

## Data Sheet

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| <b>USAID Mission:</b>                      | Ecuador   |
| <b>Program Title:</b>                      | Democracy and Conflict Prevention               |
| <b>Pillar:</b>                             | Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance |
| <b>Strategic Objective:</b>                | 518-012   |
| <b>Status:</b>                             | Continuing                                      |
| <b>Planned FY 2005 Obligation:</b>         | \$8,250,000 ESF                                 |
| <b>Prior Year Unobligated:</b>             | \$0   |
| <b>Proposed FY 2006 Obligation:</b>        | \$615,000 DA; \$4,600,000 ESF                   |
| <b>Year of Initial Obligation:</b>         | 2001  |
| <b>Estimated Year of Final Obligation:</b> | 2006  |

**Summary:** Ecuador's crisis of democratic legitimacy continues. USAID is strengthening the justice reform process, building participatory, effective local governance, fighting corruption, and supporting free and fair elections. In September 2004 new efforts were undertaken to combat trafficking in persons.

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

**FY 2005 Program:** Improve Justice Sector/Legal Framework (\$1,550,000 ESF). USAID will provide technical expertise and training to the National Justice Reform Commission; the Supreme Court, National Judicial Council, Prosecutor General's Office, Judicial Police, and the Public Defender's Office; train at least 60% of criminal justice sector operators in the application of Criminal Procedures Code reforms; help implement the National Training Plan for Justice Operators; fund small grants to civil society organizations for innovative justice reform projects; promote legal reforms, judicial independence and impartiality with support of civil society justice networks; and provide technical expertise, training, and equipment to implement legal, institutional, organizational, and administrative priorities of the National Adjustment Plan to improve Criminal Reform. Prime grantee is Fundacion Esquel.

Protect Human Rights and Equal Access to Justice (\$800,000 ESF). USAID will train public defenders to enhance their capacity to implement the Public Defense System; assist in the design and implementation of an Action Plan for this system; support 10 civil society legal defense centers for vulnerable groups, including poor prisoners; disseminate the reformed Criminal Procedures Code and related laws to victims; promote the enforcement of political rights of women, youth, indigenous people, and Afro-Ecuadorians through technical expertise and training. Prime grantee is Fundacion Esquel.

Support Democratic Local Government and Decentralization (\$1,900,000 ESF). USAID will provide technical expertise and training to local governments, public institutions, and communities to advance decentralization policy, citizen participation and oversight, and local government management strengthening. New areas of intervention will include the Galapagos and several other provinces with emphasis on rural district councils and indigenous local governments. Prime contractor and grantees include Associates in Rural Development Inc., CARE, and Fundacion Esquel.

Promote and Support Anticorruption Reforms (\$2,000,000 ESF). USAID will provide technical expertise and training to leaders and viable public sector and civil society institutions within the Ecuadorian Anticorruption System (SAE) to develop policy dialogue; improve investigative methods; increase public awareness and oversight to reduce corruption; promote the access of SAE institutions and civil society to the best practices and expertise in the world; improve SAE institutional capacity for transparency and accountability in government planning, budgeting, procurement, and sensitive operations such as customs. Prime contractor is Management

Systems International.

Reduce Trafficking in Persons (\$300,000 ESF). Grants to U.S. and local civil society organizations will help the Government of Ecuador eradicate trafficking in persons through prevention, control, prosecution, and protection efforts. Prime grantees are Fundacion Esquel, International Defense of Children, and Geneva Global, Inc.

Promote and Support Free and Fair Elections (\$1,700,000 ESF). USAID will support domestic observation of the 2006 national elections; civic and voter education campaigns; quick vote counts; monitoring of campaign spending and enforcement of electoral reforms; new constitutional and electoral law reforms; electoral dialogues and the third series of the Democratic Values Survey; implementation of the Electoral Tribunal's reforms and strengthening of the training commission; and key Ecuadorians' visits to the U.S. in support of USAID's Democracy Program components. Prime grantees are Participation Ciudadana, Vanderbilt University, and State's Public Affairs Section.

