum at the Prosecutor General Office's Academy. As a result of U.S. assistance, Tashkent State University of Law has revised its curriculum, introduced new teaching methods, and expanded its legal clinic program to include mobile legal clinics in rural areas, providing free legal aid to 6,860 people and increasing public confidence in the justice system. Recommendations on mediation were included in the GOU President's June 2020 decree on Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) creating private mediation centers and establishing ADR courses in universities. USG assistance provides training for law enforcement and judges on human trafficking as well as legal services to victims, helping, for example, to secure the conviction of a trafficker of an underage victim of sexual exploitation in 2020.



EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES ASSISTANCE HIGHLIGHT

USG assistance supports the GOU's education reforms focused on graduating students who speak English and have the technology skills that will attract foreign investors, providing the well-paying and sustainable jobs necessary to end a reliance on migrant workers' remittances. To support the Ministry of Public Education's "English-Speaking Nation" initiative, USAID and Embassy Tashkent's Public Diplomacy Section (PDS) are enhancing English Language instruction and improving the quality and availability of English Language textbooks and instruction. USAID is also improving Information and Communication Technology (ICT)-based instruction for grades 5 -11 in all public schools to help support the Ministry's goal of creating an "IT Nation." As part of this support, PDS welcomed 27 English language teachers in January 2021. USAID earlier deployed an advisor to the Ministry to support strategic planning and management of large-scale reform initiatives, resource allocation, and mobilizing external and internal resources to support GOU's reforms. In response to the pandemic, USAID worked with Sesame Workshop to distribute eleven public service announcements (PSAs) and eight packages of print materials about COVID-19. To improve the capacity of higher education institutions and bring them more in line with international standards, PDS has initiated 22 partnerships between U.S. and Uzbek institutions of higher education.

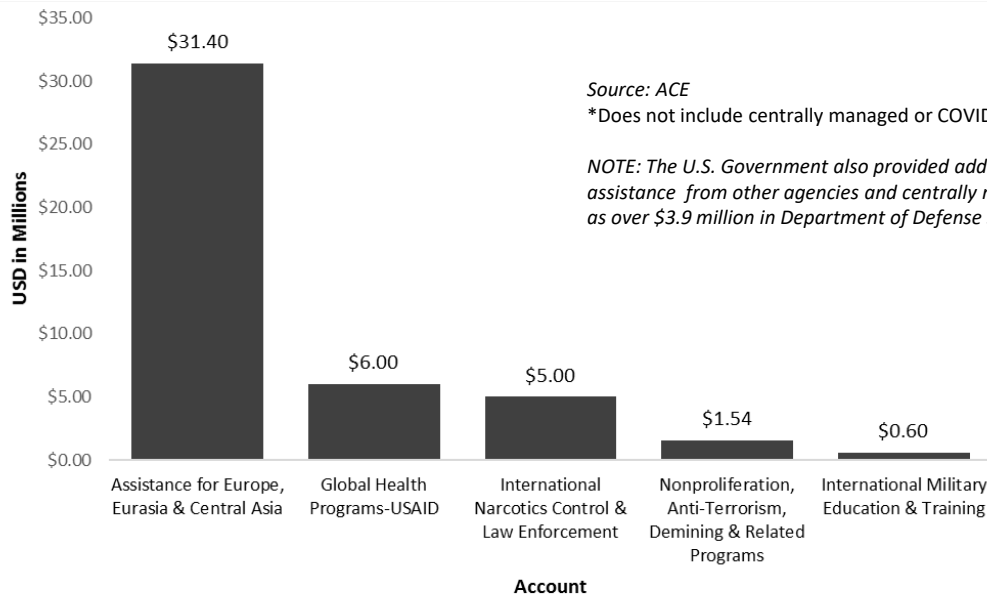


TRADE & INVESTMENT ASSISTANCE HIGHLIGHT

Uzbekistan is transitioning from a Soviet-style command economy dominated by state-owned enterprises to a market economy in an effort to expand its economy and provide jobs for its estimated 600,000 secondary school graduates each year. The Department of Commerce, with the support of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Department of the Treasury, is working with GOU agencies to draft new legislation governing capital markets and the regulator in order to generate investment capital internally as an alternative to taking on more external sovereign debt. USAID is assisting Uzbekistan's World Trade Organization accession efforts, following a successful Working Party Meeting in July 2020. USAID helped Uzbekistan prepare and submit a wide range of required accession documents. Department of Treasury advisors are working with GOU ministries on tax policy, budget implementation and debt management. These efforts, coupled with USAID's work to increase productivity and expand agricultural exports, will improve the investment climate and create sustainable employment opportunities.



