

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Nigeria
Program Title:	Democracy and Good Governance
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	620-006
Status:	Continuing
Proposed FY 2003 Obligation:	\$7,373,000 DA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$1,404,000 DA; \$450,000 ESF
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$2,767,000 DA; \$2,500,000 ESF
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 1999
Estimated Completion Date:	FY 2004

Summary: USAID's Democracy and Governance program in Nigeria implements activities to strengthen the capacity of the legislative assemblies at the national level and in selected states; improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the judiciary; build the capacity of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to organize and administer elections; assist political parties to define policy agendas, encourage grassroots women's participation, and mitigate political conflicts; and strengthen the capacity of civil society to participate in policy dialogues and to demand transparency and accountability from government.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2003 Program:

Capacity building for legislators and other elected officials (\$1,907,000 DA). USAID will continue to strengthen the capacity of the legislature and other elected officials through training workshops, networking exchange visits, and information technology support. The program will also provide assistance in the area of constituency cultivation and linking the legislature with civil society organizations (CSOs). Following national and local elections scheduled for April 2003, USAID will provide essential basic orientation training to elected officials, especially those who may be new to elected office. Prior year funds will be used for key assessments of the political dynamics and democratization process in Nigeria that will lead to development of USAID's new Country Strategy Plan. Principal contractors and grantees are: the National Democratic Institute (prime), and Mississippi Consortium for International Development (prime).

Transparent and accountable electoral processes (\$2,111,000 DA). USAID funding will assist INEC and local election officials to monitor national and local elections, conduct post-election planning and review, and carry out by-elections. Political parties will continue to receive support to build capacity at grassroots levels. The increased participation of labor unions and women in politics, including standing for elected office and assuming leadership positions in post-election party activities, will be emphasized. Principal contractors and grantees: International Foundation for Election Systems (prime), and International Republican Institute (prime).

Prior year ESF funds will be used to support the objective of peaceful and democratic elections by financing domestic election monitors and supporting VOA coverage of the 2003 national elections.

Increase efficiency of selected courts (\$1,104,000 DA). USAID will continue to support capacity development in budget preparation, presentation, and management for selected courts and the National Judicial Council. Resources will be used to train judges and court staff and to provide equipment needed to speed up the process of case disposition. USAID will also work with selected non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and CSOs to enhance their management and institutional capacities and their ability to serve as "watchdogs" to promote transparent and ethical judicial performance. Principal grantee: National Center for State Courts (prime).

Strengthen capacity of civil society to demand greater accountability (\$2,251,000 DA). USAID will assist selected CSOs to address freedom of information, electoral fraud, corruption and violence. Labor organizations will also be strengthened to play more effective roles in policy advocacy, oversight of implementation of key policies, conflict mitigation, anti-corruption, and joint problem solving and peace building. Prior year funds will be used to support Trafficking in Persons activities through the International Office of Migration (IOM) and program performance monitoring activities. Principal contractors and grantees are: Center for Development and Population Activities (prime), Solidarity Center (prime), and Management Systems International (prime).

FY 2004 Program:

FY 2004 is the first year of a new program strategy for Nigeria. Notification to Congress will be provided once the new strategy is formally approved. Specific program details will be determined during the strategy development process. At this time, USAID expects to place significant emphasis on improving the conditions for accountability and transparency in Nigeria through continued support for improved governance, increased civil society advocacy and participation, and conflict mitigation. USAID's principal implementing partners will be determined after approval of the strategy. It is expected that the program will incorporate a mix of assistance to government institutions and civil society to achieve the following results:

Governance: Improving accountability and transparency in selected government institutions (\$1,000,000 DA). Based on the outcome of the current strategic assessment and strategy development work, USAID may support improving legislators' understanding of key issues such as HIV/AIDS and economic policy. This approach would continue USAID's efforts to build the legislative branch as a balance to executive power. Other options for improving accountability and transparency in government are also under evaluation, including the possibility of further work with the judiciary or with specific agencies charged with investigating corruption and oversight of expenditures.

Civil Society: Enhancing the effectiveness of civil society in the policy making process (\$1,767,000 DA and \$1,000,000 ESF). DA will be used to fund civil society assistance through the strengthening of civil society's role in the policy making process and oversight of government. There will be continued emphasis on improving the ability of the public to hold leaders accountable through increased and more effective public participation in governance. ESF will fund anti-corruption activities for civil society oversight of national budget preparation and implementation, policy reform and advocacy.

Conflict management: Increasing the capacity to manage conflict (\$1,500,000 ESF). USAID will support conflict mitigation by strengthening the capacity of local NGO networks and conflict resolution practitioners to mediate conflict as well as the capacity of community groups to institute conflict avoidance and peace maintenance mechanisms. Other approaches might include continued support for a new experiment to build "eminent persons groups" at regional and national levels to mediate conflicts, and for civil society's contributions to resolving controversial resource distribution and federalism issues.

Performance and Results: Despite a number of challenges, USAID recorded appreciable progress in FY 2002 in the areas of legislative support, electoral administration, judicial reform, and civil society strengthening. Both civil society and government organizations in Nigeria are nascent, emerging from under military domination only in 1999, and strengthening their capacity is central to the democracy and governance program. Training of elections authorities at the state and national levels reached more than 260 INEC staff and 288 state electoral commission staff. This training builds capacity among election staff, though INEC performance has been hampered by delays and shortfalls in Nigerian government funding, numerous court cases contesting aspects of the electoral process, and poor institutional management. Support to three pilot state courts leveraged additional resources from the courts themselves to complement USAID investments in training and equipment, and lawyers report seeing an improvement in case management in these courts. The High Court in Abuja matched USAID seed funds to establish a strategic planning committee to implement reform plans developed as a result of earlier USAID training events. Two staff persons from GON agencies have been seconded to serve full time on USAID funded activities.

USAID's support for civil society has led to a measurable increase in the level of political activism among NGOs, in particular civil society participation in public policy dialogue and oversight of public institutions. The number of USAID-supported civil society organizations (CSOs) with advocacy agendas increased by 36% last year, and their direct contacts with legislators and other influential individuals doubled. USAID's women's political empowerment program also demonstrated progress both in generating political opportunities for women political aspirants as well as in setting up support structures to generate the necessary financial and material resources for women's political campaigns. In Anambra State alone, 32 women are standing for elected office, facilitated in part by USAID-supported advocacy for exemptions from party nomination fees. In the area of conflict management, USAID has been successful in strengthening the capacity of networks of conflict mediators as evidenced by responses to actual and potential conflict in different parts of the country. As just one example, a long-standing conflict over land between two hostile neighboring communities on the Mambilla Plateau was mitigated with USAID support. The two rival communities established a joint committee that conducted peace advocacy, successfully defusing the extant conflict and preventing further flare-ups.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Nigeria

620-006 Democracy and Good Governance	DA	DFA	ESF
Through September 30, 2001			
Obligations	8,311	4,033	5,914
Expenditures	5,754	746	3,879
Unliquidated	2,557	3,287	2,035
Fiscal Year 2002			
Obligations	12,979	918	9,443
Expenditures	2,039	1,927	6,415
Through September 30, 2002			
Obligations	21,290	4,951	15,357
Expenditures	7,793	2,673	10,294
Unliquidated	13,497	2,278	5,063
Prior Year Unobligated Funds			
Obligations	1,404	0	450
Planned Fiscal Year 2003 NOA			
Obligations	7,373	0	0
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2003			
Obligations	8,777	0	450
Proposed Fiscal Year 2004 NOA			
Obligations	2,767	0	2,500
Future Obligations	0	0	0
Est. Total Cost	32,834	4,951	18,307