

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Office of Democracy and Governance
Program Title:	Civil Society Program
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	932-003
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$5,904,000 DA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$778,000 DA; \$200,000 ESF
Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:	\$4,425,000 DA
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 1997
Year of Final Obligation:	FY 2007

Summary: The DG Office civil society program provides technical assistance and support to USAID missions worldwide through the development of new methodologies and synthesis of lessons learned in the design and implementation of civil society assistance and through management of contracts, grants, and cooperative agreements. The purpose of this program is to strengthen USAID programming and reinforce country-based efforts through

- Support for civil society organizations, including democratic labor unions, seeking to expand and enhance citizen participation in democratic governance;
- Support for monitoring and advocacy organizations, on behalf of garment workers, through assistance and training programs (the anti-sweatshop initiative);
- Development of independent media; and
- Civic education programs designed to strengthen democratic political culture through education.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

The DG Office plans to continue many of its FY 2003 civil society programs into FY 2004. In FY 2004, the DG Office will continue to support civic education through activities to promote democratic values and reinforce democratic behavior. The DG Office grantees will implement civic education programs with primary emphasis on school-based pedagogy and curricula that foster the development of civic skills and values in predominantly Muslim countries. Initial field assessments for school-based civic education were undertaken in the Middle East and Asia in FY 2002 with pilot projects and regional educational networks initiated for FY 2003. These projects will be further expanded in the Middle East and North Africa through FY 2004.

The DG Office will continue USAID's long-standing support for democratic labor unions in its quest to spread democracy around the world. The DG Office's work creates enabling environments that allow democratic trade unions to represent workers and give them an active political voice within their societies. In FY 2004, the DG Office will enter the third of a five-year cooperative agreement with the American Center for International Labor Solidarity (ACILS), continuing programs in over 20 countries, as well as regional programs in Asia, Africa, Latin America, and the Caribbean. ACILS also will carry out global programs addressing core labor standards worldwide, supporting gender equality programs, developing worker economic literacy education programs, and continuing its HIV/AIDS programs. The current country programs include Bangladesh, Kenya, Mexico, Sri Lanka, and Zimbabwe. In addition, both ACILS and the International Labor Rights Fund (ILRF) will continue their new anti-sweatshop activities in sub-Saharan Africa, the Persian Gulf states, Egypt, the Caribbean Basin, Central America, and Asia.

The DG Office recognizes independent media not only as essential for democratic development and good governance, but also as critical in other areas, including economic growth and public

education campaigns about health, environment, and social issues. DG Office experts provide guidance to USAID missions in the areas of journalism training, media business development, media law and legal defense, and association building among media professionals. To support independent media in FY 2004, the DG Office and its grantees are designing activities to track freedom of press issues; raise awareness of media law-related problems; and provide legal advice to media professionals attempting to reform the media legal enabling environment in their countries. Also, the DG Office will continue to support independent media through a grant to Internews and Western Kentucky University, providing journalism and media management training, U.S. site visits, in-country follow-on training, and small grants for media professionals.

FY 2005 Program:

Civic education media support and support to labor unions are planned to be important vehicles to promote democratic values. Technical support and practical research (\$100,000) are planned to continue to be other important elements of the DG Office's technical leadership.

Performance and Results: The DG Office continues to support the ILRF's work in promoting worker rights and in increasing capacity of local nongovernmental organizations to continue activities at apparel and footwear production sites. The ILRF has been active in Guatemala, Indonesia, and Kenya to address sexual harassment in the workplace. The DG Office worked with USAID's Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade Bureau in its awarding a three-year, \$5 million grant to the Educational Development Center, in order to enhance the quality of out-of-school youth training.

The DG Office assistance to ACILS has been instrumental in increasing the understanding of workers in the global trading system, preventing trafficking of persons, and improving the lives and economic status of wage workers in Africa, Asia, and South America. Programs are supporting the empowerment of women and other marginalized populations, advancing the participation of lower and middle classes in democratic political processes. Over the past decade, civic education has become a major component of USAID DG programming. In order to better understand how and under what conditions civic education contributes to the development of a more active and informed democratic citizenry, USAID initiated a major multipart study designed to measure the impact of both adult and school-based civic education programs on participants' democratic behaviors and attitudes. The summary of these findings was published as "Approaches to Civic Education: Lessons Learned."

Principal Contractors, Grantees, or Agencies: Contracts: The DG Office's civil society activities are run through two contracts, two grants, and three cooperative agreements. The IQCs are held by Creative Associates International and Management Systems International. The grants are with Internews and the International Labor Rights Fund. The cooperative agreements are with the Academy for Educational Development (affiliates: Management Systems International, Mercy Corps International, International Foundation for Election Systems, International Labor Rights Fund, International Research and Exchanges Board, International Center for Not-for-profit Law, The Johns Hopkins University, The Kettering Foundation, and Search for Common Ground), and PACT (affiliates: The American Center for International Labor Solidarity, The Center for Civic Education, The Center for Private Enterprise, Children's Resources International, Institute for Development Research, Internews, International Center for Not-for-profit Law, IRI, NDI, Research Triangle Institute, UNITE Union, and World Education), and the American Center for International Labor Solidarity. Sub-contracts are held by The Asia Foundation, Counterpart International, Development Alternatives, International Center for Not-for-profit Law, the International Research and Exchange Board, Advocacy Institute, Center for Development Communication, Children's Resources International, Esquel Group Foundation, Yeshiva University, Institute for Development Research, International Development Professionals, International Media Center at Florida International University, League of Women Voters, and Oxford University.