Joint Development Associates
International, Inc.

2000 Annual Report

From the Executive Director

The year 2000 was another exciting year for JDA in its ongoing holistic development work in Uzbekistan. We added new staff and saw a number of our long-term associates leave for other assignments. We opened a virtual office in the U.S., giving us for the first time, convenient access to donors, potential recruits, and supporting organizations and agencies. Our community development efforts began to shift focus, looking for appropriate technology to begin natural resource based business operations. The poultry-growing project in Shakrisabz was viewed by many outside organizations and will undoubtedly become a model for similar ventures throughout the Republic. We continued our humanitarian work through projects to benefit the leprosy centers, orphanages and other special institutes for the disabled. We continued to distribute donated clothing and provide safe drinking water through our shallow well drilling program.

In 2001, we will resume our micro-credit program in Muynak, Karakalpakstan and in 2002-03 will initiate similar programs in Kokand and Jizzak. We will begin a brick manufacturing enterprise and replicate the poultry-growing program in other locales. A simple water disinfection process, using solar heat and ultraviolet rays, will be tested at Kokand. We will continue our leprosy program, expanding it to include a leprosy survey in northwestern Turkmenistan and a visit to the leprosy center in western Kazakhstan to determine ways in which we might assist. JDA will also seek registration in Kazakhstan as we seek to expand our work in Central Asia.

My personal vision increases each year as I see how few organizations are working and how little work is being accomplished to re-develop and restore the Aral Sea basin. The entire population of the region is suffering tremendously as a result of many years of exploitation, neglect, and improper stewardship of the land. Our goal in development is complete transformation of people, families, communities, the nation and the land. This is hard work, but very rewarding, as we begin to see lives changed, minds transformed, and discover the hidden things of creation that can be used to bring development to the region. I believe that JDA can make a difference and that we can be a catalyst to bring lasting holistic development to one of the world's great ecological disaster areas.

Our cadre of regular supporters and donors has grown in response to increased need and perceived benefits to the poor and needy of the Republic. We thank you all and want you to know how vital your participation is to the ultimate success of our work.

Robert Hedlund
Tashkent, Uzbekistan
May 2001

Uzbekistan

Community Development

We completed a project to deepen a five-kilometer canal to supply irrigation water for home gardens in the leprosy community of Krantau in Karakalpakstan. The pump used to provide water from a main feeder canal was inoperative and the community had no money to repair it. JDA deepened an unused canal, allowing water to flow by gravity to the community. This eliminated the need for a pump and the community is assured of water for their gardens as long as water flows through the main canal. The community helped by removing the grass, reeds and shrubs that had grown up in the unused canal.

As a response to on-going drought conditions in Karakalpakstan, we drilled 35 shallow wells in six villages that had no reliable source of safe drinking water. The wells were drilled and fitted with hand pumps and equipped with electrical purifying devices. Community training classes in the operation and maintenance of the wells, and the health benefits derived from using the well water instead of untreated water, were held. Some of the communities built concrete pads for the wells and pumps and reed fences around the wells to keep out livestock. Some also developed community schedules for drawing water in some village wells where water flow was low.

A graduate student in International Agriculture Development from the United States teamed with a JDA volunteer to conduct a livestock/natural resource survey in the northern area of Karakalpakstan. This project served to identify villages in need of water for the drilling project described above, as well as identifying other natural resources that can be utilized in micro-enterprise development activities.

Micro-enterprise Development

Our very successful poultry-growing project in the southern region of Uzbekistan near the cities of Kitab and Shakrisabz has been visited by a number of national and international organizations. They are eager to transfer the economic model to other locations. Over forty growers participated in the program in 2000. Broiler chicks purchased from a hatchery in Tashkent are sold on credit to growers, who raise each batch of fifty in their homes. Most of the growers are widows or abandoned wives who are supporting a household. JDA provides each grower with the proper mixture of feed, vitamins and vaccines. We also take the mature chicks and use a local crew of women to slaughter the birds and prepare them for market. They are placed in freezers and transported to restaurants in the surrounding region. Profits from the sale of birds are returned to the growers after JDA recovers its cost of feed and transport.

