

## Data Sheet

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>USAID Mission:</b>               | Morocco   |
| <b>Program Title:</b>               | Improved Government Responsiveness to Citizens  |
| <b>Pillar:</b>                      | Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance |
| <b>Strategic Objective:</b>         | 608-013   |
| <b>Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:</b> | \$0   |
| <b>Prior Year Unobligated:</b>      | \$0   |
| <b>Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:</b> | \$4,000,000 ESF                                 |
| <b>Year of Initial Obligation:</b>  | FY 2005   |
| <b>Year of Final Obligation:</b>    | FY 2008   |

**Summary:** In December 2003, USAID and the State Department approved the new USAID/Morocco Democracy and Governance (DG) program "Improved Government Responsiveness to Citizens." The DG program will be financed by ESF and will begin in FY 2005. In order to avoid a gap in democracy programs in Morocco for FY 2004, the regional Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) will provide bridge funding for this program. The program is intended to address the urgent requirement for the Government of Morocco (GOM) to better respond to its citizens' needs. Governance must be transparent, accountable, and equitable. This program strives to support a system that encourages debates and works on improving leadership for the long term. At the same time, the program will work on building a partnership between citizens and government to immediately deliver tangible results at the local level. The USAID democracy program is directly related to the MEPI goal of promoting the rule of law and accountable, effective government institutions. In addition, good governance is a prerequisite for the creation of an enabling environment for investment and job creation.

### Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

#### FY 2004 Program:

No funding is requested in FY 2004.

#### FY 2005 Program:

National enabling environment supported (\$750,000 ESF). USAID plans to help the Government of Morocco shape policies and put into motion laws, norms, and standards that will set the environment over time for a deep rooting of democracy and good governance on a national scale. A Parliamentary program will be designed to strengthen Parliament's oversight and policy assessment capacity, as well as its ability to upgrade legislation regarding transparency, accountability and equity issues. Civil society will be represented at the national level through support for the National Municipal Association, which will advocate national standards in ethics and professionalism among member municipalities. Illustrative activities include developing policy research; fostering analysis and debate at the national level; strengthening the skills of Parliamentary members directly involved in oversight committees; improving practices and systems for transparency, accountability and gender in pilot ministries; and increasing information exchange between government and civil society through the strengthening of the National Municipal Association.

Transparency in governance encouraged (\$750,000 ESF). In spite of competitive elections and a freer press, a lack of transparency and accountability is eroding the legitimacy of the government in the eyes of the citizens. The consequences of not addressing the current situation are enormous. Lack of transparency and accountability poses a serious threat to the consolidation of a fragile democracy and to economic growth. USAID/Morocco will focus on strengthening public sector management and auditing capabilities as well as civil society's efforts to advocate for transparent and accountable government.

Local government performance improved (\$2,500,000 ESF). Complimenting its support at the national level, USAID will also work at the regional and local government level to ensure a full devolution of power.

Effective devolution will occur when an elected local government has the necessary level of qualified personnel and financial resources to formulate, implement, and enforce policy decisions and to provide services transparently and efficiently. USAID will work at the local level bringing government entities, civil society, and the private sector together to identify problems, prioritize needs and implement solutions. In line with the GOM's priority of working in the urban slums, the civil society component will support the development of civil society organizations within the slums and assist municipal governments in responding to the priorities of the community. The local governance component will support a selected number of cities and work with them to help improve their overall management with special emphasis on improved fiscal performance and responsiveness to the needs of the poor. USAID will also train newly elected and appointed officials in community outreach, strategic planning, management and monitoring. Other areas of proposed activities include support for budget transparency and accountability initiatives; encouraging public debate to increase citizen participation in local government; assisting in building partnerships within target communities to implement local development projects; facilitating investment, jobs and services for the community; building equitable government systems for contracting; and issuing small grants to finance community initiatives.

**Performance and Results:** This is a new program, so there are no results to date. The anticipated results under this program include strengthened transparency, accountability, equity and local governance through the development and promulgation of appropriate Parliament policies; lower levels of corruption in government both at the local and the national level in the eyes of Moroccan citizens, more fiscally responsible Ministries and Local Development Units, improved citizen participation in civil society and local governments, and improved service delivery to constituents.

## US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Morocco

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| 608-013 Improved Government Responsiveness to Citizens | <b>ESF</b> |
| <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  | 0          |
| <b>Planned Fiscal Year 2004 NOA</b>                    |            |
| Obligations  | 0          |
| <b>Total Planned Fiscal Year 2004</b>                  |            |
| Obligations  | 0          |
| <b>Proposed Fiscal Year 2005 NOA</b>                   |            |
| Obligations  | 4,000      |
| Future Obligations                                     | 17,000     |
| Est. Total Cost  | 21,000     |