

# Commercial Law Development Program

Improving the Legal Environment for Business Worldwide



# About CLDP

- **Mission:** Improve the legal environment for business worldwide
  - Established in 1992
  - Provides legal technical assistance on behalf of the U.S. Department of Commerce
- **What we do:** CLDP partners with developing and post-conflict countries to implement commercial legal reforms that support U.S. foreign policy goals.
  - Government-to-government technical assistance helps host countries:
    - 1) Modernize their commercial legal environments
    - 2) Support their economic development
  - Also levels the playing field for U.S. businesses



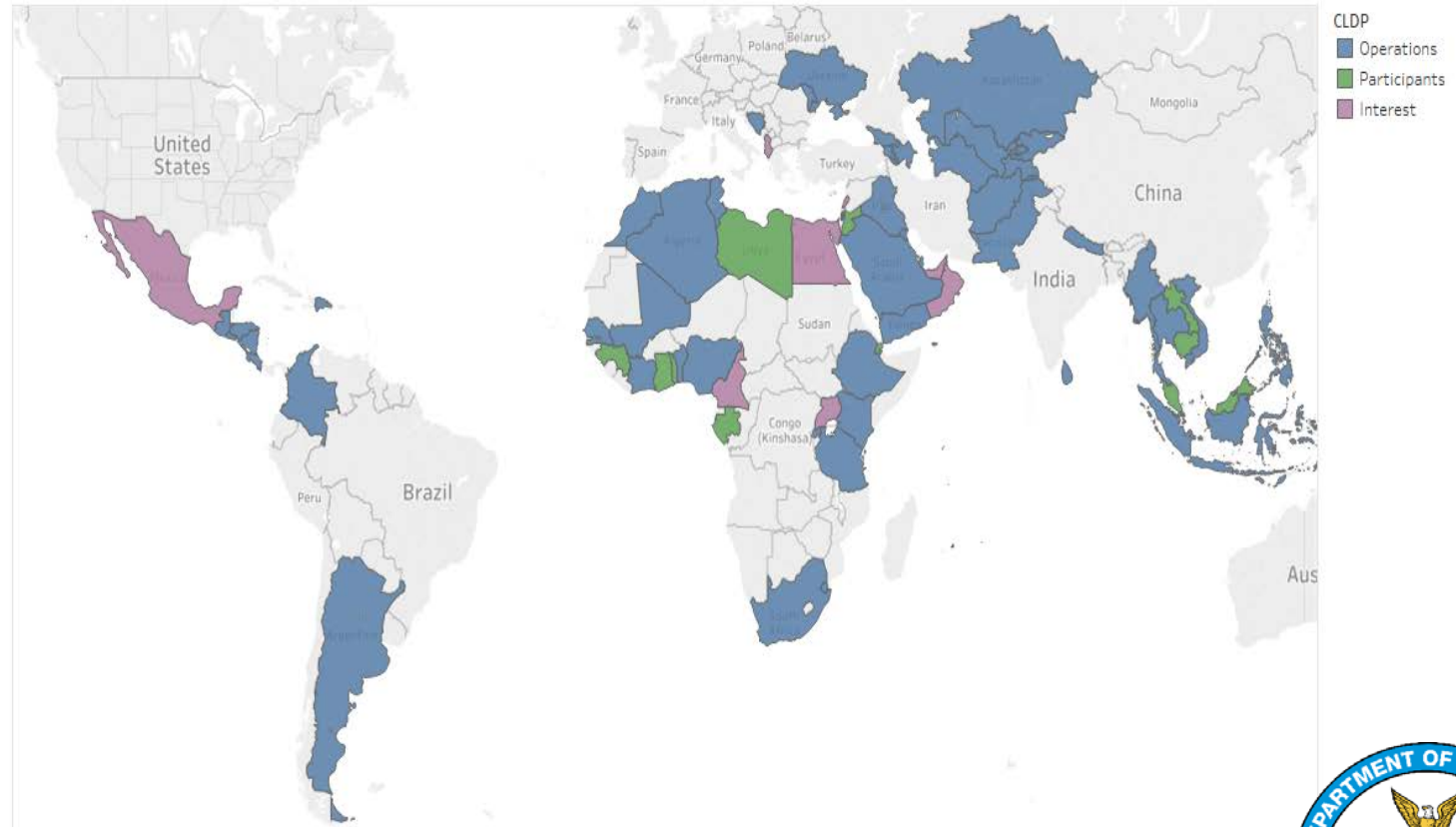
CLDP works with Central Asian women in Istanbul, Turkey in February 2020 for the first WEE Working Group Meeting.



