

## Data Sheet

<b>USAID Mission:</b>	Ghana
<b>Program Title:</b>	Democracy and Governance
<b>Pillar:</b>	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
<b>Strategic Objective:</b>	641-004
<b>Status:</b>	Continuing
<b>Proposed FY 2003 Obligation:</b>	\$100,000 CSH; \$1,913,000 DA
<b>Prior Year Unobligated:</b>	\$0
<b>Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:</b>	\$100,000 CSH; \$2,300,000 DA
<b>Year of Initial Obligation:</b>	1997
<b>Estimated Completion Date:</b>	2004

**Summary:** USAID's democracy and governance program includes legislative strengthening activities with the National Parliament; building civil-society capacity to interact with local district administrations in 10 districts; and, information technology support to government departments, ministries, agencies, as well as to non-government organizations (NGOs) in the governance sector. A new objective is being designed for implementation in early FY 2004.

### **Inputs, Outputs, Activities:**

#### **FY 2003 Program:**

Local Government/Civil Society (\$1,113,000 DA). USAID will continue to implement the Government Accountability Improves Trust (GAIT) program. GAIT will expand its operations from the 10 districts in which it is currently working to 30 districts. The activities will continue to focus on promoting citizen participation and transparency in local government administration. Principal contractors and grantees: the Government of Ghana and the Cooperative League of the USA (prime).

Legislative Program (\$500,000 DA). An agreement will be signed with Parliament to replicate legislative bills and past laws on CD-ROM. Activities will focus on building capacity of key parliamentary committees, such as the Judiciary and Health committees. NGOs will select specific legislative bills and instruments pending in Parliament and assist affected sectors of civil society to provide direct input to Parliament on these proposed laws. USAID will also continue its support of Ghana's electoral process. Principal contractors and grantees: the Government of Ghana and the local non-government organization Legal Research Centre (prime).

Election Support (\$200,000 DA). Based on the evaluation/needs assessment conducted by the National Governance Programme, the Mission will determine in what areas it can support the Electoral Commission and the electoral process in general. In addition, through technical assistance and training, the Mission will support the Electoral Commission's efforts to re-evaluate Ghana's legal and institutional framework for district and national elections. The project goal is to prepare citizens for 2004 presidential/parliamentary elections. Principal contractors and grantees: To be determined.

Information Technology (\$100,000 DA). The Mission will continue its Information Technology program to governance institutions and Non-Government Organizations (NGOs). The Judiciary will be supplied with computer equipment to allow for tracking of cases on the docket. Additional "Community Learning Centers" will be created, where the public is trained in computer usage and access to the internet is provided. Currently, that program is funded by USAID's Education for Democracy and Development Initiative. Principal contractors and grantees: seven individual "Community Learning Centers".

AIDS Awareness (\$100,000 CSH). Support to local government and civil society AIDS Awareness campaigns will be provided. Under a plan to award advocacy grants, organizations will be provided support and funding for activities that combat HIV/AIDS. Additionally, groups who seek to approach

parliamentary committees on issues concerning HIV/AIDS will be assisted. Principal contractors and grantees: To be determined.

**FY 2004 Program:**

The proposed new Strategic Objective will focus on the following (principal partners have not been identified and amounts are estimates).

Parliament and the GOG (\$800,000 DA). Currently, USAID is conducting assessments and consultations to determine the specific activities it should support in the new strategic period. Activities will focus on insuring that key government institutions are more responsive to and representative of citizens' interest. USAID intends to work with Parliament and the judiciary to build their capacity to better reflect the needs and interests of Ghanaian citizens. Parliamentary activities might include work with sub-committees to improve their ability to obtain crucial input from civic unions, advocacy groups, and/or non-governmental organizations. Principal contractors and grantees: To be determined.

Judiciary (\$100,000 DA). There is the perception that the judiciary is ineffective and corrupt. The Mission is contemplating working with the Ministry of Justice to provide computers and semi-automated recording systems to regional level courts. By computerizing caseloads, courts will better be able to track the cases for which magistrates are responsible. A computerized system will help to eliminate backlog and lost cases. Principal contractors and grantees: To be determined.

Decentralization (\$1,400,000 DA). The concept of decentralization is embodied in the Ghana Poverty Reduction Strategy, as well as in the country's constitution. Decentralization addresses the division of responsibility between central and local governments and the transfer of responsibilities and resources from the former to the latter. In order to support the country's efforts in this area, USAID plans to support activities that strengthen a decentralized local government system. The program is likely to concentrate on building capacity through provision of training and technical assistance at the district level, both on the supply (local government administration) and demand (civil-society) sides. By building capacity within civil society and within local administration, these groups will be in a position to better plan, budget, raise revenue, and implement programs. Principal contractors and grantees: To be determined.

AIDS Awareness (\$100,000 CSH). Working with local government and civic unions at the District level, USAID will support HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention initiatives in the target districts, as well as with groups who advocate for reform of GOG programs and procedure relating to the HIV/AIDS problems Ghana is facing. Principal contractors and grantees: To be determined.

**Performance and Results:** A crucial objective of this program is the increased percentage of bills passed in Parliament that include civic input and/or have been amended in Parliament as part of a vibrant and active legislative process. Some Members of Parliament (MPs) seem to be making more pertinent motions in response to USAID's efforts to get them more involved in the legislative process, but final results are still pending. Three MP motions were introduced during the first two meetings of Parliament. However, MPs have not proposed as much legislation as planned though progress has been made. USAID's measurements of results in the Parliamentary-strengthening program do not reflect the increased quality of civic input on a number of pieces of legislation. USAID's informal tracking shows that all four of the bills currently in Parliament have already been amended and received civic input.

As a result of the local government and civil society programs, there has been an increase in advocacy by civil society organizations in the project districts. In the 10 districts where the GAIT program is conducting activities, 17 town meetings have been organized. Six public budget hearings have been conducted throughout the country (the first ever). The program has also organized question and answer sessions in three regions. As a result of GAIT's success, citizens of surrounding towns and villages have requested that GAIT begin working in their respective areas.

Under the information technology program, one key government institution was provided with a computerized information system. Two new community learning centers (CLCs) were established, bringing the total number of USAID-supported CLCs to six. This year, the four established CLCs

averaged 1,331 user sessions per month as opposed to 1,016 in the 2001. These CLCs have made impacts in their communities and are sustainable. As a result of their success, a number of new proposals have been received from other NGOs requesting assistance in establishing CLCs in their communities.

## US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Ghana

641-004 Democracy and Governance	CSH	DA	DFA	ESF
<b>Through September 30, 2001</b>				
Obligations	0	11,928	8,000	2,900
Expenditures	0	7,532	8,000	2,467
Unliquidated	0	4,396	0	433
<b>Fiscal Year 2002</b>				
Obligations	0	1,102	0	0
Expenditures	0	1,856	0	17
<b>Through September 30, 2002</b>				
Obligations	0	13,030	8,000	2,900
Expenditures	0	9,388	8,000	2,484
Unliquidated	0	3,642	0	416
<b>Prior Year Unobligated Funds</b>				
Obligations	0	0	0	0
<b>Planned Fiscal Year 2003 NOA</b>				
Obligations	100	1,913	0	0
<b>Total Planned Fiscal Year 2003</b>				
Obligations	100	1,913	0	0
<b>Proposed Fiscal Year 2004 NOA</b>				
Obligations	100	2,300	0	0
Future Obligations	0	0	0	0
Est. Total Cost	200	17,243	8,000	2,900