We revamped our micro-credit program in Muynak, Karakalpakstan. A high percentage of loan defaults in 1999 caused us to suspend operation and reassess the way in which the program operated in an attempt to improve performance. An experienced volunteer moved to Muynak with a national partner and the two of them began to restructure the program. They visited similar successful programs in Kazakhstan, Kenya, and Uganda and fused the best parts of each into a new structure. The new program will be launched in May 2001, pending receipt of funding.

Smaller micro-credit programs operated in Karnap and Kokand. The Kokand program also experienced higher than desirable default rates and will likely follow the Muynak model as it goes forward.

Humanitarian Aid

Our commitment to providing humanitarian aid to orphans and other institutionalized children resulted in the purchase and distribution of individual July packages of food, toys and clothing for residents of orphanages throughout Uzbekistan. The packages were assembled, transported and distributed by our national staff, which also presented music and skits to the delight of their young recipients.

Two short-term teams of Medical Missions International doctors and other health workers were hosted by JDA. We provided the logistics and assisted the teams as they conducted clinical examinations and hospital staff seminars in Muynak and Shakrisabz.

Technology Assessment

We purchased two manually operated brick presses from India and began to test the technology of manufacturing compressed soil blocks that would have higher strength than traditional mud bricks, yet would be less costly than kiln-fired bricks. Because Central Asia is in an earthquake prone zone, homes constructed of these stronger bricks should be more resistant to catastrophic failure should a quake occur. One of the presses was set up in the courtyard of our country office and we began to experiment with various clay sources and mixtures. We also located a suitable clay deposit in Karakalpakstan, near Muynak, and were preparing to move the press and begin a small operation when the need to begin the drought relief water wells precluded our start-up. The first operation in Karakalpakstan will commence in 2001.

Other examinations of appropriate technology that hold promise as micro-enterprises are the use of a manual press to produce edible cooking oil from sunflowers and safflowers. A hydraulic press would be required for pressing soya, thus making it less attractive to press the harder beans.

We entered into an agreement with San Diego State University to evaluate the use of satellite imagery in identifying landforms and surface land uses. That study resulted in publication of an article in Sustainable Development magazine. A grant from NASA will be sought in 2001 to use the technology for locating clay deposits.

The potential for re-establishing a fishing industry in the area surrounding the Aral Sea was investigated through discussions with aquaculture experts at the University of California-Davis and the University of Arizona. The salinity of the Aral Sea has increased to the point where most of the indigenous species have ceased to exist. Those who in the past made their living on the sea have skills that could be utilized in fish farming, if a culturally acceptable fish capable of surviving the cold winters can be found. Further discussions will be held to see if a viable industry can be developed for families.

As the shoreline of the Aral Sea has receded and the old seabed is exposed, mineral deposits of clay and gypsum have been found in the vicinity of Muynak. The gypsum is of high enough quality to support a chalk manufacturing business. There appears to be a market in the region for blackboard chalk for classroom use. We have investigated the technology for making blackboard chalk and have purchased a grinding mill to produce powder for the molding process. In 2001, we will continue to develop the technology as a micro-enterprise opportunity.

Education

JDA has continued the development of its Center for Education and Business Information Systems (CEBIS) in Jizzak. This computer training and service center provides classroom instruction in computer operation and programming, and also provides the region with free e-mail access. Direction of the Center was turned over to a national employee, as the initial step toward a spin-off into a local NGO.

A drug awareness and prevention seminar and workshop was sponsored and facilitated. Aimed at reaching college age youth in Tashkent, the principal presenter was an acclaimed motivational practitioner from Tajikistan, whose rapport with young people gave his presentation credence with his audience. In 2001, similar seminars will be conducted in Tashkent, Jizzak, and Nukus.

With the employment of an experienced national health worker with translation capabilities, production of basic community health brochures in Russian, Uzbek and Karakalpak began. These brochures on subjects such as personal hygiene, prevention of water-related enteric diseases, diarrhea management, treatment of coughs, colds, burns, lice, need for safe drinking water, and diagnosis and prevention of tuberculosis will be used in all our projects to educate villagers in personal and community health matters.

Our leprosy program reached a new level with the employment of a national medical director, a pediatric surgeon, to direct the program. The director was sent to India and trained by The Leprosy Mission doctors to perform corrective surgery on leprosy patients. He has completed several surveys of the medical and physical needs of the patients in the Krantau and Bakhmal leprosy communities in Karakalpakstan. The needs assessment will guide the program forward.

