

## Data Sheet

<b>USAID Mission:</b>	Cambodia
<b>Program Title:</b>	Improving Basic Education
<b>Pillar:</b>	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
<b>Strategic Objective:</b>	442-011
<b>Status:</b>	Continuing
<b>Planned FY 2005 Obligation:</b>	\$6,000,000 DA
<b>Prior Year Unobligated:</b>	\$0
<b>Proposed FY 2006 Obligation:</b>	\$1,250,000 DA
<b>Year of Initial Obligation:</b>	2003
<b>Estimated Year of Final Obligation:</b>	2006

**Summary:** USAID's program to improve the quality and relevance of basic education is focused on three major outputs: 1) designing new curriculum, setting standards, and training teachers; 2) making education more relevant through an expanded Life Skills Curriculum; and 3) increasing educational opportunity for disadvantaged populations.

### Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

**FY 2005 Program:** Improve the Quality of Basic Education (\$6,000,000 DA). USAID will develop a full set of teacher training programs for primary and secondary school teachers on Cambodia's new curriculum. The training will introduce student-centered teaching approaches. USAID will support localized community training developed and run by District Education Officers and Community Trainer Counterparts. This marks a major change from the central training usually carried out by the Ministry of Education (MOEYS). In order to ensure more parent and community involvement, USAID will train over 10,000 community members. New minimum standards, based on international norms, were drafted in 2004 for grades three, six, and nine for Khmer, mathematics, science, and social studies. During 2005, the standards will be reviewed and pilot-tested. A new Life Skills Curriculum handbook has been prepared and disseminated. The primary grantee is Research Triangle Institute (RTI). RTI is housed within the MOEYS.

A new grant will be awarded to increase the quality of education to Cambodia's underserved populations, including ethnic minorities, Cham Hill Tribes, and rural populations. This program might include several of the following interventions: catch-up courses to enable primary school drop-outs to continue to lower secondary school; teacher training for multi-grade schools; fast-start local teacher training; incentive programs; and special assistance focused on students with disabilities, HIV/AIDS orphans, and other vulnerable populations. Primary grantee to be determined.

**FY 2006 Program:** Improve the Quality of Basic Education (\$1,250,000 DA). Under the Cambodian Basic Education program, the new curricula for grades one to nine will be pilot tested and then introduced into schools. FY 2006 funding will support the publication of new textbooks and materials designed to introduce the curriculum in schools throughout the country. Primary grantee: RTI.

The other new grant will continue to serve disadvantaged populations in pilot communities and will focus on rehabilitating schools, removing barriers to education, and reducing drop-outs rates. USAID will train teachers to develop instructional materials from locally available resources. Primary grantee to be determined.

**Performance and Results:** The Basic Education activity has several accomplishments to report this year. In early February 2004, RTI developed and conducted a survey of stakeholders including parents, teachers, school officials, and non-governmental organizations to assess their attitudes toward the relevance and quality of the current curriculum. The analysis and findings provide a baseline for the Cambodian Basic Education Program. RTI drafted a set of minimum standards for grades three, six, and nine for math, science, social studies, and Khmer. Focus groups have been established to review the new minimum standards to determine if they are appropriate and achievable before moving on to revise the school curriculum. A series of workshops were conducted to increase community participation in the

management of schools with an emphasis on locally-developed curriculum tailored to the needs of children in different geographic and population settings. USAID will also launch new activities focused on increasing educational access among Cambodia's minority populations, including disabled students and members of the Cham and tribal communities.

## US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Cambodia

442-011 Improving Basic Education	CSH	DA	ESF
<b>Through September 30, 2003</b>			
Obligations	0	2,600	2,000
Expenditures	0	0	0
Unliquidated	0	2,600	2,000
<b>Fiscal Year 2004</b>			
Obligations	1,000	3,187	0
Expenditures	0	980	785
<b>Through September 30, 2004</b>			
Obligations	1,000	5,787	2,000
Expenditures	0	980	785
Unliquidated	1,000	4,807	1,215
<b>Prior Year Unobligated Funds</b>			
Obligations	0	0	0
<b>Planned Fiscal Year 2005 NOA</b>			
Obligations	0	6,000	0
<b>Total Planned Fiscal Year 2005</b>			
Obligations	0	6,000	0
<b>Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 NOA</b>			
Obligations	0	1,250	0
Future Obligations	0	0	0
Est. Total Cost	1,000	13,037	2,000