

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Rwanda
Program Title:	Democracy and Governance
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	696-001
Status:	Continuing
Proposed FY 2003 Obligation:	\$923,000 DA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$1,500,000 DA
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 1997
Estimated Completion Date:	FY 2004

Summary: The program focuses on rule of law and transparency in governance through work in three areas: strengthening the judiciary to increase independence and effectiveness; increasing accountability and transparency at all levels of government; and strengthening and expanding civil society. USAID will finance activities that provide training, technical assistance, materials and equipment to the Ministry of Justice, the Supreme Court, the Ministry of Local Government and Social Affairs, the Parliament, and local civil society organizations.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2003 Program:

Justice rendered more effectively (\$150,000 DA). USAID will continue to support a modified version of a traditional Rwandan dispute resolution system designed to process the massive backlog of 1994 genocide-related cases. USAID will provide computer equipment, software, other materials and training to the Sixth Chamber of the Supreme Court, which is responsible for this traditional system ("gacaca"). In this way, USAID will help track and monitor cases and improve the knowledge and skills of the judges and officials who are implementing this national program. Principal contractors/grantees: To be determined.

In addition, an annual polling exercise will be initiated to monitor public awareness and satisfaction with the judicial system and the traditional resolution process. It will also track the impact of decentralization and the expansion of civil society activities. Finally, it will monitor areas of potential conflict and progress in reconciliation in Rwanda. Principal contractors/grantees: To be determined.

Increased Accountability at All Levels of Government (\$500,000 DA). USAID will continue to support the Rwanda Ministry of Local Government and District authorities to fully develop and implement the fiscal component of the national decentralization program. In collaboration with other donors who will finance the nationwide expansion, the USAID technical assistance team will continue training district-level officials in developing plans and budgets for the Common Development Fund that will finance services and development projects at community level. Local officials will also be guided to raise revenues and an anticorruption component will provide oversight and encourage honest management of financial resources. Developing competent local government structures that respond to the needs of Rwandan communities will increase citizen confidence and participation. Principal contractor: Associates for Rural Development.

Civil society strengthened (\$273,000 DA). Creating an effective and independent civil society in Rwanda requires training and capacity building to develop human resources, strong institutions, and citizen awareness and involvement. USAID will expand the current civil society strengthening activity that aims to increase citizen participation in local government decision-making and problem solving and develop a supportive environment for civil society. Activities include civic education and increasing opportunities for government-civil society interactions at the local level with large outreach due to media coverage. Principal grantee: CARE International, with local NGOs as sub-grantees.

Until recently, Rwandan legislation severely limited radio broadcast licensing. With the passage of a liberalized media law, USAID intends to finance the establishment of an independent, community-based radio station in one geographic sector to promote diverse but pertinent programming. Principal contractors/grantees: To be determined.

FY 2004 Program:

A new strategic objective will be in place for FY 2004 funding and will be notified separately upon approval. Illustrative planning includes:

Justice (\$700,000 DA). USAID will continue to support both the modern and traditional ("gacaca" justice systems to improve transparency in judicial decision-making increase citizen confidence in the legal system and advance initiatives in unity and reconciliation. Principal contractors/grantees: To be determined.

Local government (\$600,000). USAID will continue to collaborate with the Ministry of Local Government to fully implement the decentralization program. USAID will provide technical assistance and training to encourage the formation of community oversight committees to monitor development projects such as school and water system construction. This anti-corruption component strengthens community oversight of contractors and local government officials, increases confidence in district government management and accountability, and increases citizen participation. Principal contractors/grantees: To be determined.

Citizen participation (\$200,000). USAID will continue to expand current civil society strengthening activities and civic education programs to inform the public of citizens' rights and responsibilities and encourage active participation at the local government level. Using participatory adult learning techniques, the civic education curriculum covers themes of human rights, democratic government, integration/tolerance and poverty. Twelve local NGOs working in ten of the twelve national provinces will conduct the training. Additional activities will encourage the growth of a professional press and expand the number of community radio stations. Principal contractors/grantees: To be determined.

Performance and Results: One of the most impressive achievements has been the development and implementation of the fiscal decentralization program. With technical assistance from USAID, an accounting system for local governments was designed, an operations manual was developed, and a training system was piloted in 20 districts, greatly exceeding the target of five districts. The Ministry of Local Government has approved the new system and will expand it nationwide. Under a USAID-funded grant, 19 community development projects were designed and funded and 17 community project monitoring committees were established, comprised of 142 members (30% women) with the responsibility to revitalize and manage community projects. USAID directly funded secondary school scholarships for 3,418 children.

By completion of this objective in 2004, the newly elected legislature will demonstrate greater independence by introducing new legislation from within the legislative houses, and will display increased responsiveness to its citizenry by meeting with and considering issues initiated by civil society. Citizen participation in democracy will expand as a result of decentralization, increased capacity of community-based organizations, and the establishment of independent radio stations.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Rwanda

696-001 Democracy and Governance	CSH	DA	DFA	ESF
Through September 30, 2001				
Obligations	0	14,803	15,048	17,500
Expenditures	0	8,966	14,142	8,722
Unliquidated	0	5,837	906	8,778
Fiscal Year 2002				
Obligations	2,000	3,281	0	2,500
Expenditures	0	2,680	695	3,980
Through September 30, 2002				
Obligations	2,000	18,084	15,048	20,000
Expenditures	0	11,646	14,837	12,702
Unliquidated	2,000	6,438	211	7,298
Prior Year Unobligated Funds				
Obligations	0	0	0	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2003 NOA				
Obligations	0	923	0	0
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2003				
Obligations	0	923	0	0
Proposed Fiscal Year 2004 NOA				
Obligations	0	1,500	0	0
Future Obligations	0	0	0	0
Est. Total Cost	2,000	20,507	15,048	20,000