

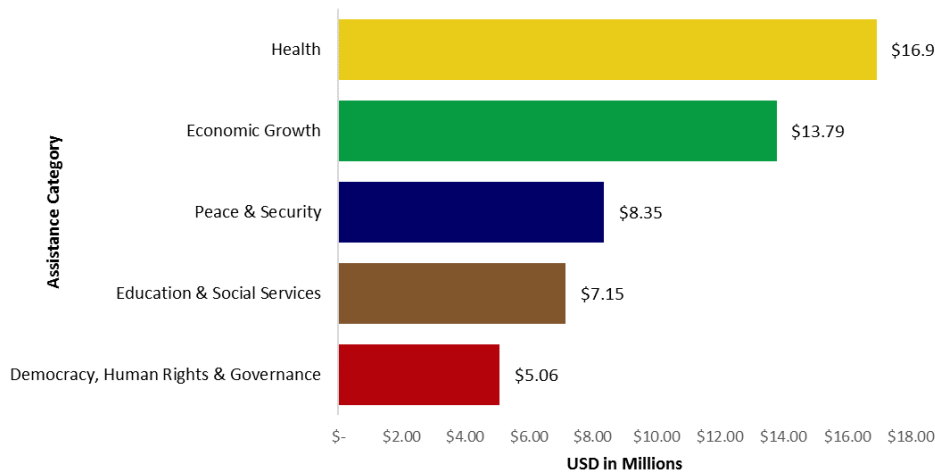


## TAJIKISTAN

United States foreign assistance enhances Tajikistan's sovereignty and security through U.S. programming that counters terrorism, promotes prosperity, and fosters resilience to foreign malign influence. Assistance programs support the U.S. Central Asia Strategy, which envisions Tajikistan as a sovereign and independent partner whose territorial integrity is respected by its neighbors and whose contributions help stabilize the region. Continued U.S. engagement is imperative to advanced shared strategic interests in the region.

<b>over \$2.0 billion</b> USG assistance since 1992	<b>\$51.3 million</b> State/USAID assistance for FY 2020*	<b>\$6.3 million</b> COVID-19 assistance**
--	--	---

**FY 2020 ACE-Coordinated State/AID Assistance to Tajikistan by Category\* (\$51.3m), in millions**



Source: EUR/ACE  
\*Does not include centrally managed funds or \$3.67 million in FY 2020 COVID supplemental funds.  
\*\*COVID assistance includes reprogrammed and supplemental funds.

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

### HEALTH ASSISTANCE HIGHLIGHT

U.S. assistance improves the quality of Tajikistan's health and social services so citizens may achieve their full human development potential and contribute to Tajikistan's social and economic growth. Tajikistan has the highest rate of maternal and child mortality and chronic malnutrition in Central Asia, with 18 percent of children under five suffering stunted growth nationwide in 2020. This indicator dropped from 26 percent in 2015 as a result of significant investments by the United States, and other development partners in Tajikistan's health sector. In 2020, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) helped improve the quality of maternal and child health (MCH) services in maternity wards and primary healthcare facilities in 12 pilot districts through training, supportive supervision, and basic medical equipment. USAID trained 9,346 healthcare providers in MCH and nutrition to improve the quality of and access to care. Programming revised national standards and protocols; informed 431,005 individuals about MCH nutrition; and reached 178,748 children under five with clinical and community-based nutrition interventions. USAID COVID-19 assistance thus far provided 12,000 sets of personal protective equipment for health workers and 200 oxygen cylinders, while improving laboratory systems and addressing vaccine hesitancy concerns, and 1.5 million doses of the Moderna vaccine.

