

United States Government
2004 Trade Capacity Building Assistance (\$US)
BULGARIA

| Activity Title | Activity Description | TCB Category | FY 04 Total |
|---|---|---|----------------|
| Air Safety | This Technical Assistance will assist the Bulgarian Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) in redrafting its aviation laws and regulations, restructuring its oversight organizations, drafting the necessary inspection and licensing manuals, designing and assisting in implementing the essential regulatory regimes, and providing further training for inspectors and aviation personnel. The goal of this technical assistance is to help the Bulgarian CAA receive FAA IASA Category I status. (Activity# 200470038B) Funded and implemented by Trade and Development Agency. | Physical Infrastructure Development | 100,030 |
| | | Competition Policy & Foreign Investment | 100,030 |
| | | Activity Total | 200,060 |
| Bulgaria Agricultural Economics Faculty Exchange Program | The Agricultural Economics Faculty Exchange Program (FEP), brings educators from agricultural institutions of higher learning in Bulgaria to the United States for five months to increase their knowledge of, and ability to teach, agricultural economics and marketing, agribusiness, and agrarian law in a market economy. The goal of the program is to promote the development of sound agricultural policy and effective and competitive agricultural marketing and business systems in Bulgaria. Increasing the number of adults in Bulgaria who understand how a market economy works, increasing the number of people who can teach and create educational materials on market economics, and increasing the number of people with the mind-set to adapt to a market economy is critical to the formulation and implementation of sound policy and the continuing development of a competitive market system in Bulgaria. Funded by USAID/E&E and implemented by Department of Agriculture/FAS. | Trade-Related Agriculture | 50,000 |
| Bulgaria Agricultural Sciences Faculty Exchange Program | The Agricultural Sciences Faculty Exchange Program brings research professors from agricultural universities in Bulgaria to land grant universities in the U.S. for five months to increase their ability to teach and perform research in agricultural science subjects such as animal health, food quality, food inspection, SPS measures, grades and standards. The program emphasizes course and curriculum development, teaching methods, student assessment, research methods and techniques, and practical experience. The program promotes the development of sound agricultural science policy, teaching, and research techniques. Increasing the number of adults in Bulgaria who understand current agricultural science issues, who can perform research with current methods and standards, who can teach and create educational materials on the agricultural sciences, and who have the mind-set to adapt to current conditions is critical to the formulation and implementation of sound policy and increased trade. Funded by USAID/E&E and implemented by Department of Agriculture/FAS. | Trade-Related Agriculture | 100,000 |
| Bulgarian Biotech Group to the U.S. | Under its Trade and Investment Program, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's office for International Cooperation and Development (ICD) conducted a 10-day executive overview of science and current issues related to agricultural biotechnology for a group of three Bulgarians. This program took place in the United States. The focus is on risks and benefits of agricultural biotechnology from a science-based perspective. Key topics include co-existence, food safety, environmental impact and the benefits of biotechnology products/crops. August 8-18, 2004. Funded by Department of State and implemented by Department of Agriculture/FAS. | Trade-Related Agriculture | 30,000 |