# Where CLDP is Working

*Annually, CLDP works in over 50 countries worldwide:*

- South Asia
- Eastern Europe and Central Asia
- Middle East and North Africa
- Latin America and the Caribbean
- Africa
- Energy (worldwide)
- Southeast Asia



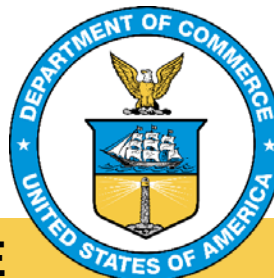
# How Does CLDP Work?

CLDP...

- Receives funding through Interagency Agreements
- Helps develop business-enabling laws, regulations, and practices in markets across the globe
- Trains and provides technical assistance to foreign government officials, legislators, and judges
- Designs and implements conferences and workshops on commercial legal framework
- Removes obstacles to trade and investment



On June 9, 2021, CLDP conducted the first in a series of workshops and programs to identify and address barriers to women's economic empowerment in Moldova, with a virtual roundtable with the Government of Moldova, civil society and business organizations



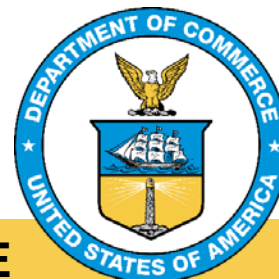
# Areas of Expertise

CLDP operates on an invitational basis to identify and address problematic points in a host country's commercial law framework, including areas such as:

- Commerce
- SPS
- Customs
- Procurement
- Infrastructure
- Intellectual Property Rights
- Energy
- Standards
- Investment
- Telecommunications
- Transparency & Governance



Private sector engagement during CLDP co-sponsored virtual event for the Dominican Republic's as part of a USAID funded project to promote access and inclusion for small and women-owned businesses in the country



# Who Benefits from CLDP Assistance?

- Both the United States and foreign countries benefit from CLDP efforts
- CLDP serves as a technical assistance catalyst to help developing countries make the reforms they seek to modernize the laws and regulations that will lead to economic growth and opportunity for their people
- CLDP's work to help countries increase compliance with international and bilateral trade obligations levels the playing field for U.S. businesses to compete
- U.S. businesses benefit from growing overseas markets that have transparent legal systems and fair regulations



CLDP leads a workshop on streamlining handicrafts exports for 100 local small and medium enterprises in Tunisia, mostly women-owned



## CLDP's Women's Economic Empowerment Team

promotes entrepreneurship, digital commerce, government procurement, contract enforcement, trade, and technology programs focused on empowering women in the economy.

CLDP's women's economic empowerment programs advise the **private sector, policymakers, business associations, and universities** in the Dominican Republic, Moldova, Central Asia and South Asia, Middle East North Africa (MENA), and South Caucasus regions.



**Facilitating Business, Corporate Governance and Commerce** by promoting private sector growth, fostering competition, advocating for good corporate governance (women on boards) and expanding opportunities for digital commerce and women-owned small businesses.



**Strengthening Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)** for women entrepreneurs through workshops and trainings focused on advocating for stronger IPR and related contracts to protect assets.



**Improving Government Procurement** by focusing on transparent, fair, and efficient public procurement practices that foster a more inclusive and empowering environment for women-owned businesses.



**Improving Trade Relations** by supporting increased networking and engagements among trade and commerce associations with women-owned businesses.



**Promoting Contract Enforcement** by empowering women to more effectively participate in the economy through increased understanding of business and commercial transactions.

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## Empowering women entrepreneurs through business and legal strategies in the technology era