### TRADE & BUSINESS ASSISTANCE HIGHLIGHT

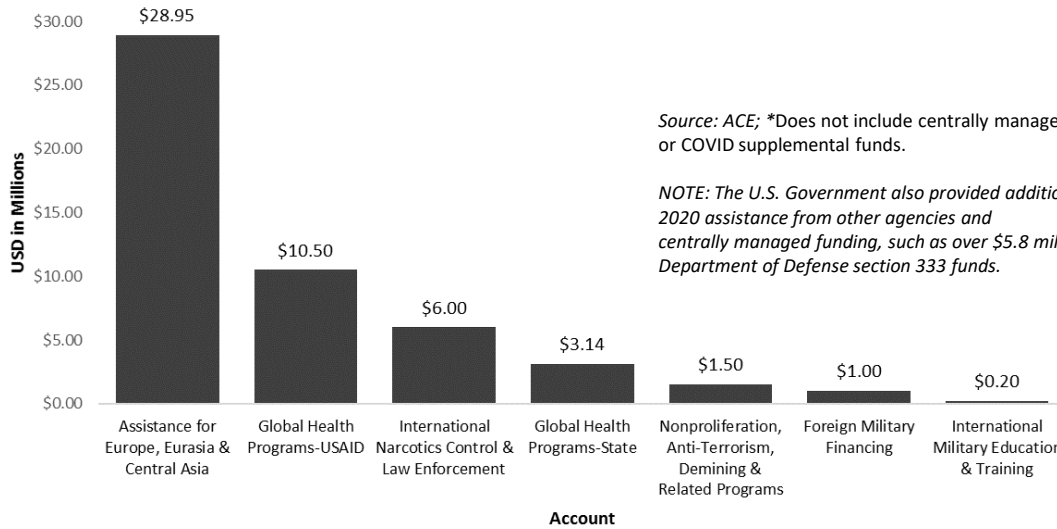
U.S. assistance helps the Tajik private sector become more competitive, access new markets, and increase sales. USAID programming delivered export promotion webinars focused on post-harvest handling, product promotion strategies, commercial standards, and market requirements for Europe, the Middle East, and South-East Asia. As many as 7,906 individuals adopted new technology, leading to 24 new value-added products; 13 firms are now applying regional or international trade standards, and 12 horticulture and dairy enterprises obtained certification to access more lucrative export markets. To support agribusiness diversification and increase exports, USAID partnered with Tajikistan's largest dried fruits producer and exporter to introduce innovative processing and packaging equipment, establish a testing laboratory, and obtain export certifications to European markets, leading to a 30 percent increase in exports. These capacity building efforts resulted in the firm doubling its production, and an expected 250 percent increase in the firm's exports. USAID-supported trade events resulted in \$182,770 in contracts and \$1,191,260 in letters of intent.

### BORDER SECURITY ASSISTANCE HIGHLIGHT

The Department of State's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) supports the Tajik Border Forces to better protect against cross-border smuggling of drugs, goods, and people. INL Border Security programming promotes the nation's integrated border management strategy, increases cooperation and coordination across borders and within the Tajik bureaucracy, and facilitates collaboration between Tajikistan and neighboring countries' border security forces. Specifically, INL programming strengthened the Border Forces' ability to quickly analyze intelligence and exchange information between outposts, and headquarters. INL Border Security Programming also improved infrastructure along the Tajik-Afghan border through construction projects and training.



### FY 2020 ACE-Coordinated State/AID Assistance to Tajikistan by Account\* (\$51.3m), in millions



Source: ACE; \*Does not include centrally managed funds 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 \$5.8 million in Department of Defense section 333 funds.



### CIVIL SOCIETY & POLITICAL PROCESSES ASSISTANCE HIGHLIGHT

In Tajikistan's heavily restricted environment, U.S. assistance builds the capacity of and fosters a safer operating environment for civil society organizations (CSOs) and independent media, promotes democratic institutions and rule of law, and enables local actors to address excessive legal and operating restrictions. Such efforts contribute to improved governance and inclusive public participation, as well as help stabilize the country, indirectly strengthening U.S. national security. In 2020, USAID programming supported a working group for CSOs and the Government of Tajikistan to jointly develop a new Legal Concept on Social Entrepreneurship to strengthen the role of CSOs as partners in public-private dialogues. This resulted in the Ministry of Justice adding to its legislative agenda a new initiative designed to enhance public oversight of state entities. .



### EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES ASSISTANCE HIGHLIGHT

U.S. assistance is strengthening the capacity of the Ministry of Education and Science and its counterparts to champion modern pedagogical approaches based on evidence-based standards and integrate these into the education system to meet the challenges of the 21st century. USAID has donated 40,000 training modules to 8,670 teachers to apply innovative modern pedagogy instruction and techniques. They addressed a critical shortage in age-appropriate children's books by skills-building for writers and designers who developed 77 new books and 30 audiobooks; and donated 540,000 books to over 50 percent of schools nationwide. At least 193,312 primary students benefited from interactive learning classes, in-class and out of school activities. Due to pandemic-related school closures, USAID developed the first-ever mobile application for Tajik language acquisition; a digital library of audiobooks and animated videos; a digital teacher training platform; and two television series on books that air on national television.



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

U.S. assistance supports Tajikistan's financial institutions' compliance with international standards. A new project supports reform at the National Bank of Tajikistan (NBT) to use best international practices to deter money laundering and terrorist financing and reorient banking dependence away from Russia. To strengthen NBT financial oversight, the project revamped procedures, created new policies, and produced the institution's first Operations Manual for suspicious transaction reports to promote more effective analysis of financial intelligence. This project will improve Tajikistan's anti-money-laundering efforts and help move Tajikistan towards correspondent banking relationships with Western banks, which will minimize dependence on opaque Russian banks and spur foreign investment. USAID programming also strengthened inclusive, transparent, and accountable social service delivery through local governance institutions.



### INDEPENDENT MEDIA & COUNTERING DISINFORMATION ASSISTANCE HIGHLIGHT

COVID-19 has a widespread socio-economic impact in Central Asia, including jeopardizing the revenue of local media outlets and their capacity to maintain operations. Additionally, limited information available to citizens about the pandemic impedes public understanding of COVID-19 and its risks. In response, USAID's Central Asia Media Program launched rapid response content production grants to provide timely support to media outlets in Tajikistan. Thirteen partners produced more than 100 pieces of content, including video reports, articles, news reports, and talk shows with a potential audience of 400,000–700,000 for TV and 100,000 for radio, and thus far more than 110,000 views on websites, YouTube channels, and social media platforms. Through U.S. grants, local media partners are covering pressing issues during the pandemic, providing citizens with vital access accurate information, tools to counter disinformation, helping them to protect themselves, their families, and their communities. To support a free and independent press, Public Affairs funding sent 37 journalists and academics on study and reporting tours to the United States through the Central Asia Media Exchange program (CAMEX). During the in-person and virtual programs, participants learned how to combat disinformation and propaganda, improve journalistic standards, and effectively teach media literacy. As a result of the project, a participant developed Tajikistan's first media fact checking mobile app, helping citizens identify misinformation about COVID-19.



### PEACE & SECURITY ASSISTANCE HIGHLIGHT

U.S. assistance enhances the capability of Tajik authorities to prevent and combat transnational crime, including smuggling of narcotics, contraband, and human trafficking across Tajikistan's borders, along with the movement of violent extremists. INL completed the "Strengthening Border Management Capacity and Cross-Border Cooperation" project, which strengthens regional cooperation on border security. The project supported cross-border dialogue and helped build capacity through the construction of modular facilities for four border crossing points (BCP), providing access to clean water in three border posts, and provided equipment to 16 BCPS. The improved infrastructure allowed for the deployment of more officers and soldiers to border posts and outposts. This increased the capacity of the Border Forces of Tajikistan and led to a 34 percent increase, in the Gorno Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast, for the period 2019-2020, in the number of interceptions along the border, including illegal drug trafficking and illegal border crossings.