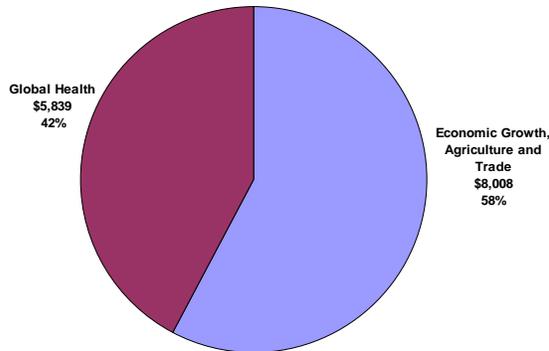
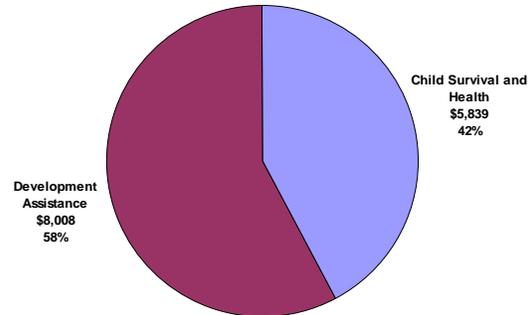


# Central America Regional Program

**FY 2006 Assistance by Sector**



**FY 2006 Assistance by Account**



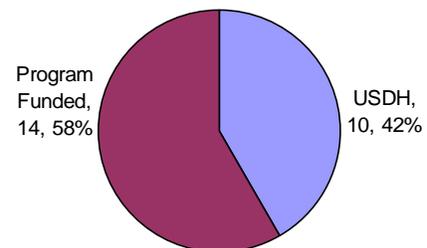
## Objectives and Budget

Objective	SO Number	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
Regional Trade and Investment	596-005	7,310		
Central America Regional Environment Program	596-006	6,771		
Increased Diversification of the Rural Economy	596-009	1,720		
Economic Freedom	596-022		11,430	7,008
Investing in People	596-023	4,950	5,901	5,839
Meso-American Food Early Warning System	596-024		1,000	1,000
<b>Total (in thousands of dollars)</b>		<b>20,751</b>	<b>18,331</b>	<b>13,847</b>

## Administrative Expenses and Workforce

Administrative Expenses	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
Mission Allocation	7		
USDH Salaries & Benefits		1,340	1,369
Program Funds	2,704	2,296	1,595
<b>Total (in thousands of dollars)</b>	<b>2,711</b>	<b>3,636</b>	<b>2,964</b>

**FY 2006 Workforce**



**Mission Director:** Mark Silverman

## Central America Regional Program

**The Development Challenge:** Central American countries have long sought improved competitive advantage by integrating their economies into a larger commercial block linked by free trade agreements with larger world markets. Upon entry into force of the U.S.-Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA), a high trade priority of the Bush Administration's second term, the region, including the Dominican Republic, will enter into a historic trade union with the United States. Both Mexico and Panama also consider free trade with the United States and their Central American neighbors crucial to their development agendas. Through trade-led, diversified economic growth, the countries of the region are demonstrating their commitment to creating economic opportunities that better help to distribute wealth and raise the standard of living for all Central Americans. Rarely before have the opportunities for improved regional integration and development been as encouraging as they are now. It is also significant that the neighboring countries of Panama and Mexico have been incorporated in many of the Central American regional institutions. The elected leaders of the Central American, Mexican, and Panamanian governments share a common vision of the advantages of jointly addressing the problems that plague their societies. They also realize that opportunities created by removal of trade restrictions among themselves and with the United States can only be fully exploited by acting together to remove other artificial national barriers to trade and development.

Central America has a population of nearly 36.5 million people and an aggregate GDP of nearly \$72 billion. The United States is Central America's biggest trading partner. The United States exported nearly \$11 billion in goods to Central America in 2003, more than U.S. exports to Russia, India and Indonesia combined. Two-way trade was over \$23 billion in 2003. This strong trading partnership helped to increase Central America's 2004 per capita income to \$1,972. Central America (23%) and Mexico (25%) have similar ratios of exports to GDP although there is a ten-fold difference in the order of magnitude because of the size of the Mexican economy.