FY 2020 ACE-Coordinated State/USAID Assistance by Account* (\$44.5m), in millions



Source: ACE

*Does not include centrally managed or COVID supplemental funds.

NOTE: The U.S. Government also provided additional FY 2020 assistance from other agencies and centrally managed funding, such as over \$3.9 million in Department of Defense section 333 funds.



CIVIL SOCIETY & POLITICAL PROCESSES ASSISTANCE HIGHLIGHT

USG assistance has increased the capacity and effectiveness of local civil society organizations (CSOs) to participate meaningfully in affairs that affect them. USAID supported the development of five pilot Public Councils (PCs), which are independent monitoring bodies under state agencies. These pilot PCs strengthened CSO-government dialogue and promoted transparent and accountable decision-making, and protected citizen's rights. The PCs played a critical role during COVID-19 by supporting vulnerable groups and helping raise awareness about health security issues through the use of volunteers who mobilized community support to sanitize public spaces and held community discussions regarding concerns with COVID. USAID also supported an online platform that serves as a link between civil society and national authorities, and which will be used as the main electronic resource to coordinate volunteer services. The platform has recently been included in the state proposal for the digital transformation roadmap "Digital Uzbekistan 2030," a plan to consolidate online numerous information systems and various electronic services. The Embassy's Democracy Commission Small Grants also provide support to local organizations building their capacity and improving conditions for media professionals, women, youth, and persons with disabilities.



INDEPENDENT MEDIA & COUNTERING DISINFORMATION ASSISTANCE HIGHLIGHT

USAID supported both traditional and new media platforms in providing balanced, objective reporting on key policy and public interest issues. The program trained 59 journalists, media professionals, and bloggers on mobile journalism, basics of online journalism, and fact-checking. As a result, one popular blogger applied the skills learned to increase the audience of his Telegram channel from 25,000 to 45,000. Another participant applied fact checking skills to uncover a company's fraudulent pyramid scheme, triggering an investigation by the Prosecutor General's Office. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, USAID provided ten content production fellowships to produce vital news content about the public health situation. As a result, 139 pieces of content informing the population about the pandemic in the country have been produced and published reaching 59,000 readers. Other media trainings are underway such as the PDS-led English for Professionals in Mass Media and the U.S. Agency for Global Media-led training on business and financial reporting.



AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE HIGHLIGHT

Agriculture accounted for 25 percent of Uzbekistan's GDP in 2019 and the sector employs one-third of the workforce. USAID has helped agricultural exporters meet international food quality and safety standards, supporting 510 organizations and businesses to strengthen supply chains and link exporters to foreign buyers in order to reach new markets, including in Europe, East Asia, and the Gulf. The program leveraged \$23 million, since the start, in private sector investment in the agricultural sector, resulting in 55.1 percent producers adopting new practices and an improvement in agricultural practices impacting over 11.4 percent of the country's horticultural land. The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) has assisted the GOU with its management of critical mineral resources by increasing its capacity to compile and analyze data on rare earth elements and assess their commercial viability. This cooperation has resulted in a significant exchange of data to include minerals data, maps, energy data and information and in capacity building in energy-resource data and Geographic Information Systems applications, including mineral resource assessments. At the request of the GOU, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has conducted an on-site safety assessment of two priority dams following the collapse of the Sardoba dam which will result in a set of comprehensive recommendations to address dam safety.



HEALTH ASSISTANCE HIGHLIGHT

Uzbekistan's estimated absolute number of multi-drug resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB) cases ranks among the top 20 in the world. USAID has placed an advisor to support Uzbekistan's National Tuberculosis Programs, providing technical expertise and support in drafting the National TB Strategic Plan 2021-2026, which identifies critical strategic priorities and introduces health financing reforms for TB services. As Uzbekistan shifts to the domestic procurement of TB medicines, USAID has supported one manufacturer of TB medicines to improve its Good Manufacturing Practice compliance and strengthen its quality-assurance systems in order to ensure that locally produced medicines meet international quality standards. The United States provided more than \$7 million in COVID-19 assistance, including \$114,000 in existing FY 2020 State Department resources, over \$5.4 million in FY 2020 USAID supplemental funds, and over \$2 million in FY 2020 Department of Health and Human Services/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention funds, which improved Uzbekistan's response to outbreaks.