

Azerbaijan Perform Year One Case Study*Period of Performance: June, 2021***Practice Area:** Community Resilience**Donor/Client:** USAID**Partner:** Lumbee Tribe Enterprises**Location(s):** Ganja-Dashkasan, Qazakh-Tovuz, Sheki-Zaqatala, Quba-Khachmaz, Baku, Lankaran**Enumerators:** 19**Surveys:** 3,270**Qualitative Engagements:** 55**Project Objectives**

The purpose of PERFORM is to create a rigorous monitoring, evaluation, learning, and data system to strengthen USAID/Azerbaijan's evidence-based decision making and improve performance management to enhance USAID's development objectives in Azerbaijan

- **Project Objective 1:** Gather more than 3,000 face-to-face surveys and conduct focus group discussions (FGDs), key informant interviews (KIIs) and site assessments throughout the five target regions.
- **Project Objective 2:** Contribute to the baseline understanding of the local drivers of instability in order to drive follow-on assessments and programming.

Key Findings

- For the third straight year, lack of livelihoods is the single biggest grievance among all respondents

- Demand signal is growing for anti-corruption projects, likely related to the growing appreciation for Western values
- In three years, demand signal from Azerbaijanis for US investment has increased from 2% in 2018, to over 40% of respondents
- Younger Azerbaijanis want to learn English at three times the rate of Russian.

Methodology

This data-mapping was conducted while the COVID-19 pandemic was still a major consideration in Azerbaijan, and PERFORM team leadership (LTE and impl staff) were fully vaccinated before traveling (which was required to even secure a visa to enter the country). All data collection activities were conducted using Covid-safe protocols such as social distancing and masking during enumerator training and all data collection activities. Additionally, individual surveys, FGDs, and KIIs were conducted either outside or inside in situations where social distancing and/or masking was possible. Throughout the entirety of the data collection activity, no PERFORM nor survey team members were symptomatic or came down with or tested positive for Covid.

Each year, the quality of both questions and enumerations have been improved through an iterative process of identifying limitations and related mitigation strategies. Several limitations were identified during the 2021 survey and the data analysis phase, which will be used to further improve data collection in the future. Most issues were around enumeration choices. For example, in 2019, respondents could choose multiple answers for the questions “what is the biggest problem facing your community?” In 2021, they could choose only one answer. This change was made to facilitate data analysis in Tableau software, and it did not affect the overall outcome of the 2021 results or comparison to past data collection. We found that when tabulating responses based on multiple responses or on a single choice, the ranking for a single answer response answer is the same as multiple responses.