



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

20 Years of Partnership for Progress



U.S. – GEORGIA
CELEBRATING TWENTY YEARS

USAID began operating in Georgia in 1992. Over the last twenty years, the American people have provided over \$1.5 billion in assistance to Georgia through USAID. USAID supports Georgia's continuing transition to a free and prosperous democracy. Our programs include initiatives to stimulate economic growth, develop democratic institutions, and improve health and education.



1992

USAID begins operations in Georgia after a bilateral agreement on assistance is signed in July. The original program focus was humanitarian assistance in response to conflict in South Ossetia and Abkhazia.



1998

USAID expands its presence in Georgia with a full mission and greater funding of projects on democratic reforms, economic growth, energy and social development. These projects laid the foundations for reform and development.



2003

Following the Rose Revolution, USAID adjusted its priorities to assist a dynamic new government focused on aggressive reforms. Assistance strengthened the Government of Georgia's ability to implement reforms affecting education, healthcare, energy, and governance.



2008

Immediately after the August conflict, USAID was a leader in the international humanitarian response, providing critical assistance to populations affected by the conflict. On September 3, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice announced a \$1 billion United States economic support package to help meet Georgia's pressing humanitarian needs and to facilitate its economic reconstruction.



Today

USAID's projects continue to strengthen and sustain Georgia's democratic, free-market, Western-oriented transformation by using assistance to enhance democratic checks and balances and accountable governance, stimulate inclusive and sustainable economic growth, and foster an increasingly stable, integrated and healthy society.

Post-Soviet transition and stabilization

- Provided emergency food, clothing, medicine and other equipment to those displaced by conflicts
- Launched micro-credit program aimed at women entrepreneurs and small business owners
- Financed community-level projects to promote income generation and economic growth
- Supported immunization of children for diphtheria, polio, measles and tuberculosis, reaching sustained immunization rates of over 80%

Building a foundation for reform and development

- Supported the passage of the Unified Election Code, increasing the transparency of the election process
- Assisted Georgia's accession to the World Trade Organization in 2000
- Supported the mapping and registration of two million newly privatized land plots and helped new landowners to sell, lease, mortgage or develop their parcel
- Provided technical assistance for the sustainable development and protection of national parks in Georgia
- Provided energy subsidies over five years to 20% of the population otherwise vulnerable to winters without heating

Supporting aggressive reform

- Made Georgia more business and investment friendly by helping the government streamline its business regulations and procedures
- Helped to strengthen anti-human trafficking legislation and enforcement
- Increased access to quality health care through health sector reforms, financing for hospitals, and the introduction of modern, effective maternity care tuberculosis treatment
- Helped turn the lights back on in households and businesses across Georgia through investments in infrastructure and assistance for the reform and privatization of the primary energy distribution company

Post-conflict assistance

- Funded \$250 million in social payments to pensioners, IDPs and other vulnerable groups soon after the conflict.
- Provided \$56 million for emergency food, clothing, housing and medical needs for over 200,000 people
- Subsidized winter utility costs for over 4,000 displaced families living in new settlements
- Provided agricultural assistance to nearly 40,000 households and long-term assistance to farmers through the funding of 21 privately owned farm machinery service centers for small farmers
- Renovated 16 deteriorated and damaged schools in the conflict-affected areas of Shida Kartli to improve the learning environment for over 3,500 students

Strengthening democracy and economic growth today and into the future

- Implementing major projects to provide housing for displaced people, improve infrastructure in smaller communities, and rehabilitate irrigation canals
- Created 10 Centers for Civic Engagement in regions across Georgia to promote democratic participation
- As a part of ongoing gas and electricity infrastructure improvements to deepen energy security and boost economic activity, completed construction of the 30 km Poti-Senaki gas pipeline, which will benefit 17,000 customers, business, and industrial users in Poti by the end of 2012
- Trained more than 5,500 vocational education students in trades related to construction and tourism
- Contributed to a significant reduction in abortion rates in Georgia by expanding access to modern contraceptive methods