

The Challenge

USAID's programs follow the precepts of the Millennium Challenge Account of transparent governance; economic freedom, and quality health and education. The greatest challenge for economic growth is strengthening rule of law. USAID supports laws and regulations for an independent judiciary and a better business climate. Economic activities increase the competitiveness of Nicaragua's products to take advantage of free trade agreements. Access to quality health and education are also program priorities.

Objectives, Sectors and Workforce

Mission Director: Alexander Dickie

MCA Status: Signed Compact

PEPFAR Focus Country: No

Provided or Received Services From Other Missions: Received

Program Budget (Appropriations by Objective)	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	Percent Change FY 04-07	2005 SO Performance Score		Direct SO Admin. Cost Ratio
	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)				
524-021 Ruling Justly	6,393	9,697	10,514	7,232	13.1%	1.12	Exceeded	0.14
524-022 Economic Freedom	15,168	14,074	7,755	4,030	-73.4%	1.28	Exceeded	0.18
524-023 Investing in People	13,100	14,457	13,639	11,395	-13.0%	1.55	Exceeded	0.13
PL 480 Title II	7,046	9,710	11,726	12,500	77.4%			
Country Total	41,707	47,938	43,634	35,157	-15.7%			

Program Budget (Appropriations by Account)	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	Percent Change FY 04-07
	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)	
Child Survival and Health Programs Fund	7,805	7,703	7,699	6,661	-14.7%
Development Assistance	26,856	26,058	20,843	12,996	-51.6%
Economic Support Fund	0	4,467	3,366	3,000	N/A
PL 480 Title II	7,046	9,710	11,726	12,500	77.4%
Total	41,707	47,938	43,634	35,157	-15.7%

Program Budget by Sector and Account	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	Percent Change FY 04-07
	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)	(\$000)	
Basic Education DA	5,295	6,754	5,940	4,734	-10.6%
Agriculture and Environment DA	9,359	6,654	5,301	2,530	-73.0%
Economic Growth DA	5,809	7,420	2,454	1,500	-74.2%
Democracy and Governance DA	6,393	5,230	7,148	4,232	-33.8%
ESF	0	4,467	3,366	3,000	N/A
Family Planning / Reproductive Health CSH	3,870	3,534	3,499	2,661	-31.2%
HIV / AIDS CSH	500	496	990	1,000	100.0%
Child Survival and Maternal Health CSH	3,000	3,242	3,210	3,000	0.0%
Other Infectious Diseases CSH	435	431	0	0	N/A
PL 480 Title II	7,046	9,710	11,726	12,500	77.4%
Total	41,707	47,938	43,634	35,157	-15.7%

Workforce	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	Percent Change FY 04-07
US Direct Hires	6	8	9	9	50.0%
US Non Direct Hires	2	4	4	4	100.0%
Foreign Nationals	71	67	73	73	2.8%
Total	79	79	86	86	8.9%

Operating Expense	FY 2004 (\$000)	FY 2005 (\$000)	FY 2006 (\$000)	FY 2007 (\$000)	Percent Change FY 04-07
Salaries and benefits	1,161	1,291	1,147	1,147	-1.2%
Travel	181	274	236	236	30.4%
Transportation of things	23	129	67	67	191.3%
Rent	151	123	172	172	13.9%
Security	229	130	153	153	-33.2%
Equipment	143	250	129	129	-9.8%
ICASS - Operating Expense only	104	74	81	81	-22.1%
Other Operating Expense	463	423	440	440	-5.0%
Total OE Budget	2,455	2,694	2,425	2,425	-1.2%
US direct hire salary and benefits	957	694	921	1,020	6.6%
Program Funded Administrative Expenses				2,012	
Country Total Administrative Budget				5,457	
Percent of Bureau OE Total				5.9%	

Mission Summary	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007
Program per US Direct Hire (\$000)	6,951	5,992	4,848	3,906
Program per All US (\$000)	5,213	3,995	3,356	2,704
Program per Position (\$000)	528	607	507	409
Operating Expense as % of Program Funding				6.9%
Program Funded Admin Expense as % of Total Admin				36.9%
Total Admin Expense as % of Program Funding				15.5%

Other Major Donors:

Bilateral: Denmark, Finland, Germany, Japan, Luxemburg, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan. Nicaragua also has a signed Compact with the Millennium Challenge Corporation.

Multilateral: Central American Bank for Economic Integration, European Union, Inter-American Development Bank, United Nations Development Program, World Bank.