

The Case for Joint Development Associates International

Central Asia since 1993



...equipping the nations





**Transformational Development
is about being a catalyst to
assist individuals, families,
and communities learn
to help themselves.**

The Challenge

The world view held by the people of Central Asia has been shaped for centuries by their culture and in their recent past, by governments. It is a world view that embraces the importance of the family, of giving through hospitality and of seeking God. But there are elements of their world view that keep them trapped in poverty, disease and hopelessness.

After 10 years of working in the rural communities of Central Asia, we find there is a stark contrast between the people once influenced by the policies of the Soviet Union and the people who have lived or fled under the Taliban. The people who make up the new independent states of the former Soviet Union are highly literate in their ethnic languages and in Russian. In spite of education, there is little initiative to influence their future with new ideas, business ventures, politics and risk. In contrast, the Afghans are largely illiterate, especially women, yet they are quick to grasp any opportunity to try out a new idea or meet a need with the raw materials available to them.

Both groups highly value education, but to put that knowledge into action for the benefit of their communities is a new concept to be grasped. It takes living and learning together, employing and demonstrating principles that will give rise to creativity, initiative, hope and integrity.

Our challenge is to equip these nations to build a foundation for the future that will not only meet the needs of their people, but to give them the privilege of enriching other nations with the strengths and resources that their nation, land, and culture have to offer.

As western interest in Central Asia wanes and funding shifts to other newly emerging countries in need, we remain committed for the long term. Our challenge is to stay focused on the long term development of these nations and to solicit and implement the funding that will allow us to do that.



JDA Responds

JDA's response has been to invest in a core group of national staff from different cultural backgrounds. They in turn are touching lives with a world view that brings hope, that encourages individuals and communities to begin to take responsibility for their future, and that stimulates them to apply their creative abilities to solve the problems they are faced with.

Our staff are trained to assess the needs of rural communities in Central Asia including northern Afghanistan. With their understanding of the varied cultures of the region and language fluency, they work closely with the local leadership and the citizens, and together, plan how to address the core challenges facing them. Through "participatory learning and action" the people are taught to evaluate their community's needs, determine what resources are already available and how to use them.

Clean Water and Sanitation

Safe drinking water and an increased water supply for bathing are critical to good health in the salty, arid regions of Central Asia. All projects are accompanied by on-going education in good health care practices, often challenging long-held superstitious beliefs and outdated first aid methods.

Filtering systems for eliminating salts and heavy metals have been installed in two regions and ten villages are using a method for disinfecting their water using solar energy. The water supply has been increased in nine regions with well drilling and hand pump installation. Deep well development and integrated aqua culture are being studied.

Health Education, Clinics and Leprosy

Lasting improvement to individuals' wellbeing is the goal to JDA's health education. Clinics and seminars are conducted in cooperation with local health care workers to promote the dissemination of new practices and new attitudes towards various diseases.

Five hundred national doctors have been trained in current leprosy treatment and methods, and clinics supplied with anti-leprosy medicines. Disability prevention programs are conducted with leprosy patients. Food, medicines and clothing are distributed



annually to patients and leprosy centers have been improved with repairs and building additions such as laundry and bathing facilities, toilets, heating and cooking systems. Laws governing the isolation of leprosy patients were changed to reflect the newest medical knowledge of the disease

Short term medical teams have provided exams, diagnostics, treatment, medical equipment and training. Sponsored national medical students have received training in England.

Education in primary health care is conducted by our staff and covers such topics as hygiene, nutrition, water treatment, first aid, family planning, alcoholism and drug addiction. Pamphlets are published covering all areas of health concerns in local languages.

Humanitarian Aid

Following the defeat of the Taliban in Afghanistan, JDA met the needs of over 176,000 returning refugees and internally displaced people with food and clothing. Our presence in the northern region of the country continues to be needed to develop jobs, resources, education and a hope for a lasting peace in the region.

Community infrastructure including public buildings, roads and irrigation canals have been rebuilt in a food for asset creation program, providing work for 15,000 men. Five schools have been built with volunteer workforces from each of the communities, providing classrooms for 3800 girls and boys.

In Uzbekistan, distribution of clothing, school items, toys, bedding and gifts have benefited orphans, the needy, and the sick. JDA and its partners have funded construction and repairs to a TB hospital for children and to a boarding school for the mentally retarded. JDA brought gas supply to the two leprosy centers in Uzbekistan and provided cooking and heating stoves to those living in these communities.

Poverty Alleviation

Whether it is raising chickens in our poultry program or the chance to try out a new idea, a small loan can mean the difference to a future. Micro Credit programs are operating in two regions, 77% of the loans going to women. Our poultry project supplies very poor families with chicks to raise and sell. Many of our micro credit members use their profit for further education for themselves or their children.