**FY 2006 Program:** Improve Justice Sector/Legal Framework (\$800,000 ESF). With the results of the second evaluation of the criminal accusatory system, the updated Integral Justice Reform Plan, and the National Training Plan expected by the end of 2005, USAID plans to support the application of key institutional, legal, administrative, and organizational reforms and initiatives by public and judicial institutions; provide support to civil society justice networks and coalitions for application of the accusatory justice system and strengthening of the public defense system; and assist the new Supreme Court President to enforce constitutional and justice reforms. Grantees to be determined.

Protect Human Rights and Equal Access to Justice (\$305,000 DA, \$200,000 ESF). USAID plans to expand assistance to legal centers, public defenders, and university professors. USAID will also provide technical assistance to improve rehabilitation policies and services to promote and monitor application of legal and political rights of vulnerable groups, including trafficking in persons. Grantees to be determined.

Support Democratic Local Government and Decentralization (\$1,100,000 ESF). USAID will continue to further decentralization policy, promote and expand citizen participation and oversight, and local government management strengthening in an expanded geographical range within Ecuador. Contractor and grantees to be determined.

Promote and Support Anticorruption Reforms (\$900,000 ESF). USAID will review the progress of Ecuador's Anticorruption System to determine the feasibility of continuing this program component, as well as an approach that will attain best results in the future. Contractor to be determined.

Reduce Trafficking in Persons (\$310,000 DA). USAID plans to provide assistance to the government and civil society to sustain reduction of trafficking in persons in Ecuador. Grantees to be determined.

Promote and Support Free and Fair Elections (\$1,600,000 ESF). USAID plans to promote democratic values and civic education campaigns. It may also promote new leaders to participate in subnational elections and electoral reforms and monitor enforcement of electoral legislation. Grantees to be determined.

**Performance and Results:** USAID support has been critical to the improved application of the criminal justice system. Civil society groups have made key contributions to judicial independence and transparency. The civil society group Participation Ciudadana has become the major actor in the oversight of electoral processes and the promotion of civic and democratic practices nationwide. USAID support, closely coordinated with other donors, has been the foremost contributor to decentralization policy reforms, citizen participation, and oversight of local

governments. Exchanges to and from the United States have contributed to results in each of the democracy program components.

By program completion, justice sector operators will have a thorough understanding of the reformed Criminal Procedures Code and judicial institutions will have improved their coordination and collaboration efforts to better respond to the victims. Decentralization policy will have advanced, local governments will be stronger and more participatory, anticorruption initiatives will be yielding visible results, and free and fair national elections will have been held in 2006.

## US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Ecuador

|   | DA    | ESF    |
|---|-------|--------|
| 518-012 Democracy and Conflict Prevention |       |        |
| <b>Through September 30, 2003</b>         |       |        |
| Obligations                               | 6,557 | 21,641 |
| Expenditures                              | 6,511 | 9,820  |
| Unliquidated                              | 46    | 11,821 |
| <b>Fiscal Year 2004</b>                   |       |        |
| Obligations                               | 220   | 7,423  |
| Expenditures                              | 220   | 7,713  |
| <b>Through September 30, 2004</b>         |       |        |
| Obligations                               | 6,777 | 29,064 |
| Expenditures                              | 6,731 | 17,533 |
| Unliquidated                              | 46    | 11,531 |
| <b>Prior Year Unobligated Funds</b>       |       |        |
| Obligations                               | 0     | 0      |
| <b>Planned Fiscal Year 2005 NOA</b>       |       |        |
| Obligations                               | 0     | 8,250  |
| <b>Total Planned Fiscal Year 2005</b>     |       |        |
| Obligations                               | 0     | 8,250  |
| <b>Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 NOA</b>      |       |        |
| Obligations                               | 615   | 4,600  |
| Future Obligations                        | 0     | 0      |
| Est. Total Cost                           | 7,392 | 41,914 |