Unfortunately, Central America has some of the worst income inequality in the world. Nearly half the population lives below the poverty line, and nearly a quarter of the population lives on less than one dollar a day. Central American schools are under funded and produce the highest primary school repetition and lowest completion rates in Latin America. Approximately one-fourth of Central Americans are illiterate. With the exception of Costa Rica and Panama, the region still suffers an unacceptably high infant mortality rate (27 per 100 live births) and chronic malnutrition. These problems are further exacerbated by a population growth rate of 3%. Growth of organized crime and endemic corruption also seriously threaten to undermine gains in political, social and economic development. Although Mexico is a "middle income" country with a population of more than 100 million people, and a member of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the reality is that Mexico has 9.8 million people living on less than \$1 a day and 35 million living on less than \$2,000 a year.

Free trade and economic development are engines of growth, but they do not automatically resolve inequalities. Central America's economic growth rates, while showing signs of improvement recently, are still too low to support aggressive anti-poverty agendas. The benefits of economic growth are also not spread evenly among the population. Additional challenges include the possibility of initial loss of revenue and displacement of rural jobs upon entering CAFTA and the expiration of the Multi-Fiber Agreement. Other regional challenges include customs integration and harmonization of tax, fiscal, sanitary and phyto-sanitary (SPS), and environmental policies and standards, and management of the Meso-American Biological Corridor. Important issues that can be addressed from a regional perspective include containment of communicable diseases such as HIV/AIDS, creation of a food security early warning system, and the management and prevention of forest fires and pests.

To take advantage of CAFTA and other global trade opportunities, Central American and Mexican governments are improving their competitiveness by lowering transaction costs across borders; harmonizing regional commercial, tax, environmental, and labor laws and policies; and taking

advantage of the region's rich natural resources by promoting niche (for example, green) market products that utilize third-party certifications. The region continues to recover from the 2000 coffee crisis. By transitioning coffee production to high quality and specialty markets in combination with rural agricultural diversification initiatives, the Central American and Mexican governments expect to provide viable economic alternatives for rural populations. Central America and Mexico's natural resource endowments and climate provide comparative advantages that the region should capitalize on to achieve growth.

Finally, given the region's proximity to United States, and the increasing flow of immigrants from Central America over U.S. borders, infectious diseases, particularly HIV/AIDS, are of particular concern. Data available concerning HIV/AIDS in Central America show a growing epidemic, with conservative estimates of more than 380,000 HIV cases. With the exception of Honduras and Belize, the countries in Central America are still categorized as "concentrated" epidemics - only certain sub-groups of the populations are particularly affected. Due to the nature of the epidemic, special efforts are being made to work with high prevalence groups to contain the spread of infection within these groups and mitigate the "bridging effect" to the general population. Other challenges include the need to strengthen and enhance local capacities; develop strategic information systems; and reduce stigma and discrimination to create a better enabling environment for prevention activities.

U.S. national interests in Central America include trade capacity building and regional economic integration; reduction of organized crime and narco-trafficking; strengthening of democratic institutions; and the containment of illegal migration. Due to geographic and cultural ties, labor migration and remittances (\$5.645 billion in 2003) serve to further link U.S. and Central American interests. Building on a strong, historic partnership with the Central American countries - as evidenced by successful CAFTA negotiations - USAID works with Central American governments to further U.S. foreign policy interests and address issues of poverty, economic integration, social equity, and environmental conservation and management. USAID assistance operates on the premise that trade-led growth represents the best way for the Central American countries to generate the needed income to improve the lives of its people.

**The USAID Program:** USAID is requesting FY 2005 and FY 2006 funds for three strategic objectives for the Central American and Mexico Regional Program. These objectives are part of the regional strategy for Central America and Mexico and promote more open trade and investment policies, diversification of the rural economy, and improved watershed management; control and containment of the spread of HIV/AIDS; and establishment of national and regional networks to prevent disasters and improve vulnerability management.

