

## Data Sheet

<b>USAID Mission:</b>	Regional Center for Southern Africa
<b>Program Title:</b>	Improved Democratic Practices in Southern Africa
<b>Pillar:</b>	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
<b>Strategic Objective:</b>	690-001
<b>Status:</b>	Continuing
<b>Proposed FY 2003 Obligation:</b>	\$1,464,000 DA
<b>Prior Year Unobligated:</b>	\$250,000 DA; \$200,000 ESF
<b>Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:</b>	\$1,758,000 DA
<b>Year of Initial Obligation:</b>	FY 1997
<b>Estimated Completion Date:</b>	FY 2004

**Summary:** USAID's program to consolidate democratic and improved governance in Southern Africa includes technical assistance and training to: improve elections and political processes, increase media freedom, and reduce corruption.

### Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

#### FY 2003 Program:

Improve elections and political processes (\$735,000 DA). USAID will continue to support the adoption and application of electoral norms and standards at national levels, with the aim of ensuring that such standards become part of the national laws and regulations that govern the conduct of elections. To this end, USAID will support the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Parliamentary Forum in its efforts to promote the adoption and application of these norms and standards, particularly in the six SADC countries that have general elections in 2004. USAID will focus on identifying potential sources of election-related conflict and will support SADC Parliamentary Forum programs aimed at mitigating such conflict. USAID will support the generation of information on the state of democracy in the region through the AfroBarometer (a regular survey of citizens' attitudes towards democracy) for use by policy makers and advocates for improved governance. Principal grantees: SADC Parliamentary Forum (prime), and the Institute for Democracy in South Africa (prime).

Increase media freedom (\$273,000 DA). USAID support will enable regional and national groups to carry out effective media-freedom advocacy campaigns aimed at liberalizing media regulation. In addition, regional media networks will promote more effective cooperation of media workers and institutions across borders to support those working in hostile environments by focusing regional attention on national abuses of media freedom. Principal grantees: To be determined.

Reduce corruption (\$456,000 DA). USAID will follow up on the regional agreement on anti-corruption by supporting civil society organizations to oversee the implementation process and to campaign for improved transparency in public procurement processes. Approaches will include training in investigative journalism, development of strategic linkages between civil society, parliamentarians, and media, and improved access to information. Principal grantees: To be determined.

#### FY 2004 Program:

The current USAID Southern Africa regional strategy ends in FY 2003. USAID is now working on a new strategy for FY 2004 - FY 2010. While shown as requests in support of this SO, FY 2004 funds will be obligated under the new strategy. Future programming under the proposed new strategy will build upon the successful work that USAID has done in anti-corruption, electoral norms and standards, and media freedom, and may expand into human rights and rule of law. Principal contractors and grantees: To be determined.

**Performance and Results:** The SADC Parliamentary Forum (PF) successfully applied its electoral norms and standards to elections in Zambia, Zimbabwe and Lesotho. In the case of Zimbabwe, the Forum's

conclusions about the illegitimacy of the elections were corroborated by domestic and international observers. The next step will be to promote the incorporation of the norms and standards into national electoral legislation, targeting in particular the six SADC countries holding elections in 2004. The Media Institute for Southern Africa (MISA) has continued its fight for media freedom, both in the courts of Zimbabwe and the Parliament of Zambia. As more governments move towards heavier controls on media, so also MISA has shifted its program to strengthening the advocacy capacity of its 11 national chapters through training in advocacy skills, legislative action, and legal defense of beleaguered journalists. Although corruption is reportedly on the rise, regional agreement to take concrete actions to increase accountability is emerging, as demonstrated in the signing of a regional agreement on anti-corruption (i.e. "Protocol") in 2001 by the SADC heads of state. Three countries ratified it in 2002 and more are expected to ratify in 2003.

Before the end of the program, it is anticipated that several Parliaments in the southern Africa region will have adopted the election norms and standards developed by SADC Parliamentary Forum for use in their own elections, and six more elections will have been assessed using these standards. The Parliamentary Forum will use its voice for other regional concerns, such as HIV/AIDS policy and anti-corruption issues. The protocol for anti-corruption will be in force, having been ratified by nine countries (the number required for protocols to take effect). Threats against freedom of the press will be effectively opposed by national and regional press groups, and several bills increasing the protection of free press, cutting government controls on media activities, and loosening controls on the entry of new media operations will have been passed.

## US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

### Regional Center for Southern Africa

690-001 Improved Democratic Practices in Southern Africa	DA	DFA	ESF
<b>Through September 30, 2001</b>			
Obligations	19,804	3,747	1,300
Expenditures	11,707	3,675	954
Unliquidated	8,097	72	346
<b>Fiscal Year 2002</b>			
Obligations	1,367	0	398
Expenditures	3,839	66	258
<b>Through September 30, 2002</b>			
Obligations	21,171	3,747	1,698
Expenditures	15,546	3,741	1,212
Unliquidated	5,625	6	486
<b>Prior Year Unobligated Funds</b>			
Obligations	250	0	200
<b>Planned Fiscal Year 2003 NOA</b>			
Obligations	1,464	0	0
<b>Total Planned Fiscal Year 2003</b>			
Obligations	1,714	0	200
<b>Proposed Fiscal Year 2004 NOA</b>			
Obligations	1,758	0	0
Future Obligations	0	0	0
Est. Total Cost	24,643	3,747	1,898