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| Bulgarian Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) Training | The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Trade and Investment Program coordinated a Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) consulting and training program for three processing plants in Bulgaria. Subject matter covered food safety in processing frozen fruits and vegetables, jams, tomatoes and peppers. Two consultants with in-depth knowledge of HACCP practices and EU regulations provided the technical assistance. The State Department is providing funding through the SEED program. July 19-23, 2004. Funded by Department of State and implemented by Department of Agriculture/FAS. | Agreement on SPS | 30,000 |
| Bulgarian Trade and Investment Mission II | The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Trade and Investment Program coordinated a second Bulgarian Trade and Investment Mission (BUL TIM). The highly successful BUL TIM I took place in September 2003. Eighteen US companies, comprising of 23 individuals, have signed up to join the BUL TIM II mission. Sectors include: poultry, food processing, wine, agribusiness investment, machinery and other agricultural inputs, ethnic Bulgarian food buyers, leather/hides and animal genetics. The U.S. Department of State provided funding through the SEED program. June 6-12, 2004. Funded by Department of State and implemented by Department of Agriculture/FAS. | Export Promotion | 56,000 |
| Business and Trade Development | The primary goal of the Business and Trade Development program in Bulgaria is to strengthen the capacity of local business support organizations to be more effective and sustainable market-based service delivery agents for their Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) clients. The program provides a broad portfolio of volunteer-based business and trade support services to increase the capacity and competitiveness of local business support organizations (BSOs): (1) offer volunteer-based technical assistance to help BSOs identify the needs of the client firms, (2) help the BSOs develop an appropriate mix of fee-based services to respond to market demand, (3) train BSOs to access an array of sector and industry-specific services they could not otherwise provide to their clients on their own, including access to financing, and (4) provide trade networking, promotion and export facilitation support locally, regionally and internationally, including export support assistance in the U.S. and EU. Funded and implemented by USAID/Bulgaria. | Export Promotion | 140,000 |
| | | Business Services & Training | 175,000 |
| | | Tourism Sector Development | 35,000 |
| | | Activity Total | 350,000 |

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| Commercial Law Reform Program | The project aims to (1) Improve practices with the courts designed to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of company registry operations and to speed the processing of registration (administratively and judicially); (2) New or improved work processes including document processing, work scheduling, intake and court practices, information availability, communication techniques, management techniques, workload distribution and/or record-keeping; (3) Other procedures and practices which would expedite processing of registrations (including registration amendments) through use of IT, establishing a centralized company registry database; (4) Develop a training modules program for Government of Bulgaria officials, private sector, and other stakeholders; and (5) Identify key individuals in government, business, academia, NGOs and think tanks, and lead an effort involving as wide a group as possible, to create public support for changes leading to enhanced corporate governance. Funded and implemented by USAID/Bulgaria. | E-Commerce & IT | 100,000 |
| | | Business Services & Training | 100,000 |
| | | Governance/Transparency & Inter-Agency Coordination | 200,000 |
| | | Activity Total | 400,000 |
| Enterprise Development and Investment | The activity is centered in the areas of Small and Medium Enterprise (SMEs) development, Investment Growth/Hi-Tech growth. Various activities represent a portfolio mixture of job creation work, institutional and legacy establishment, and the positioning of Bulgaria as a cutting edge economy that can meet competition in a globalized market. Assistance is provided to the Bulgarian Investment Agency to attract foreign investment. In addition, the project's varied products for basic and universal SME education, tax simplification and credit facilities are creating more capable SMEs and are bringing more SMEs out of the gray economy and into the formal economy. The activity also builds capacity and empowers government institutions involved in investment and SME growth. More direct USAID legacies will be the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Cluster Center, e-centers in the regions, and the on-line Innovation Exchange. Funded and implemented by USAID/Bulgaria. | E-Commerce & IT | 120,000 |
| | | Export Promotion | 60,000 |
| | | Competition Policy & Foreign Investment | 240,000 |
| | | Governance/Transparency & Inter-Agency Coordination | 180,000 |
| | | Activity Total | 600,000 |
| Global Workforce in Transition (GWIT) | Conducted labor market assessment to feed into the overall country strategy. Focus was on demand side skills and competencies needed to assist improving trade conditions and competitiveness of Bulgaria in global marketplace. Funded and implemented by USAID/EGAT/ED. | Export Promotion | 30,000 |
| | | Human Resources & Labor Standards | 30,000 |
| | | Activity Total | 60,000 |

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| Scientific Cooperation Research Program Collaboration with Bulgaria | The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Scientific Cooperation Research Program helps solve critical market and trade related problems affecting food, agriculture, fisheries, forestry, and the environment in both collaborating countries worldwide and the United States through joint research and scientific exchanges. U.S. and Bulgarian scientists are jointly researching health, economic, and trade implications of dietary changes associated with the emergence of supermarkets. Funded and implemented by Department of Agriculture/FAS. | Trade-Related Agriculture | 15,000 |
| Total FY 04 USG Trade Capacity Building Assistance to Bulgaria | | | 1,891,060 |