**Other Program Elements:** USAID's Central America Regional program, jointly with the Economic Growth, Agriculture, and Trade (EGAT) Bureau, initiated the "CAFTA Commercial Law and Trade Assessment" project to identify and present the main constraints to trade and recommend priority areas for reform and institutional strengthening. The assessments focused on barriers to entry and growth of businesses, trade barriers, access to credit, public-private partnership, and implications for micro and small enterprises. The USAID bilateral programs in Honduras and Nicaragua have used the recommendations to guide their trade capacity building assistance. In Guatemala, as a follow-up to the assessment, a new secured transactions law is under design. The regional trade program has also worked with EGAT to increase the transparency and efficiency of Central American customs administration, regional harmonization of customs procedures, and related trade facilitation efforts

**Other Donors:** USAID coordinates the Central American Regional program closely with other bilateral and multilateral donors. Principal bilateral donors in Central America and Mexico include Japan, Spain, Germany, Sweden, Switzerland, Canada, and the United Kingdom. Principal multilateral donors are: the Inter-American Development Bank (regional integration and major infrastructure investments under the Plan Puebla Panama project and the Central American electrical interconnection project); the Central American Bank for Economic Integration; the

European Union (customs integration, democracy and natural resource management); the United Nations Joint Program on HIV/AIDS; the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria; and the United Nations Children's Fund (orphans, vulnerable children, and Afro-Central American populations). The World Bank is finalizing an \$8 million donation to support a regional laboratory, surveillance activities, and prevention activities for mobile populations. International organizations, such as the International Labor Organization, along with other U.S. government agencies, are taking a regional approach to harmonizing and building the capacity of the region's labor ministries.

## Central America Regional Program PROGRAM SUMMARY

(in thousands of dollars)

Accounts	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Current	FY 2006 Request
Child Survival and Health Programs Fund	4,950	4,950	5,901	5,839
Development Assistance	24,383	15,801	12,430	8,008
Development Credit Authority	[469]	0	0	0
<b>Total Program Funds</b>	<b>29,333</b>	<b>20,751</b>	<b>18,331</b>	<b>13,847</b>

### STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE SUMMARY

596-005 Regional Trade and Investment				
DA	7,300	7,310	0	0
596-006 Central America Regional Environment Program				
DA	9,821	6,771	0	0
DCA	469	0	0	0
596-008 Regional HIV-AIDS				
CSH	4,186	0	0	0
596-009 Increased Diversification of the Rural Economy				
DA	7,262	1,720	0	0
596-022 Economic Freedom				
DA	0	0	11,430	7,008
596-023 Investing in People				
CSH	764	4,950	5,901	5,839
596-024 Meso-American Food Early Warning System				
DA	0	0	1,000	1,000

Mission Director,  
Mark Silverman

## Data Sheet

<b>USAID Mission:</b>	Central America Regional Program
<b>Program Title:</b>	Economic Freedom
<b>Pillar:</b>	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
<b>Strategic Objective:</b>	596-022
<b>Status:</b>	New in FY 2005
<b>Planned FY 2005 Obligation:</b>	\$11,430,000 DA
<b>Prior Year Unobligated:</b>	\$0
<b>Proposed FY 2006 Obligation:</b>	\$7,008,000 DA
<b>Year of Initial Obligation:</b>	2005
<b>Estimated Year of Final Obligation:</b>	2008

**Summary:** Under the new regional program for Central America and Mexico (CAM), USAID assistance will focus on achieving open, diversified and expanding economies throughout the region. The principal results expected by the end of the program period are: increased trade; greater contribution of higher value-added sectors to the economy; new jobs and economic opportunities leading to increased incomes for Central American and Mexican citizens; and improved management of critical watersheds and natural resources. These results will be achieved by helping countries to implement free trade agreements, improve the business environment and enterprise competitiveness, broaden access to financial markets and services, and improve management and conservation of priority watersheds. USAID will support the establishment of a regional customs union; harmonization of commercial, environmental, sanitary and phytosanitary standards and other laws, policies, regulations, and standards essential to the implementation of international trade agreements. It will also support measures to facilitate increased intra-regional trade, while improving labor conditions in Central American workplaces while harmonizing and enforcing fiscal and financial sector supervision policies at the national nationally.

