



# USAID | MALI

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*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

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## PRESS RELEASE

### U.S. AND MALIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS SIGN AGREEMENTS PROVIDING \$31.4 MILLION FOR DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES IN MALI

**Bamako, Mali**— On July 28, 2005, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Mali, Mr. Moctar Ouane, and the Chargé d’Affairs of the U.S. Embassy, Stephen Kraft, signed amendments to five USAID Mali Strategic Objective Agreements, totaling \$31,422,550. The new Mission Director of USAID Mali, Alexander Newton, was also at the signing ceremony, which took place at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The funds will be used to fund activities in health, education, democratic governance, economic growth and communications. These amendments increase the total provided under the bilateral agreement between the governments of the Republic of Mali and the United States of America for the current development program—which began in 2003—to over \$127.9 million.

#### **Health**

An additional \$12,046,759 is allocated to provide high-impact, proven and effective services in child, maternal, and reproductive health, and to reduce diseases, especially HIV/AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis.

#### **Education**

This program received an additional \$5,254,906 for providing broader access to quality education with an emphasis on primary school completion.

#### **Democratic Governance**

An additional \$3,086,835 is provided for activities designed to develop transparent and accountable democratic institutions, laws, and economic and political processes and practices.

#### **Economic Growth**

An additional \$10,140,284 was allocated for activities designed to enhance food security, increase agricultural production, promote trade and fight against the invasion of locusts.

#### **Communications**

This program received an additional \$893,766 to provide support for community radio stations and radio programming, enhance Internet access in remote areas, and provide regulatory and policy support in the telecommunications sector.

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