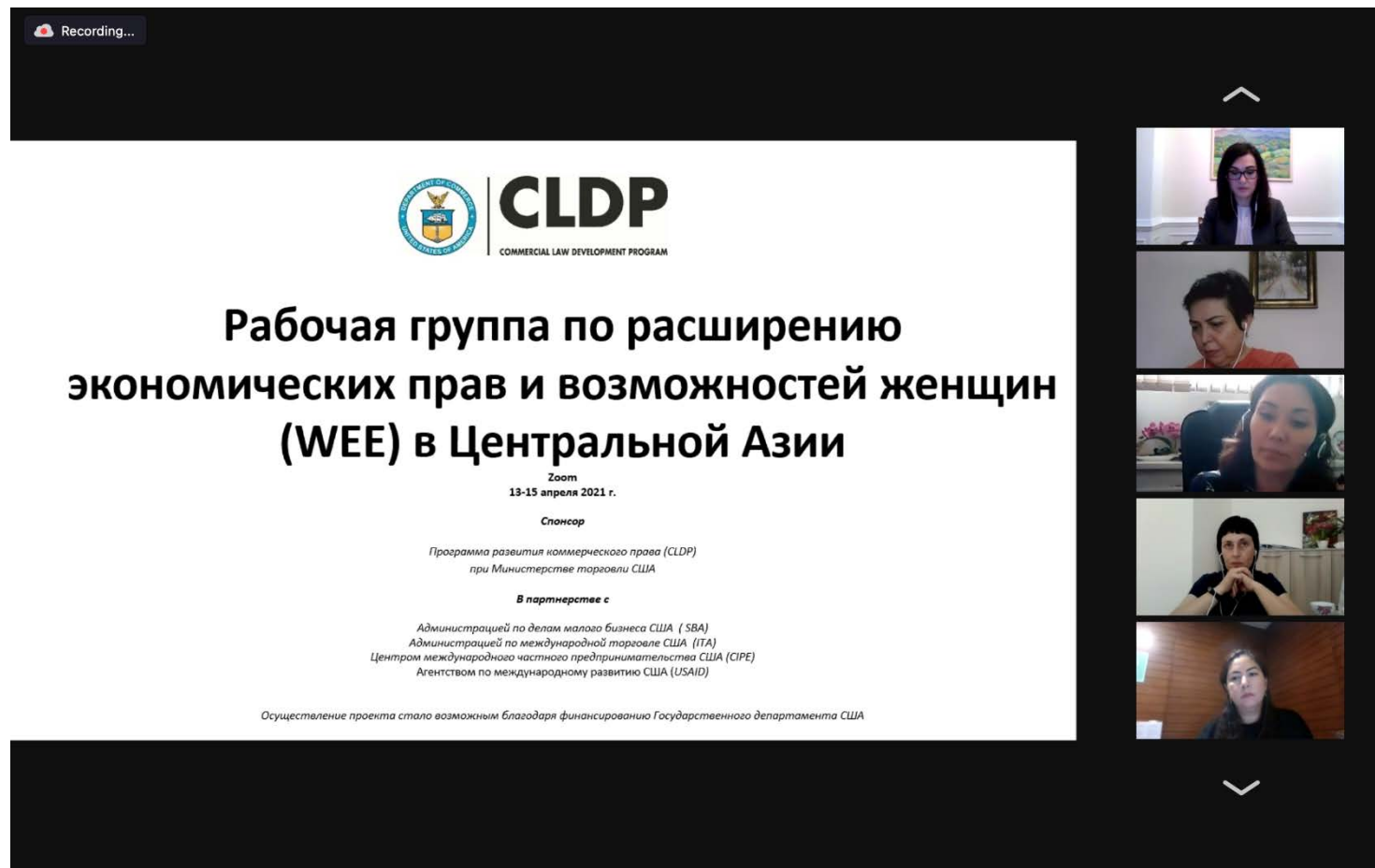
March 22-25, 2021


Monday, March 22 – Intellectual property as a business asset		
	Title	Speaker
Session 1 8:00-9:00	Intellectual Property (IP) Primer	Minna Moezie, USPTO
Session 2 9:10-10:00	Trademark and brand management strategies	Leigh Lowry, USPTO
Session 3 10:00-10:30	Arab women empowerment for technology and entrepreneurship	Kareem Hassan, UN-ESCWA
Tuesday, March 23 – Legal resources for women-owned small businesses		
	Title	Speaker
8:00-8:10	<i>Success Stories: Fatima Zahra, Biodome (Morocco) and Eiman Al-Hamad, Arabic Conversation Fraud Detection (Qatar)</i>	
Session 1 8:10-9:00	Non-disclosure agreements and confidentiality	Foutoun Hajjar, Al Tamimi & Co
Session 2 9:10-10:00	Non-compete agreements	Foutoun Hajjar, Al Tamimi & Co

Wednesday, March 24 – Commercial tools for women entrepreneurs		
	Title	Speaker
8:00-8:10	<i>Success Stories: Abir Ghidhaoui, Pharmatec (Tunisia) and Sameera Al Kooheji Naseem International School (Bahrain)</i>	
Session 1 8:10-9:00	Invention to market: commercialization strategies	Marc Tejtel, CLDP
Session 2 9:00-9:30	Technology transfer tools for women entrepreneurs: lessons learned	Souad Boussaid, ANPR
Session 3 9:40-10:30	Negotiating agreements and term sheets	Cecilia Ziniti, Lambda
Thursday, March 25 – Business strategies to help women succeed		
	Title	Speaker
8:00-8:10	<i>Success Stories: Ouafa Benterki, MYT Intelligent Software (Algeria) and Jenan Alshehab, Electrodis Est. (Kuwait)</i>	
Session 1 08:10-8:50 08:50-9:20	Access to financing	Nora Chennaoui, SEAF Hedi Bchir, CAWTAR
Session 2 9:30-10:15	Market access	Leah Schulz, ITA

Improving Trade Relations by supporting increased networking and engagements among trade and commerce associations with women-owned businesses.

Recording...