### **Inputs, Outputs, Activities:**

**FY 2005 Program:** Increase Participation in Global Trade and Investment (\$5,239,000 DA). USAID will strengthen government-to-business dialogue on effective trade policy implementation, assist the Central America Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA) implementation and rules of origin requirements, and help countries meet obligations acquired as members of the World Trade Organization (WTO), CAFTA, and the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA). USAID will fund technical assistance to address policy and procedural bottlenecks and support activities of the CAFTA Trade Capacity Building (TCB) Committee and the Environmental Cooperation Agreement's (ECA) Environmental Cooperation Commission. Program activities will include customs union consolidation, trade facilitation measures, timely resolution of intra-regional trade disputes, and the harmonization of product norms, standards, measurements, and commercial codes. USAID assistance will also support the development of a quality coffee marketing mechanism in Central America and Mexico, based on Specialty Coffee Association of America (SCAA) cupping standards and the electronic auction. USAID will help develop private industry standards to increase small farmers gain access the regional supermarket trade in fruits and vegetables. It will also support increased access to certification services and fee-for-service technical support entities that promote energy efficiency and the use of cleaner production technologies and practices. Principal contractors, grantees and agencies include: Central American Secretariat for Economic Integration (SIECA), Central American Commission on Environment and Development (CCAD), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Michigan State University/Partnerships for Food Industry Development--Fruits and Vegetables, Coffee Quality Institute, and other contractors and grantees to be determined.

Improve Economic Policy and Governance (\$2,210,000 DA) USAID will fund technical assistance to revise, current commercial laws, codes, and regulations or draft new ones that will support the implementation and effective enforcement of key international environmental agreements and standards. The latter will include specific emphasis on treaty requirements, including environmental audits, the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES) and Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs). Principal contractors, grantees and agencies include SIECA, CCAD, and EPA.

Improve Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and Biodiversity Conservation (\$3,981,000 DA). USAID will develop and provide economic incentives for biodiversity conservation and sustainable natural resource management in key transnational watersheds. Incentives will include building capacity to effectively manage and monitor transnational-border cultural, biological, and natural resources; and establishing sustainable finance mechanisms to generate the revenues needed to implement management plans in the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor (MBC) and barrier reef. In addition, USAID will help CAM governments to develop and institutionalize climate change policies regarding adaptation and mitigation. These will potentially lessen the impact of forest fires and other environmental threats. USAID will also provide the tools and technical assistance needed to help conserve critical watersheds. Principal contractors, grantees and agencies include CCAD, the Nature Conservancy, the Rainforest Alliance, EPA, and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

**FY 2006 Program:** Increase Participation in Global Trade and Investment (\$4,311,000 DA). USAID will continue to strengthen government-to-business dialogue on effective trade policy implementation, assisting with CAFTA implementation and rules of origin requirements and helping countries meet obligations acquired as members of the WTO and CAFTA. USAID technical assistance will continue to address policy and procedural bottlenecks and support activities of the CAFTA Trade Capacity Building (TCB) Committee and the ECA's Environmental Cooperation Commission. USAID would continue support to the regional quality coffee marketing mechanism (the electronic auction) as well as the development of private industry standards to help small farmers access the regional supermarket trade in fruits and vegetable. In addition, USAID will help expand access of small farmers to certification services and fee-for-service technical support entities that promote energy efficiency and the use of cleaner production technologies and practices. USAID plans to assist in the improvement of labor conditions in the Central American apparel and textile sectors. Contractors will remain the same.

