



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

TURKMENISTAN

SUCCESS STORY

A Trip Sparks New Business Ideas

Trainer uses knowledge acquired on USAID exchange program



Daniil (on the right) with participants of the USAID alumni. Photo: ACCELS

“My visit to the United States helped me to break stereotypes about relationships between nonprofit and state sectors. I learned that every sector has its own interests to pursue and the best way of collaboration between them is mutual respect for those interests.”

Daniil Maykowsky, participant of the USAID Community Connections program

The experience and knowledge gained on the USAID Community Connections program enabled Daniil Maykowsky to improve activities of his organization and promote its further development.

Daniil is a certified trainer and consultant at MCT Agency, one of Turkmenistan’s biggest consulting companies that provides consulting services in the areas of business training, recruitment, marketing research, and event planning.

In 2006, Daniil participated in a USAID-sponsored study tour on grass-root initiatives. Together with nine other leaders of various Turkmen community organizations, he visited Chicago, IL to learn about community organizing and coalition building, volunteer recruitment and management, youth development, fundraising, and social partnerships. “I was impressed by the variety of commu-

nity outreach activities employed by U.S. organizations for various target populations,” says Daniil.

Upon return from the United States, Daniil and his colleague Galina Kalagina designed a new development strategy for his organization, focusing on business development and event planning. While previously, the organization mainly collaborated with international organizations implementing their grant projects, since 2007 MCT have expanded partners to include private, nonprofit, and government organizations. It also widened the scope of its activities aiming to become self-sustainable. In 2007, 41 percent of all MCT’s projects were for nonprofit sector.

These days, Daniil actively collaborates with the USAID Community Connections Program: His agency was selected to facilitate Community Connections alumni events. MCT and Daniil personally organized round tables and project development training courses for the program alumni to maximize their ability to contribute to their fields of work.

“My visit to the United States helped me to break stereotypes about relationships between nonprofit and state sectors,” says Daniil Maykowsky. “I learned that every sector has its own interests to pursue and the best way of collaboration between them is mutual respect for those interests.”