

## Data Sheet

<b>USAID Mission:</b>	Yemen
<b>Program Title:</b>	Strengthening of Democratic Political Institutions
<b>Pillar:</b>	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
<b>Strategic Objective:</b>	279-ZZZ
<b>Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:</b>	\$680,000 ESF
<b>Prior Year Unobligated:</b>	\$398,000 ESF
<b>Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:</b>	\$2,180,000 ESF
<b>Year of Initial Obligation:</b>	FY 2004
<b>Year of Final Obligation:</b>	FY 2006

**Summary:** Yemen's political ability to play its role as an ally in the war on terrorism is dependent on the integrity and public credibility of its democratization process. Yemen has made significant strides in the democracy and governance (DG) sectors, including the implementation of a democratic local governance structure starting in 2000; the emergence of an increasingly autonomous parliament and nascent multiparty system; and the holding of improved local and parliamentary elections in 2001 and 2003. However, in recent years there has been backsliding in Yemen's democratization that risks increasing existing cynicism within the political elite and among the broader public about the democratization process itself, and tarnishing governmental and even regime legitimacy, which is staked on claims of genuine democratization. However, the ROYG remains generally committed to continuing and even deepening DG reforms. Other governmental and non-governmental entities and groups have also played by the rules of the existing democratic game despite the executive and ruling party's continued dominance.

USAID's overall goal in Yemen is to support USG foreign policy objectives in the war on terrorism and socioeconomic development by strengthening Yemen's democratization process. A USAID Democracy and Governance assessment, with State/NEA/PI participation, was conducted in September-October 2003 in order to analyze, inform and prioritize areas for effective USAID and broader USG DG assistance in Yemen. As other USAID programs target five remote and underserved governorates that have harbored and/or produced terrorists, one component of the overall DG program will focus on activities strengthening local governments. These activities will also be directly tied to and positively impact local community development. Other key likely components will include national level programs to support parliament and political parties, as well as the electoral process and other efforts. Future DG programming will build directly on past, and in some cases ongoing, smaller-scale activities in Yemen.

USAID plans to fund these new activities in FY 2004 with (1) FY 2003 ESF carry-over funds; (2) FY 2004 NOA; and (3) FY 2004 Middle East Partnership (MEPI) funds. The new activities that will begin in FY 2004 will be continued with FY 2005 ESF and possibly with FY 2005 MEPI funds.

### Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

#### FY 2004 Program:

Democracy and governance activities (\$680,000 ESF and \$398,000 ESF Prior Year Unobligated). USAID funds will be used to strengthen Yemeni political institutions to help them realize their representative, policy-making and legislative roles, as well as to support fairer democratic electoral processes. This approach will not only strengthen Yemen's reform process but also contribute to the state's legitimacy, political stability and ultimately make Yemen an even stronger USG partner. Illustrative activities in these areas include (1) continued and expanded training for local council members in their knowledge and execution of their roles under the Law on Local Administration of 2000; (2) strengthening parliamentarians in their deliberative, consultative and legislative roles vis-à-vis the executive in key policy-making areas of public concern for Yemenis (e.g. health, agriculture, education, water/environment); (3) enhancing the representative and outreach functions of political parties; and (4)

providing targeted technical assistance to contribute to freer and fairer elections. Women's empowerment, civil society, and media are envisioned as being integral, cross-cutting issues in these institutional arenas.

**FY 2005 Program:**

In FY 2005, USAID will allocate ESF \$ 2,180,000 to continue and develop the activities that begin in FY 2004.

**Performance and Results:** Smaller-scale, often discrete DG activities have been ongoing in Yemen since the 1990s under central mechanisms managed by USAID's DG Office of the Bureau for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance. These past activities have achieved results such as the enhanced organization and administration of democratic electoral processes. Specifically, training for political parties and their candidates, technical assistance to the Supreme Council for Elections and Referendum, and funding of election monitors contributed to improved conduct of all stakeholders in the parliamentary elections of April 2003. In more general terms, previous activities have also allowed current U.S. NGO implementers to forge strong and rather unique relationships and trust with the ROYG, many parliamentarians, political parties and key civil society NGOs. Previous results and implementer ties thus provide a strong foundation on which to construct future programming. The larger, more comprehensive and strategic DG program envisioned in Yemen is currently being developed, and will build on and incorporate recent/ongoing DG activities. Targets and activities will begin in FY 2004.

## US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Yemen

279-ZZZ Strengthening of Democratic Political Institutions	ESF
<b>Through September 30, 2002</b>	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	0
<b>Fiscal Year 2003</b>	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
<b>Through September 30, 2003</b>	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	0
<b>Prior Year Unobligated Funds</b>	
Obligations	398
<b>Planned Fiscal Year 2004 NOA</b>	
Obligations	680
<b>Total Planned Fiscal Year 2004</b>	
Obligations	1,078
<b>Proposed Fiscal Year 2005 NOA</b>	
Obligations	2,180
Future Obligations	0
Est. Total Cost	3,258