Improve Economic Policy and Governance (\$600,000 DA). USAID plans to continue providing technical assistance to revise, harmonize and disseminate commercial laws, codes, and regulations identified in a joint Central America-USAID diagnostic assessment. USAID will also help develop new legislation, regulations, policies and capacity for the implementation and effective enforcement of key international environmental agreements and standards (with specific emphasis on treaty requirements, including CITES and POPs, in coordination with bilateral justice sector reform support).

Improve Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and Biodiversity Conservation (\$2,097,000 DA). USAID plans to support the development of economic incentives for biodiversity conservation and sustainable natural resource management in key transnational watersheds. Activities would include building capacity to effectively manage and monitor cultural, biological, and natural resources that cross national borders. USAID's programs will establish sustainable finance mechanisms to generate the revenues needed to implement management plans in MBC and barrier reef. USAID will also continue helping Central American and Mexican governments to develop and institutionalize policies regarding climate change adaptation and mitigation, and, at the same time, provide the tools and technical assistance needed to help conserve critical watersheds.

**Performance and Results:** By program completion, Central America will increase both intraregional and total trade; increase the contribution of higher value-added sectors to the

economy; increase the availability of and access to financial services by small- and medium-sized enterprises and exporters; and improve critical watershed management.

## US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

### Central America Regional Program

596-022 Economic Freedom	DA
<b>Through September 30, 2003</b>	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	0
<b>Fiscal Year 2004</b>	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
<b>Through September 30, 2004</b>	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	0
<b>Prior Year Unobligated Funds</b>	
Obligations	0
<b>Planned Fiscal Year 2005 NOA</b>	
Obligations	11,430
<b>Total Planned Fiscal Year 2005</b>	
Obligations	11,430
<b>Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 NOA</b>	
Obligations	7,008
Future Obligations	47,562
Est. Total Cost	66,000

## Data Sheet

<b>USAID Mission:</b>	Central America Regional Program
<b>Program Title:</b>	Investing in People
<b>Pillar:</b>	Global Health
<b>Strategic Objective:</b>	596-023
<b>Status:</b>	New in FY 2005
<b>Planned FY 2005 Obligation:</b>	\$5,901,000 CSH
<b>Prior Year Unobligated:</b>	\$0
<b>Proposed FY 2006 Obligation:</b>	\$5,839,000 CSH
<b>Year of Initial Obligation:</b>	2005
<b>Estimated Year of Final Obligation:</b>	2008

**Summary:** The regional HIV/AIDS program is designed to support efforts to contain HIV/AIDS through targeted behavior change programs for populations who are most at risk according to the epidemiology of the disease, and implementation of improved policies and programs. USAID will support HIV/AIDS prevention, HIV/AIDS policies, and surveillance and data collection and analysis for decision making.

### **Inputs, Outputs, Activities:**

**FY 2005 Program:** Reduce Transmission and Impact of HIV/AIDS (\$2,000,000 CSH). Prevention program will focus on interpersonal behavior change. USAID will build upon lessons learned in working with vulnerable groups to improve upon interpersonal behavior change approaches and develop new ones. The program will focus less on scaling up activities and more on quality of face-to-face education. Social marketing activities will continue to emphasize the availability of a low-priced condom in high-risk zones, and use the "ABC" approach (Abstinence, Being faithful, and Condoms) as appropriate using the paper, radio and TV media. The prevention program will be integrated with policy reform interventions and human rights and stigma reduction activities. Principal grantees will be determined through competitive bidding.

Build Health Systems Capacity (\$3,618,000 CSH). USAID will fund technical assistance to support implementation of improved HIV/AIDS policies, strategic plans, and monitoring and evaluation strategies. USAID will maintain its support for national strategic plans and assist countries in the development of proposals, work plans, monitoring and evaluation plans for activities funded by the Global Fund for HIV/AIDS. Efforts will include strengthening the capacity of local nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) working with high risk populations to develop quality proposals for increased program funding, especially from the Global Fund. The program will work towards increasing and improving social sector investments through effective advocacy, policy dialogue for needed reforms, and alliance-building among key stakeholders. In addition, USAID will assist the development and dissemination of projection models and socio-economic impact studies to further policy discourse on the epidemic. USAID will continue to strengthen, through training and technical assistance, HIV/AIDS legal-rights service groups to help people living with HIV/AIDS and other vulnerable groups. It will do so under existing legislation and will support a general population media campaign to help decrease stigma and discrimination.