 **CLDP**  
COMMERCIAL LAW DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

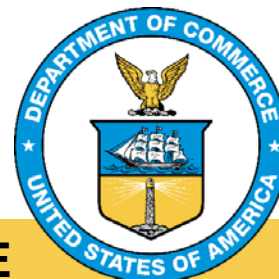
**Рабочая группа по расширению  
экономических прав и возможностей женщин  
(WEE) в Центральной Азии**

Zoom  
13-15 апреля 2021 г.

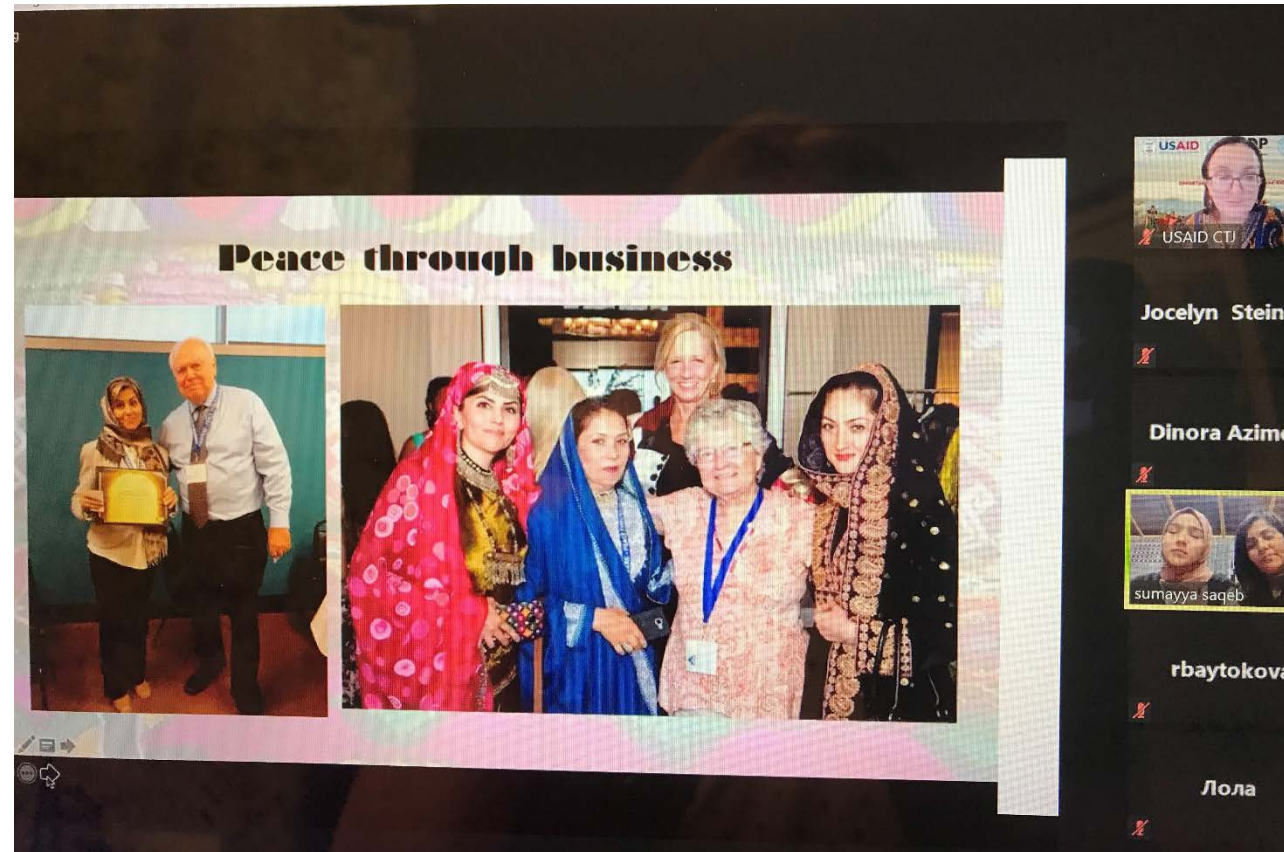
Спонсор  
Программа развития коммерческого права (CLDP)  
при Министерстве торговли США

В партнерстве с  
Администрацией по делам малого бизнеса США (SBA)  
Администрацией по международной торговле США (ITA)  
Центром международного частного предпринимательства США (CIFE)  
Агентством по международному развитию США (USAID)

Осуществление проекта стало возможным благодаря финансированию Государственного департамента США



Promoting Contract Enforcement by empowering women to more effectively participate in the economy through increased understanding of business and commercial transactions.



Afghan artisans present during a CLDP co-sponsored virtual event, with USAID's Central Asian implementing partner Competitiveness, Trade and Jobs (CTJ), for women business owners in Uzbekistan and the neighboring Central Asian countries.



# Thank you!