Transformation

Dilnoz, 22

Karnop, Pakhtachi District, Samarkand Region, Republic of Uzbekistan

For two years Dilnoz has been an active participant of the micro credit program. She sells food items at the central bazaar in Karnop. With the proceeds of her business she was able not only to provide her family with food, but also to invest in her own education. Dilnoz attended three months vocational classes in Tashkent, the capital of Uzbekistan, where she acquired sewing skills. "My plans are to open a tailor shop in Karnop. It's more profitable than selling things at the bazaar. It would be good to have more service businesses in Karnop, like baking, sewing, etc. If people take a micro loan, they can save some money for their education too."

Mokhira, 21

Tutli, Pakhtachi District, Samarkand Region, Republic of Uzbekistan

Mokhira has started participating in the process of carpet making during her school years, learning from her grandmother. It's the first time she has taken a loan and started her own business of carpet making.

"There isn't any other kind of occupation in our tiny village. Carpet making was turning out to be too expensive and required a start-up fund. The total expenses per carpet is about \$10-15, carpet making is a long and time consuming process and during a month I make one or two carpets. The net profit is only \$4-5 dollars.

I am thankful that we have a micro credit program in our village. And I hope in the second cycle to use my profit for widening my business."



Bouston, 43

Qoraqush Village, Shakhrisabz Region, Republic of Uzbekistan

At the age of 40 with 7 children to care for, Bouston lost her job at a kolkhoz (a collective farm) after doctors diagnosed her with anemia. Minimal government child support, coupled with her \$2 per month profit from sewing Uzbek-style men's gowns and her husband's bimonthly salary of in-kind flour and oil wasn't enough to cover even the family food needs.

Family life has been drastically changed for Bouston since she started participating in the poultry project. She has been able to provide food needs and winter clothes for her children, and save money to send her son to school in the city.

Nafasgul (Breathing Flower)

Gurjak Village, Faizabad District, Sheberghan Province, Afghanistan

While making an inspection tour at the site of one of the schools constructed by JDA, a staff member noticed a young girl, 9 years of age, whose right eye was terribly disfigured. Her eye had become infected when she had measles three years ago, and now she is blind in this eye. She had endured this condition for a vital part of her formative years and probably resigned to it for life. Her family could not afford to seek medical attention and medical services are limited in her remote part of Afghanistan. Medical facilities for treating her eye were found in Mazar-i-Sharif and Nafasgul had her eye removed. She now has a prosthetic eye, a new smile, and self confidence.

In her previous condition, with the disfigured eye, Nafasgul might have been considered "damaged goods" when she reached marriageable age. Now, not only is she beautiful in the physical sense, but a minor operation has allowed her spirit and character to begin to flower and grow, helping her to achieve her fullest potential.



Support Team

JDA's team of national staff provide the vital support necessary for JDA to be effective in accomplishing its mission and vision in Central Asia. They are the foundation on which all of our project activity depends, from conception to completion.

Program Officers

These men and women initiate many of the projects we implement beginning with pilot projects, concept papers and funding proposals. It often takes one to two years for a new project to be funded. These experienced national staff have been trained in project management from simple distribution of aid to more complex programs like Micro Credit. With their knowledge of local languages and sensitivity to the varied cultures of Central Asia they are effective in building relationships, the foundation to lasting change.

Administration

The complexities and details involved in maintaining efficient offices and running programs are juggled effectively by our staff. They support JDA's project activity with personnel documents, logistics and purchasing. Visas, country registration, travel arrangements, housing, translation, orientation of new staff and training are just a few of the ways in which they serve.

Accounting

Maintaining a financial standard of excellence and integrity in reporting to our funding partners has promoted trust and has solidified lasting partner relationships. All project budgets are watched carefully from this department; income and expenses are documented from all regional sites and from project activity. These staff are responsible for local accounting requirements including payroll and benefits as well as meeting USA and UK standards.

Technical Services and Equipment

JDA has strategically located offices, project and office equipment and vehicles designed to facilitate and implement our projects. As communication is vital to our work and safety, the technical staff keep our computers, satellite phones and radios, electric generators, and other systems operating. The expertise and management skills of this part of our Support Team are used at project sites as well as in our offices and are necessary for the smooth operation of any project operation.

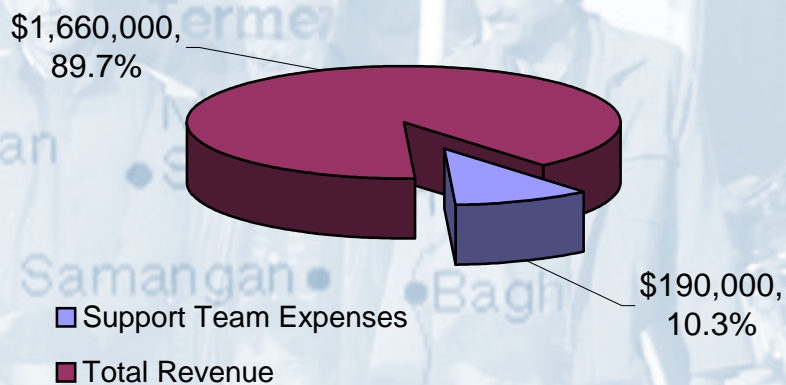


Over the past 10 years, western interest was high in the republics of the former Soviet Union and Afghanistan. During this time, project funding was readily available and Support Team expenses were built into our project budgets. We used this opportunity to establish JDA as an effective transformational development organization, train our support team and purchase equipment.

