



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



AZERBAIJAN COUNTRY PROFILE

At the crossroads of the Middle East, Central Asia and Europe, Azerbaijan borders the Caspian Sea and Caucasus Mountains. The Muslim-majority country is a secular state with strong traditions of religious tolerance. Substantial energy resources drove rapid growth during the early 2000s, until a decline in global oil prices since mid-2014 spawned an economic downturn. Efforts are now underway to implement significant financial and economic reforms in order to stabilize Azerbaijan's economy, especially in non-oil sectors.

OUR WORK

USAID contributes to the social and economic development of Azerbaijan through activities that further develop the agricultural sector and strengthen citizen participation in rural communities. USAID assistance focuses on activities that directly benefit the lives of the Azerbaijani people, create economic opportunities, and expand partnerships to enhance civil society at the grassroots level.

USAID has provided more than \$377 million in assistance since 1991 to assist with humanitarian relief and the health sector, as well as economic and democratic reforms. The Government of Azerbaijan has

contributed more than \$20 million in additional funds to USAID to help achieve economic reform goals for the country.

GOVERNANCE

USAID empowers people in rural communities to engage their local governments to address their immediate socio and economic needs. USAID works through local civil society organizations to strengthen the fight against corruption. USAID's women empowerment programs raise public awareness on issues that affect women, support their economic empowerment, and strengthen their participation in political and decision-making processes. To combat human trafficking, USAID provides technical and financial support to shelters for victims of trafficking. USAID also works with the government and civil society to prevent gender-based violence and assist victims.

ECONOMIC RESILIENCE

USAID supports the development of a competitive, transparent, and business-friendly environment that is conducive to job creation, private sector growth, and long-term prosperity. To expand economic partnerships, USAID advances Azerbaijan's economic integration and trade with Europe and supports opportunities for regional trade integration, particularly agricultural market linkages with Western buyers and the elimination of impediments to harmonize regional trade and transportation. USAID helps Azerbaijan diversify and strengthen its economy by promoting agriculture development in rural areas of the country. Specifically, USAID improves farmer productivity and marketing and contributes to legislative reform affecting small businesses. USAID also supports entrepreneurship and employment among women and youth and supports commercial banks to provide sustainable market-based financial services to small and medium enterprises.

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USAID mobilizes communities across Azerbaijan to help them address their immediate social and economic needs.

Photo: East-West Management Institute



An elderly woman receives medical services at a newly constructed medical facility thanks to joint efforts by USAID and the Azerbaijani government

Photo: Mehdi Huseynliyev/U.S. Embassy Baku



USAID agricultural recommendations help farmers and growers improve quality of products and hence income.

Photo: Yugar Naghiyev/USAID