

In the Field



WASHINGTON, DC – Above left, Open World's first parliamentary delegates from Turkmenistan meet on Capitol Hill with Indiana Sen. **Richard Lugar** (center), the ranking member of the **Senate Foreign Relations Committee**. The Turkmen deputies, all newly elected, discussed legislative jurisdiction, schedules, campaigning, and staffing during their Feb. 27 meeting with Sen. Lugar, one of the Senate's most senior members. Above right, the delegates' facilitator briefs them on their orientation schedule. The **Arkansas Council for International Visitors** in Little Rock organized the parliamentarians' community visit. National Grantee: Academy for Educational Development

Hosting Corner

HOST GUIDELINES – In the coming months, the Open World Leadership Center will substantially revise the **Guidelines for Host Coordinators**—the main source on the responsibilities of the individuals who carry out Open World's local visits—to make the document more user friendly and "big picture"-oriented. The revised guidelines will continue to set out key hosting policies and practices and to provide tips on developing the program agenda and home-hosting delegates. However, the new document will also:

- include more information about the organization and mission of the Open World Leadership Center and its partner implementing organizations;
- provide ideas on how to introduce the Open World Program and the delegates to the host community;
- list examples of effective activities from past Open World exchanges;
- discuss how the host coordinator and the local visit fit into Open World's larger mission; and
- describe how follow-on partnerships, projects, and reciprocal visits can

help ensure that the Open World experience has a lasting impact on the delegates and their communities.

The Center welcomes feedback from past Open World hosts on how to make the Guidelines a more user friendly and informative product. Please contact Program Manager **Jeffrey Magnuson** at jmag@loc.gov with your suggestions. In the meantime, the current Guidelines for Host Coordinators are available on the Open World website www.openworld.gov.

HOST SELECTION – Recently, while speaking at an exchange-organization conference, Center Executive Director **John O'Keefe** was asked how our hosts are evaluated and why some organizations host every year, others only occasionally. Because the answers are of general interest to our host community, the Center will send grantees and hosts an extended description of the host selection process

in the very near future. Meanwhile, much of this information is available under **Criteria for Evaluating Grant Applications** in the grant guidelines issued for our programs ([click here](#)).

We are honored by how many hosts want to conduct exchanges for us, and regularly report to Congress, our major funder, on this high level of interest. But despite Congress's generous sup-

port, the "demand" for delegates has always exceeded our funding "supply." We know that much of our hosts' interest is due to the appeal of our delegates, who will shape the welfare of their communities and countries for decades to come. We know, too, that your enthusiasm stems from your desire to reach out to a part of the world that historically was at odds with the West, and for that we thank you.