

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Mexico
Program Title:	Democratic Processes
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	523-003
Status:	Continuing
Proposed FY 2003 Obligation:	\$1,700,000 DA; \$6,000,000 ESF
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$200,000 DA; \$34,000 ESF
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$0
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 1999
Estimated Completion Date:	FY 2004

Summary: USAID's program supports Government of Mexico (GOM) efforts to 1) promote more effective local governance, 2) enhance Congress' legislative function, and 3) achieve more efficient administration of justice; and 4) increase transparency and accountability in government institutions.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2003 Program:

USAID's current democracy program will receive its last funding in FY 2003. Activities will focus on ensuring Mexican ownership and replication of USAID supported programs and emphasize assistance to those activities that will lead into the new democracy strategy currently under development.

Local governance (\$1,200,000 ESF). USAID will provide technical assistance to support GOM policies and programs that increase the authorities, transparency, and effectiveness of local governments. This will include support for long-term improvements in policy or program incentives for local government performance. USAID will continue technical assistance to implement new credit mechanisms that encourage capital markets participation in local infrastructure and urban service financing. The principal grantees are Evensen Dodge and the International City Management Association.

Legislative strengthening (\$1,000,000 ESF). USAID will help finance training and technical assistance programs for federal and state legislatures, political parties, and the new Association of Mexican State Legislatures. The program will complete development of the Mexico's first internet-based certificate program for legislative staff and support partnerships between legislators of the United States and Mexican border states as a mechanism for binational state-level policy dialogue. The principal grantees are the Council of State Governments, the National Democratic Institute, the International Republican Institute, and the State University of New York.

Rule of law (\$2,000,000 ESF; \$700,000 DA). USAID will continue to promote access, transparency, and accountability in judicial proceedings, especially in Mexican state courts, through support for improved judicial education and training; support for model projects in oral advocacy procedural reform, improved court administration, court-annexed mediation, human rights and electoral justice, and to support institutional capacity building for the Mexican Association of State Courts. The principal grantees are the American Bar Association, Freedom House, the National Center for State Courts, and the University of New Hampshire.

Transparency, accountability, and executive branch reform (\$1,800,000 ESF; \$1,000,000 DA). USAID assistance will train Mexicans to develop and administer effective anticorruption programs; support government innovation and public administration reform programs for executive branch institutions; support implementation of Freedom of Information Laws at state levels; and strengthen the professionalization of audit and oversight functions in Supreme Audit Institutions. The principal contractor partners for these activities are the Casals and Associates and Management Systems International.

FY 2004 Program:

The current strategy ends in FY 2003. No additional funds in FY 2004 will be obligated for this strategic objective. New democracy activities will be implemented under a new democracy program (523-BBB) scheduled to begin in FY 2003.

Performance and Results: Local governance. Technical assistance to municipal administrators, municipal associations, and federal policy makers is increasing the capacity of local governments to better exercise authorities and raise and manage resources transferred from the federal government to states and municipalities. Local governments are also increasing their ability to respond more effectively in informed citizen demand. By the end of this strategy, USAID believes that new credit mechanisms such as municipal bonds will begin to provide greater access to private sector funding critical for infrastructure and urban service growth needs.

Legislative strengthening. USAID has increased training opportunities for professional staff of the federal and state legislatures, and strengthened the permanent institutions of the federal legislature, including the budget office, congressional library, research service, and auditor general. As a result, the federal and state legislatures of Mexico are more independent, generating more effective and representative legislation, and have increased their capacity to oversee the executive branch at the federal and state levels. By the end of the strategy, there will be a consolidated new National Association of State Legislatures and permanent internet-based training opportunities will exist for future generations of congressional staff and congress members throughout Mexico.

Rule of law. USAID assistance to Mexican state and federal courts has set the standard for continuing judicial education, forged productive and promising working relationships with Mexican justice officials, and paved the way for future USAID supported technical assistance. By the end of the strategy, pilot projects in the areas of court management, court-annexed mediation, oral advocacy, and electoral justice will have served as catalysts to promote more extensive judicial reforms necessary for Mexico to meaningfully respond to growing public demand for more effective access to justice.

Transparency, accountability, and executive branch reform. Technical assistance and training to Supreme Audit Institutions and change agents for government innovation has increased GOM capacity to lead government-wide reforms for greater transparency and accountability. By the end of the strategy, USAID assistance will have increased the effectiveness of GOM audit and anticorruption institutions and contributed to more transparent, accountable, and effective governance in the executive branch.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Mexico

523-003 Democratic Processes	ACI	DA	ESF
Through September 30, 2001			
Obligations	1,500	2,750	12,514
Expenditures	1,500	2,550	11,550
Unliquidated	0	200	964
Fiscal Year 2002			
Obligations	0	689	8,965
Expenditures	0	726	5,602
Through September 30, 2002			
Obligations	1,500	3,439	21,479
Expenditures	1,500	3,276	17,152
Unliquidated	0	163	4,327
Prior Year Unobligated Funds			
Obligations	0	200	34
Planned Fiscal Year 2003 NOA			
Obligations	0	1,700	6,000
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2003			
Obligations	0	1,900	6,034
Proposed Fiscal Year 2004 NOA			
Obligations	0	0	0
Future Obligations	0	0	0
Est. Total Cost	1,500	5,339	27,513