



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



ARMENIA

COUNTRY PROFILE

Since 1992 the United States has partnered with the Armenian people to establish democratic and economic systems and institutions, expand trade and investment, promote independent media and civil society, and enhance energy security. Together we have also improved access to healthcare and strengthened social protection systems. USAID remains committed to supporting Armenia on its journey to self-reliance.

Our Work

USAID has increased its engagement in Armenia following the 2018 peaceful transition of power in Armenia, known as the “Velvet Revolution.” USAID programs are working to reinforce and ensure that Armenia’s democratic gains are **irreversible and its economic potential is reached** through support for Armenia’s electoral and political processes and broader governance and economic reforms through partnership with national and local government, civil society and the private sector. USAID supports a variety of projects that promote inclusive economic growth, participatory, effective and accountable governance, and social sector reforms.

USAID works in all of Armenia’s ten regions, through projects implemented by local and international organizations, as well as by the Armenian Government. USAID projects seek to strengthen local organizations and government institutions. This approach is cost effective, leverages local knowledge, builds capacity and fosters Armenia’s progress on its **Journey to Self-Reliance**.

USAID is proud to have supported the American University of Armenia and the Armenian American Wellness Center, and to have partnered with the private sector to establish legacy institutions that promote Armenian and American values including the Innovative Solutions Technology Center, the Armenian National Engineering Labs (ANEL), and the Microsoft Innovation Center.

INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH

USAID promotes rural economic development through projects that create jobs in the hospitality and tourism sector, strengthen sustainable agriculture and agribusiness value chains, improve the business enabling environment, and increase access to markets. USAID also promotes energy security by supporting market liberalization reforms and electricity trade with Georgia and more efficient water management in the Ararat Valley. USAID and the Government of Armenia, in strategic partnerships with IBM, National Instruments, and Microsoft, have strengthened Armenia’s hi-tech ecosystem by developing talent for the workforce, introducing the management culture of these U.S. flagship companies to Armenia, and supporting entrepreneurship.

DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE

USAID partners with the Government of Armenia, civil society, and media to promote more transparent and participatory governance at the national and local levels. These activities bolster the government's efforts to address corruption, strengthen public sector accountability, facilitate free and fair elections, reinforce legislative and political processes, and improve the rule of law and protection of human rights. USAID also works with civil society and media to ensure all citizens have access to independent and reliable sources of information, are empowered to articulate their interests, and constructively engage in policy development and implementation.

SOCIAL INCLUSION

USAID works with local organizations to improve the welfare and social inclusion of vulnerable populations, through support for the Government of Armenia's inclusive education reform and by building the capacity of community-level social workers. USAID programs promote the inclusion of marginalized populations through advocacy for Persons with Disabilities and LGBTQI communities.

TRANSITION ASSISTANCE

USAID's Armenia Support Initiative (ASI) was developed to provide rapid and flexible support for government and community identified and led efforts that sustain the momentum of citizen activism sparked by the "Velvet Revolution." ASI implements small projects at national and local levels that support the Armenian government's reform agenda and engage citizens in the effort.



My Handmade Armenia Festival, 2019
Photo Credit: My Armenia



Fish Farmer with PURE Water Project
Photo Credit: Urban Foundation



Youth Protest in Velvet Revolution 2018
Photo Credit: Gleb Garanich (Reuters)

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