A very successful leprosy conference for medical practitioners throughout Central Asia was sponsored by JDA and held in Tashkent in October 2000. Experts from The Leprosy Mission were brought in to share the latest advances in treatment with their colleagues.

JDA staff in Jizzak initiated a program to assess the needs of the hearing-impaired population and introduce an educational program with working age youth that will prepare them for assimilation into the job market. Partnering with local government and other organizations, the program has begun with the training of five teachers in national signing. Trained signers will be the critical component in the vocational education programs to follow.

Acknowledgment of Donors

We gratefully acknowledge the donations and other contributions that make it possible to carry on our work in Uzbekistan. In addition to many individual donors, the following organizations have provided substantial contributions in 2000:

ACCELS

Cargill

The Leprosy Mission (India & UK)

Zarafshan-Newmont Joint Venture

Swedish Development Agency

Tearfund (UK)

World Concern

The British Embassy in Uzbekistan

Food for the Hungry

Medical Missions International

The Open Society Institute
(Soros Foundation)

The Swiss Embassy in Uzbekistan

U.S. AID

Unaudited Financial Statements

JDA International, Inc.
Balance Sheet
December 31, 2000
(in US dollars)

Assets		Liabilities & Fund Balances	
Current Unrestricted Funds			
Cash	15,488.61	Accounts Payable	12,576.30
Prepaid Expenses	814.08	Deferred Revenue	98,182.89
		Retained Earnings	-38,375.82
Adv. To Employees	119.75	Current Yr. Earnings	-28,075.53
Inventory	375.00	Current Yr. Earnings Distribution	264.97
Accnts Receivable	23,394.37	Fund Balance	547.01
	40,191.81		45,119.82
Current Restricted Funds			
Distributions	363.27	Fund Balance	149.89
Cargill	3,723.07	Fund Balance	3,723.07
Micro-credit Admin.	5,022.03	Fund Balance	5,022.03
Micro-credit Loan	9,465.65	Fund Balance	9,465.65
Water Projects	61,028.31	Fund Balance	61,028.31
Sweden Development Agency	3,452.35	Fund Balance	3,452.35
Leprosy	809.94	Fund Balance	-3,904.69
	83,864.62		78,936.61
Property & Equipment Fund			
Cash	9,190.23		
Leasehold (net of depr. of 6,908)	994.25		
Vehicles (net of depr. Of 39,732)	8,400.00		
Furn. & Fixtures (net of depr. Of 6,864)	0.00		
Office Equip (net of depr. Of 6,827)	1,799.00		
Other Equip. (net of depr. Of 600)	900.00	Fund Balance	21,283.48
	21,283.48		21,283.48
TOTALS	145,339.91		145,339.91

Summary Income Statement
FY 2000: December YTD

Income	2000 Actual
Figures in US $	
Donated Services	$477,000
Donations	$100,702
MID Services & Filter Sales	$2,059
Admin Fund (MC Program)	$16,174
Vehicle Use Fees	$8,966
Misc. Income	$198
Other Income	$10,386
Total	$615,484
Expenditures	
Figures in US $	
Salaries/Wages/Grants	$506,650
Office Rental	$3,397
Communication	$1,762
Utilities	$404
Translation/Interpretation	$2,535
Transportation	$12,991
Small Office Equipment	$6,750
Office Supplies/ Materials & Supplies	$35,734
Taxes/Fees	$815
Outside Training	$4,916
Travel	$14,265
Consultants	$5,501
Bank Charges	$1,726
Currency Value Loss	$5,748
Allocation of G and A	$0
Aid and Relief Items (Food, Medicine)	$15,439
Printing/Publishing	$268
Total Expenditure	$618,902
Excess of Income over Expenditure	($3,418)
Property/Equipment Fund Expenses	($24,648)
Total Excess of Income over Expenditure	($28,066)
YTD MC Admin costs covered by prior period funding	$13,903
Actual costs not covered by income or fund balance	($14,163)

Plans for 2001

Planned activities for 2001 will include expansion of ongoing projects and the introduction of several new or newly modified ventures.

We will conduct extensive surveys of the needs of the leprosy patients in Karakalpakstan and use these surveys to develop new program elements for implementation. Surveys will be carried out in the Ferghana Valley and in northern Turkmenistan to find hidden leprosy sufferers. We will visit the leprosy center in western Kazakhstan to determine how JDA might provide support and assistance. We will continue to sponsor drug intervention educational seminars.