The program will work to finalize national surveillance plans for Guatemala, Nicaragua and Panama and will continue to provide technical and financial support for Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Panama to complete the Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP). Continued technical support and assistance to the World Bank Regional HIV/AIDS Grant Project will be a critical activity. This includes the establishment of the regional HIV/AIDS reference laboratory at Gorgas Institute in Panama as part of the support for the newly formed regional laboratory network. Regional capacity to use and disseminate strategic information will be further strengthened through training workshops for FETP participants as well as program-trained

surveillance staff from target countries.

USAID will also provide technical assistance to: (1) the Global Fund in El Salvador for a "second generation" surveillance survey targeting male prisoners; (2) Panama for a national behavioral science survey for most at-risk populations; and (3) El Salvador's and Panama's ministries of health to generate strategic reports and presentations related to the 2005 behavioral science survey. The program will also assist in disseminating national HIV/AIDS surveillance plans among key stakeholders and decision-makers in the target countries to ensure support and leveraging of resources. One aspect of the program will establish reporting frameworks for communication and dissemination of HIV/AIDS surveillance data. In coordination with other bilateral and multilateral partners, USAID will promote inter-agency and inter-country collaboration to create a regional strategic plan for monitoring and evaluation of HIV/AIDS. Under this plan each country will develop a national monitoring and evaluation plan based on the regional strategic plan for surveillance model. Principal grantees will be the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Academy for Educational Development (AED) and The Futures Group International.

**FY 2006 Program:** Reduce Transmission and Impact of HIV/AIDS (\$2,000,000 CSH). USAID plans to continue to target interpersonal behavior change interventions for high-prevalence groups supported by a mass media campaign. Grantees to be determined in FY 2005.

Build Health Systems Capacity (\$3,839,000 CSH). USAID plans to expand support for strategic alliances to develop and implement HIV/AIDS policies and strategic plans. The program will also support the biannual Central America AIDS Congress, a strategic event for information sharing and strengthening alliances. The program will continue to assist, through training and technical assistance, the most vulnerable groups. In addition, a general population media campaign aimed at decreasing stigma and discrimination against people living with HIV/AIDS and other affected populations will be developed and implemented.

It is expected that assistance will focus heavily on using the information gathered in the behavioral science surveys that were a follow up to the 2001-02 multi-site study. This will include the collection of data in countries that did not complete the field work the previous year, as well as analysis, presentation and use of the results for monitoring and evaluating impact in the context of the national strategic plans. Information would also be used to guide future strategies and leverage policy support and resources. If indicated, the program would sponsor further training for HIV/AIDS epidemiologists. Grantees to be determined in FY 2005.

**Performance and Results:** In FY 2004, USAID more than tripled the number of its behavior change communication activities, reaching a larger segment of the at-risk populations while increasing the quality of the programs. Results from the 2004 behavioral survey show a marked increase in participation in these activities for all countries (Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua) over the last three years. USAID assistance, in collaboration with the UN AIDS program, the World Health Organization/Pan American Health Organization, the World Bank and the USAID bilateral programs, provided the impetus and technical direction for development of an umbrella regional strategic plan for surveillance. It further establishes the base for installing regional and national institutional capacity for surveillance and strategic information systems. As a result of this process, the World Bank is finalizing an \$8 million regional grant.

USAID will work toward more specific policy instruments and increased scores on components of the AIDS Program Effort Score (political support, legal-regulatory framework, policy formulation, monitoring and evaluation, and human rights). The expected end result is reduced incidence of HIV among high-prevalence groups in Central America.

