

## Data Sheet

<b>USAID Mission:</b>	ANE Regional
<b>Program Title:</b>	South Asia Regional Democracy
<b>Pillar:</b>	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
<b>Strategic Objective:</b>	498-037
<b>Status:</b>	Continuing
<b>Planned FY 2005 Obligation:</b>	\$2,000,000 DA; \$992,000 ESF
<b>Prior Year Unobligated:</b>	\$0
<b>Proposed FY 2006 Obligation:</b>	\$2,000,000 DA; \$2,500,000 ESF
<b>Year of Initial Obligation:</b>	2000
<b>Estimated Year of Final Obligation:</b>	2006

**Summary:** The South Asia Regional Initiative on Equity for Women and Children (SARI-Equity) is part of USAID's regional program, Promoting South Asia Regional Democracy, and supports efforts to combat trafficking in persons, implement rules of law prohibiting violence against women and children, promote safe migration and a rights-based approach to female labor migration, and care for the survivors of gender-based violence and child abuse.

### Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

**FY 2005 Program:** Protect Human Rights and Equal Access to Justice (\$650,000 DA; \$330,000 ESF). The SARI-Equity policy reform agenda is built around three regional action forums: Safe Migration, Rule of Law, and Care of Survivors. USAID will strengthen the regional action forums to bring together government officials, non-governmental organization (NGO) activists, and academics to strategize rights-based approaches to critical issues within their fields of expertise, map out regional plans of action, and then implement them. The principle grantee is the Academy for Educational Development.

Reduce Trafficking in Persons (\$700,000 DA; \$332,000 ESF). USAID will continue to generate awareness and understanding of the trafficking situation in South Asia. Efforts will be made in the areas of policy reform, advocacy campaigns, media and awareness generation, support to regional networks, replication of best practices throughout the region, and creation of a regional anti-trafficking knowledge base. The principle grantees include the Academy for Educational Development and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM).

Strengthen Civil Society (\$650,000 DA; \$330,000 ESF). The program will continue awarding grants to NGOs and quasi-governmental organizations to promote replication of best practices across regional boundaries and capacity-building and institution-strengthening for regional networks operating in the area of equity for women and children. The fellowship program, offering short-term positions to midcareer NGO or university professionals from the region, will also be continued. The fellowship program will result in the development of a South Asian network of midcareer development professionals and academics working in the field of equity for women and children. Their research and findings will be disseminated throughout the region. The principle grantee is the Academy for Educational Development.

**FY 2006 Program:** Protect Human Rights and Equal Access to Justice (\$650,000 DA; \$800,000 ESF). USAID plans to continue to implement the activities under this component as described above.

Reduce Trafficking in Persons (\$700,000 DA; \$900,000 ESF). USAID will continue supporting policy reform in the area of anti-trafficking through regional and India-wide workshops. USAID will support media campaigns to raise public awareness of the dangers of trafficking in persons and strengthen reporting on human trafficking issues in the print and audio-visual media.

Strengthen Civil Society (\$650,000 DA; \$800,000 ESF). USAID will monitor the results of the SARI-Equity small grants program, looking for effective and efficient activities that can be scaled up regionally.

**Performance and Results:** In the past four years, USAID has contributed to increasing the

understanding of the trafficking situation in South Asia. When the regional anti-trafficking program began in February 2000, the concept of trafficking in persons was virtually unknown. Through SARI-Equity's documentation, research, and advocacy activities over the past four and a half years, there is now greater understanding of the dimensions of trafficking region-wide. Over 26,970 persons have been directly assisted and many more have been reached through this program.

USAID, working through its partner, UNIFEM, has produced significant policy reform in the area of anti-trafficking. The Indian National Human Rights Commission study to assess the nature and extent of trafficking in India was funded by USAID and published in 2004. It has generated publicity for anti-trafficking issues within the government and civil society. The Supreme Court of India asked all the states to use the results and recommendations of the study. In Nepal, USAID's efforts were instrumental in creating the Office of the National Rapporteur on Trafficking in Women and Children to coordinate national, regional, and international efforts to combat trafficking. In Sri Lanka, as a direct result of USAID's efforts, the offense of trafficking in persons was, for the first time, listed and reported on in the formal statistical reports on criminal offenses against women issued by the Sri Lankan police.

USAID joined with the Government of India to spearhead advocacy against trafficking through 20 India-wide workshops. In addition, 169 large scale advocacy and outreach programs have been conducted regionally to target different stakeholders. Special advocacy programs have been provided to youth and adolescents throughout the region to create awareness about trafficking and violence against women. In Bangladesh alone, 20 youth groups for adolescent girls were formed from outreach to 400 girls. Networking and advocacy groups that work on cross-border anti-trafficking have been established in Uttar Pradesh (U.P.), India to network and advocate among local NGOs and U.P. state administration officials on issues of cross-border and interstate trafficking.

USAID has conducted media campaigns to raise public awareness of the dangers of trafficking in persons and has strengthened reporting on human trafficking issues. Results include cover articles in several press dailies, three documentary films, two TV spots on trafficking and child sexual abuse, film festivals throughout the region, and two music videos. USAID's media campaigns resulted in approximately 55,000 persons being reached directly and 24.7 million people being reached indirectly.

Two regional networks comprising a total of 74 institutional members and six national networks with a total of 223 member institutions have been formed and are being supported by USAID. USAID's implementing partners are administering 12 State Department anti-trafficking grants and three Global Office of Trafficking in Persons' grants for anti-trafficking activities in India.

USAID has initiated a SARI-Equity small grants program. Each grant requires NGOs from at least two countries in the region to work together to achieve a shared goal. Grants promote replication of innovative best practices across regional boundaries and capacity-building and institution-strengthening for regional networks operating in the area of equity for women and children.

A fellowship program was introduced for all the partner countries, which offers short-term positions to midcareer NGO or university professionals from the region. Thirty-one applications were received. A fellow from the NGO Sanlaap in Calcutta has been selected and is at work on her research on the demand aspects of trafficking in India.

## US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

ANE Regional

	DA	ESF
498-037 South Asia Regional Democracy		
<b>Through September 30, 2003</b>		
Obligations	0	7,136
Expenditures	0	4,215
Unliquidated	0	2,921
<b>Fiscal Year 2004</b>		
Obligations	2,570	1,988
Expenditures	0	0
<b>Through September 30, 2004</b>		
Obligations	2,570	9,124
Expenditures	0	4,215
Unliquidated	2,570	4,909
<b>Prior Year Unobligated Funds</b>		
Obligations	0	0
<b>Planned Fiscal Year 2005 NOA</b>		
Obligations	2,000	992
<b>Total Planned Fiscal Year 2005</b>		
Obligations	2,000	992
<b>Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 NOA</b>		
Obligations	2,000	2,500
Future Obligations	0	0
Est. Total Cost	6,570	12,616