Support Team Expenses Average Yearly Expenditures

Yearly Running Expenses (all figures in US Dollars)	Uzbekistan	Afghanistan	TOTAL
Salaries/Benefits/Taxes	51,000	43,000	\$94,000
General and Administrative	22,000	36,000	\$58,000
New Project Development	8,000	8,000	\$16,000
Fund Raising	4,000	4,000	\$8,000
Staff Development Training	7,000	7,000	14,000
Total	\$92,000	\$98,000	\$190,000

Support Team Expenses as a Percentage of Total Yearly Project Funds



As interest has shifted to other parts of the world, competition for project funding for Central Asia has increased. As a long term development company, we do not want to “chase” funding sources just to stay in operation. We will continue to wisely assess needs, plan and prepare project activity that creates high impact and flexible programs to increase the capacity of our staff and to transform individuals and their communities.

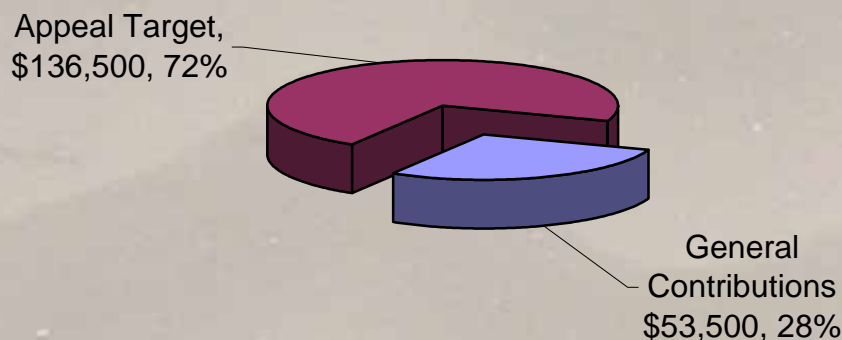


Support Team Partners

JDA is seeking to increase its donor base: people who will partner with us, providing on-going funds for our Support Team and the operating expenses of our main offices in Tashkent and Mazar-i-Sharif. This will allow us to continue to invest in our Support Team as their employment and training is fundamental to promoting principles that can be transferred as they work in communities in rural Central Asia. It will allow us to budget and apply for project funding that uses less of the monies for the Support Team and overhead expenses and more for the communities and individuals for which the project is intended. In a part of the world that requires a long term development commitment, it will provide JDA with longevity, stability and flexibility.

Currently, 28% of the \$190,000 needed for our Support Team is funded through general contributions. JDA is appealing for 90 new **Support Team Partners** to provide the additional 72% to meet our annual appeal target of \$136,500.

Appeal Target as a Percentage of Total Support Team Expenses



Opportunities to participate as a **Support Team Partner** are listed below. Donations may be sent to our office in the UK or the USA. Please include a note, indicating your on-going pledge amount.

Sponsorship Opportunities				
	<i>Number of New Partners</i>	<i>Minimum Contribution per month</i>	<i>Per Year</i>	<i>Year Total</i>
Support Team Partners	35	\$25	\$300	\$10,500
	30	\$50	\$600	\$18,000
	15	\$100	\$1,200	\$18,000
	5	\$500	\$6,000	\$30,000
	5	\$1,000	\$12,000	\$60,000
Appeal Target	90			\$136,500

*Thank you for becoming a **Support Team Partner!***

JDA Information

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GUINAN, Allan
Executive Director
iThemba Aids Foundation
London

MOFFETT, Bob
Director of Post Graduate
Studies
All Nations College
Ware, Hertfordshire

Central Asia Office:

Joint Development Associates
33, Minglar Kochasi
Tashkent 700015,
UZBEKISTAN
T: (+998) 71 152 3436
F: (+998) 71 254 5803
E: jda_Tashkent@jdapost.com

U.S. Address:

Joint Development Associates
International, Inc.
569 32 Road, Suite 7B,
PMB248
Grand Junction, Colorado
81504
T: (+1) 888 759 4071
F: (+1) 800 779 1703
E: jda_us@jdapost.com

UK Address:

Joint Development Associates
International (UK) Ltd.
PO Box 47, Hitchin SG5 3ZU
Registered Charity No 1095023
Company Registration No 4560044
T: (+44) (0) 870 765 4930
F: (+44) (0) 870 133 6389
E: info@jdainternational.org.uk



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