

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Central America Regional Program
Program Title:	Meso-American Food Early Warning System
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	596-024
Status:	New in FY 2005
Planned FY 2006 Obligation:	\$500,000 DA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2007 Obligation:	\$500,000 DA
Year of Initial Obligation:	2005
Estimated Year of Final Obligation:	2008

Summary: USAID's regional assistance program is supporting activities to monitor and assess Central America's food availability and vulnerability to food insecurity as a result of natural disasters, droughts, and other hazards such as lower incomes resulting from a collapse in coffee prices. In support of this objective, USAID continues to finance the Meso-American Famine Early Warning System (MFEWS) to build local and regional capacity for early warning, food security assessment, and food and non-food emergency responses, and to provide early information to decision makers and the general public regarding potentially significant crop loss, other food shortfalls and negative socioeconomic conditions.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2006 Program:

Improve Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Mitigation (\$500,000 DA). A follow-on MFEWS contract was awarded in September 2005 for early warning systems worldwide. The MFEWS regional office in El Salvador is monitoring food security and livelihood crises in Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. It is building local and regional institution capacity to establish mapping zones and profiles, based on household livelihood and food security, in order to project the impact of weather events and negative socioeconomic conditions. Field personnel are monitoring natural disasters, food policies and price increases, conflicts, and border or port closures, to determine threats to food security. When hazards occur, MFEWS' partner institutions are assessing impacts on household food availability and market systems and dissemination of early warnings. Principal contractor: Chemonics International, Inc.

FY 2007 Program:

Improve Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Mitigation (\$500,000 DA). USAID will continue its disaster and livelihood monitoring activities to reduce or prevent food insecurity. MFEWS will also develop and implement monitoring and assessment activities to ensure progress towards local and regional institutional management of early warning systems. MFEWS will also train these partners to monitor and assess the performance of food markets aimed at ensuring consumer access to food in normal or crisis period. Same partner as above.

Performance and Results: Under the recently completed contract, MFEWS developed the first livelihood profiles that were used to interpret early warning information, build a rapid emergency response and formulate forward looking development strategies in specific countries. Over the course of this activity, USAID support will focus more on building and sustaining the ability of local and regional institutions to monitor, assess, and respond to food insecurity crises.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Central America Regional Program

596-024 Meso-American Food Early Warning System	DA
Through September 30, 2004	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	0
Fiscal Year 2005	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Through September 30, 2005	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	0
Prior Year Unobligated Funds	
Obligations	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2006 NOA	
Obligations	500
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2006	
Obligations	500
Proposed Fiscal Year 2007 NOA	
Obligations	500
Future Obligations	2,000
Est. Total Cost	3,000