The Energy Institute is participating in a large consortium as part of Hagler Bailly Consulting’s NIS program for U.S. AID. Involvement by the University of Houston and the Energy Institute includes the Central Asia Republics (Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan) and the Republic of Georgia. The Institute’s role includes two areas.

- Technical support on an as needed basis for a variety of energy sector reform initiatives (principally for direct foreign investment in exploration and production, including offshore areas in the Caspian Sea region, and for pipeline infrastructure development).
- Assistance with development of a training program.

For the training program, six training manuals have been prepared by the Institute. In-country instruction commenced in August 1997 and will continue through September 1998. The training manuals and in-country instruction are as follows.

- **International Petroleum Investment Agreements.** Professor Gary Conine, UH Law Center. (Instruction: Mr. Thad Grundy, Consulting Attorney and Institute Advisory Board; August 1997 - Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan; October 1997 - Georgia).
- **Petroleum Economics.** Dr. Bhamy Shenoy, Hagler Bailly Consulting and Institute Advisory Board; Dr. Gürcan Gülen, Research Associate, Energy Institute; Dr. Michelle Michot Foss, Director, Energy Institute. (Instruction: Dr. Shenoy; September 1997 - Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan; November 1997 – Georgia; February 1998 – Turkmenistan)
- **Oil and Gas Project Finance.** Dr. William Kretlow, UH College of Business Administration-Department of Finance. (Instruction: Dr. Michot Foss; November 1997 - Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan)
- **Basic Oil and Gas Accounting and Advanced Oil and Gas Accounting.** Dr. Gary Schugart, Chairman, Department of Accountancy and Taxation. (Instruction: scheduled for March 1998)
- **Energy Regulatory Agency Law and Practices.** Professor Steven Huber, UH Law Center; Dr. Michot Foss; John Sanders, Hagler Bailly Consulting (to be completed in March 1998). (Instruction: to be determined)