## US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

### Central America Regional Program

596-023 Investing in People	<b>CSH</b>
<b>Through September 30, 2003</b>	
Obligations	764
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	764
<b>Fiscal Year 2004</b>	
Obligations	5,950
Expenditures	3,781
<b>Through September 30, 2004</b>	
Obligations	6,714
Expenditures	3,781
Unliquidated	2,933
<b>Prior Year Unobligated Funds</b>	
Obligations	0
<b>Planned Fiscal Year 2005 NOA</b>	
Obligations	5,901
<b>Total Planned Fiscal Year 2005</b>	
Obligations	5,901
<b>Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 NOA</b>	
Obligations	5,839
Future Obligations	24,546
Est. Total Cost	43,000

## Data Sheet

<b>USAID Mission:</b>	Central America Regional Program
<b>Program Title:</b>	Meso-American Food Early Warning System
<b>Pillar:</b>	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
<b>Strategic Objective:</b>	596-024
<b>Status:</b>	New in FY 2005
<b>Planned FY 2005 Obligation:</b>	\$1,000,000 DA
<b>Prior Year Unobligated:</b>	\$0
<b>Proposed FY 2006 Obligation:</b>	\$1,000,000 DA
<b>Year of Initial Obligation:</b>	2005
<b>Estimated Year of Final Obligation:</b>	2008

**Summary:** USAID assistance will support preparedness and mitigation initiatives which directly contribute to reduced loss of life and natural resources from economic and natural disasters. Regional support for timely, effective humanitarian assistance and crisis response will specifically focus on disaster/crisis prevention and preparedness by supporting the Mesoamerican Food Security Early Warning System (MFEWS). The ultimate goal is for decision makers in Central America and their donor partners to use food security early warning information and analyses on a routine basis to understand the origins of, prevent, mitigate and respond to food security crises within the region. Information will be collected, integrated and analyzed by multi-sectoral country teams to develop key monitoring indicators. The data analyses will form the basis for recommendations for action. Country level analyses will be reviewed annually at a decision makers' forum which will result in recommendations for next steps. The countrywide systems will be supported and integrated to share studies, develop common indicators and best practices, achieve economies of scale, develop regional forecasts, and prioritize regional needs.

### Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

**FY 2005 Program:** Improve Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Mitigation (\$1,000,000 DA). USAID will support the establishment of formal and informal networks of key actors at the country and regional levels. These networks will work to: improve vulnerability management; produce earlier warning of emerging food security problems in order to provide more timely response; and strengthen national capacities to collect, analyze and report on food security information, with special attention focused on filling key information gaps. Principal contractors are Chemonics International, and others to be determined through competitive bidding.

**FY 2006 Program:** Improve Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Mitigation (\$1,000,000 DA). USAID will continue to support formal and informal networks of key actors at the country and regional level which would work to: improve vulnerability management; use existing information more effectively in providing earlier warning of emerging food security problems and improving response; and strengthen national capacities to collect, analyze and report on food security information. Principal contractors would not change.

**Performance and Results:** By program completion a regional early warning system will be providing timely information and analysis to decision makers so that they can take action to prevent, mitigate and respond to projected food security crises. Yearly national outlook conferences will present and discuss information and analyses compiled across institutions and sectors (agriculture, health, nutrition, meteorological services and economy). National capacities to collect, analyze and share information on food security will be strengthened. New types of data will provide analysts and decision makers with earlier warning of what is happening to populations in specific geographic locations. The new process will include the use of remote sensing techniques in the region and the development of an early warning indicators for nutrition.

## US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

### Central America Regional Program

596-024 Meso-American Food Early Warning System	DA
<b>Through September 30, 2003</b>	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	0
<b>Fiscal Year 2004</b>	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
<b>Through September 30, 2004</b>	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	0
<b>Prior Year Unobligated Funds</b>	
Obligations	0
<b>Planned Fiscal Year 2005 NOA</b>	
Obligations	1,000
<b>Total Planned Fiscal Year 2005</b>	
Obligations	1,000
<b>Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 NOA</b>	
Obligations	1,000
Future Obligations	2,000
Est. Total Cost	4,000