We will enter into a contract with a U.S. organization to supply donated clothing on a regular schedule throughout the year. A grant from a government agency has been applied for which, if granted, will pay the cost of shipping the clothing to Uzbekistan. We will distribute the clothing to orphanages, other institutions for disabled children, widows and women-led families, elderly pensioners, and the destitute, through our offices in Tashkent, Nukus, Jizzak, Kokand, and Samarkand.

We will conduct a second well drilling program in Karakalpakstan, providing safe drinking water to villages suffering from the ongoing drought. Over 300 new wells with hand pumps will be installed, benefiting at least 40,000 people in more than 30 villages. If funding becomes available, a third program will be undertaken. We will drill and equip more than 1000 wells with hand pumps in two districts west of the Amu Darya River. Approximately $400,000 in funding will be required to initiate this project.

Our poultry project in Shakrisabz will be expanded to provide business opportunities for up to 80 - 100 families in 2001, and 200 families in 2002. The granary will be expanded to meet the needs of the larger program, a hatchery will be established, and experimental plots of soybeans will be grown. Approximately, $50,000 in new funding will be required to implement the expanded project.

We will begin our brick and chalk manufacturing micro-businesses to demonstrate the technology and establish the economic feasibility of entering the market.

Utilization of an unused agricultural experiment farm near Muynak awaits both funding and recruiting the professional agriculturists needed to operate the station. The station, when it becomes operational, will allow us to experiment with salt-tolerant forage and grain crops, integrated fish farming, and the use of greenhouses and hydrophonic media for year-round vegetable production.

A scoping study on the deep aquifer south and east of the Aral Sea has been contracted and will serve as the basis for a proposal to fund a thorough evaluation of the aquifer's capability to serve as an alternate source of fresh water for the region. Hopefully, we will be able to fund the detailed evaluation and be ready to move into development of a wellfield in 2002. This undeveloped resource has tremendous potential for supplying fresh water for domestic use and integrated aquaculture/agriculture economic development programs.

A new micro-economic development – credit program will be initiated in Muynak during the first half of 2001. A JDA volunteer and a national employee as a team will manage this program, based on a credit with education model. They visited similar successful programs in Kazakhstan, Kenya, and Uganda and fused the best parts of each into a new structure. Following successful implementation, the new program will be replicated in Jizzak and Kokand in 2002.

JDA is a member of a consortium of international humanitarian aid agencies that is preparing a proposal to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, under their Food for Progress distribution program. The program will provide wheat flour, rice, and cooking oil to those villagers in Karakalpakstan and Khorezm who have been adversely impacted by the drought. We expect the proposal to be approved in 2001, with the distribution early in 2002.

The vocational education component of the Jizzak hearing-impaired project will be implemented in 2001 after the teachers have completed their sign language training. We hope to provide classroom instruction and hands on work experience for boys and girls, teaching baking, sewing, brick making, and cheese production.

U.S. Office:
701 Winged Foot Drive
Carlsbad, NM 88220-9276
Tel. [redacted]
Fax. [redacted]
E-mail [redacted]

Uzbekistan Office:
55, 2-Kunaev Kochasi
Tashkent 700015 Uzbekistan
Tel. [redacted]
Fax. [redacted]
E-mail [redacted]

Board of Directors

Roger Olsen, Arvada, CO, USA
Robert Hedlund, Tashkent, Uzbekistan
Morris Worley, Carlsbad, NM, USA
John Caple, Arvada, CO, USA
Kenneth Urban, Arvada, CO, USA
William Lyman, Tucson, AZ, USA

Officers & Key Employees

Dr. Roger Olsen, President of the Board,
Arvada, CO, USA
Robert Hedlund, VP-International Operations &
Executive Director, Tashkent, UZ
Morris Worley, VP-Development,
Carlsbad, NM, USA
John Caple, Treasurer, Arvada, CO, USA
Kenneth Urban, Secretary, Arvada, CO, USA
Jonna Reeder, Controller, Tashkent, UZ
[redacted] Regional Coordinator, Nukus,
Karakalpakstan, UZ
[redacted] Leprosy Program Manager,
Tashkent, UZ