

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Colombia
Program Title:	Democracy
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	514-007
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$24,000,000 ACI
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:	\$25,000,000 ACI
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 2000
Year of Final Obligation:	FY2005

Summary: USAID's democracy program provides technical assistance and training to modernize the criminal justice system; protect and promote human rights; strengthen local governance; increase government transparency and accountability; and support peace initiatives.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

Modernization of the justice system and increase access to legal services (\$5,500,000 ACI). USAID will assist the transition to an accusatory judicial system through policy support and training and by constructing an additional six oral trial courtrooms. Technical assistance will be provided to the Public Defender's Office to strengthen its capacity to provide full-time public defense lawyers who will ensure due process and rights for the accused. To increase citizen access to justice, USAID will continue to work with the Ministry of Justice to expand coverage through Justice Houses that offer community legal services. USAID will build four new Justice Houses that will handle an additional 628,000 cases, and train 225 conciliators to provide services in targeted communities. USAID will also work with the Ministry of Justice to design a regional model to bring services to marginalized rural areas and to install small claims courts in some Justice Houses. The prime implementer is Checchi & Company.

Human rights (\$6,500,000 ACI). USAID will continue to provide technical assistance to strengthen the Early Warning System in order to prevent massacres and forced displacements. Assistance will be provided to help the Government of Colombia effectively respond to and track alerts. USAID will provide protection to an additional 1,000 unionists, journalists, elected officials, community leaders, and others under threat and to 20 human rights offices. Temporary protection will also be provided to some former mayors. The program will continue working with key Colombian Government institutions in formulating national and local human rights policies. The prime implementer is Management Sciences for Development.

Local governance (\$6,500,000 ACI). USAID will continue to provide technical assistance to enhance municipal capacity to deliver services, increase revenue, and address citizen priorities by increasing community participation. This includes updating cadastres and municipal tax codes to increase municipal revenues; improving service delivery; and developing social infrastructure. Approximately 40 municipalities will be fiscally strengthened and 20 will improve their delivery of public services. Moreover, at least 100 social infrastructure projects will be developed with citizen participation and 60 citizen oversight committees will be formed. Additionally, USAID will provide technical assistance to promote dialogue at the local and national level and strengthen organizations active in Afro-Colombian, indigenous, and other traditionally marginalized communities. The prime implementer is Associates in Rural Development.

Transparency and accountability (\$2,500,000 ACI). USAID will begin the second phase of a program to increase transparency and accountability at the national and municipal levels. Technical assistance and training will be provided to at least 40 Colombian Government entities in developing electronic

government and standardizing internal control systems. USAID will support efforts of civil society to improve transparency and efficiency in the use of public resources. USAID also plans to strengthen at least 100 citizen oversight groups. Casals & Associates is the prime implementer.

Peace initiatives (\$3,000,000 ACI). USAID will continue to promote peace by working with Colombia's High Commissioner for Peace to support negotiations between the Government of Colombia and illegal armed groups pending satisfactory resolution of policy and funding issues. USAID may also assist the Colombian Government with implementation of potential peace settlements and demobilization/reintegration activities. USAID will support community peace initiatives to help establish seven additional Co-existence Centers that provide communities with a neutral space for dialogue, conflict mitigation, and social services. Support to civil society organizations that promote peace through local projects will continue. The prime implementer is the International Organization for Migration.

FY 2005 Program:

Modernization of the justice system and increase access to legal services (\$5,500,000 ACI). Technical assistance and training to implement the accusatory justice system nationwide will continue in targeted regions. An additional two oral trial courtrooms and two Justice Houses will be established, an additional 695,000 cases will be handled, and 100 conciliators certified. Same implementer as above.

Human rights (\$7,300,000 ACI). Support for the Early Warning System will continue. Protection will be provided to an additional 1,000 threatened individuals and 20 offices of human rights non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Support in human rights policy-making will be directed at policy implementation, including initiatives related to the demobilization and reincorporation of illegal armed groups. Same implementer as above.

Local governance (\$6,500,000 ACI). Local governance strengthening will be consolidated in key regions where approximately 100 social infrastructure projects will be created in 60 new municipalities. Public policies that foster local development will be implemented. Ten municipalities will improve their delivery of public services and an additional 30 will be fiscally strengthened. Same implementer as above.

Transparency and accountability (\$2,450,000 ACI). Anti-corruption activities will continue to strengthen internal control systems and the use of electronic government to promote transparency and efficiency. Citizen oversight will be fortified in key regions with the strengthening of 100 oversight groups. Same implementer as above.

Peace initiatives (\$3,250,000 ACI). Peace activities will continue to support the High Commissioner in negotiations, potential peace settlements, and demobilization/reintegration. One additional Co-existence Center will be established and selected organizations active in promoting peace will be supported. Same implementer as above.

Performance and Results: A total of 33 Justice Houses have been established, handling some 1.9 million cases. USAID has also established 28 oral trial courtrooms and helped strengthen public defense through the training of judges in oral trials, legal evidence, and procedures. Through FY 2003, 3,145 individuals and 71 human rights NGOs received protection. The Early Warning System was expanded to 20 regions and was key to the Government of Colombia's response to 177 of the 234 alerts issued through 2003. The local governance program promoted effective public administration by helping finance 148 social infrastructure projects in eight departments. The establishment of 163 citizen oversight committees reinforced transparency and participation. To fight corruption, USAID standardized internal control units in 19 Government of Colombia entities and supported 75 citizen oversight initiatives in FY 2003. This contributed to Colombia's impressive improvement in Transparency International's annual corruption perception index. Under the peace program, USAID is assisting the High Commissioner's Office with the design of its demobilization/reintegration initiative and supported community-based projects, including the establishment of three Co-existence Centers. By the end of USAID's program, democracy in Colombia will be more responsive, participatory and accountable to the needs of Colombian citizens.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Colombia

514-007 Democracy	ACI	Plan Colombia
Through September 30, 2002		
Obligations	28,000	47,000
Expenditures	1,612	28,714
Unliquidated	26,388	18,286
Fiscal Year 2003		
Obligations	24,000	0
Expenditures	19,840	8,679
Through September 30, 2003		
Obligations	52,000	47,000
Expenditures	21,452	37,393
Unliquidated	30,548	9,607
Prior Year Unobligated Funds		
Obligations	0	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2004 NOA		
Obligations	25,000	0
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2004		
Obligations	25,000	0
Proposed Fiscal Year 2005 NOA		
Obligations	25,000	0
Future Obligations	25,000	0
Est. Total Cost	127,000	47,000