

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Panama
Program Title:	Rural Community Development
Pillar:	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Strategic Objective:	525-006
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$741,000 ESF
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:	\$0
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 2002
Year of Final Obligation:	FY 2004

Summary: This program, part of the Andean Regional Initiative, provides technical assistance, training, and commodities to selected communities in Darien Province, which borders Colombia. Activities support effective governance, community institution building, small-scale social and productive infrastructure, and income-generating opportunities. In addition, this program is assisting communities and locally-elected officials to better organize in order to address defined needs and effectively articulate and advocate for Government of Panama and other assistance. USAID is also establishing alliances with private enterprises and civil society, including local and international non-governmental organizations to promote environmentally friendly economic activities such as ecotourism and handicraft production and marketing.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

Social infrastructure (\$391,000 ESF). USAID-funded technical assistance and local grants program will help selected communities design and implement small-scale social infrastructure projects, such as water and sanitation systems and school classrooms. Emphasis is on local management, self-help, and sustainability. In implementing this program, USAID will promote alliances between the private sector and local civil society organizations. The principal grantee is Pro Niños del Darien.

Organizational capacity of local government and community-based organizations (\$50,000 ESF). USAID-funded technical assistance and training will help local leaders, elected officials, and community-based organizations improve their ability to develop projects, write proposals, and implement sustainable activities. The focus of this program is on building local capacity for planning, participatory decision-making, and oversight to address community needs. The principal grantee is Pro Niños del Darien.

Productive infrastructure and income generation (\$300,000 ESF). USAID-funded technical assistance and grants will help local leaders, private enterprises, and community organizations to design, develop, seek funds for, and implement small-scale productive infrastructure such as rural road rehabilitation. This program also addresses income generation through improved agricultural production and access to markets. In implementing this project, USAID will promote alliances between the private sector and local government and civil society organizations. The principal grantee is Pro Niños del Darien.

FY 2005 Program:

This Strategic Objective ends in FY 2005.

Performance and Results: During the initial phase of the program, USAID established the groundwork for improved community planning and implementation in several communities. USAID-funded technical assistance and training helped selected communities design social and productive infrastructure projects to address local needs and priorities. Communities participated in the design of seven approved social infrastructure projects and one productive infrastructure project that is pending approval. The selected

communities are committed to the program's objectives of self-help, participation, and community development. Using a community-based approach, the platform for sustaining these activities is in place.

By program completion, 55 Darien communities will have improved their ability to work together for a common purpose and articulate community solutions to social and productive infrastructure needs. Thirty-five communities will have completed social and productive infrastructure projects, and an additional 85 small infrastructure projects will be underway. Moreover, USAID's Panamanian partner, Pro Niños del Darien will have gained capacity far beyond its traditional role of executing feeding programs for school-aged children in Darien.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Panama

525-006 Rural Community Development	ESF
Through September 30, 2002	
Obligations	3,000
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	3,000
Fiscal Year 2003	
Obligations	2,250
Expenditures	434
Through September 30, 2003	
Obligations	5,250
Expenditures	434
Unliquidated	4,816
Prior Year Unobligated Funds	
Obligations	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2004 NOA	
Obligations	741
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2004	
Obligations	741
Proposed Fiscal Year 2005 NOA	
Obligations	0
Future Obligations	0
Est. Total Cost	5,991