

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Burma
Program Title:	Promote Democracy and Aid Burmese Refugees
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	482-002
Status:	Continuing
Planned FY 2005 Obligation:	\$7,936,000 ESF
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$9,423,000 ESF
Proposed FY 2006 Obligation:	\$7,000,000 ESF
Year of Initial Obligation:	1996
Estimated Year of Final Obligation:	2006

Summary: Since 1998, USAID and the State Department have collaborated closely on programming decisions and plans to implement democracy and humanitarian assistance programs for the Burmese.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2005 Program: Establish and Ensure Media Freedom and Freedom of Information (\$4,500,000 ESF; \$2,366,000 ESF Prior Year Unobligated). \$370,000 will be provided to support targeted programs through the U.S. Embassy's American Center. USAID will continue to support training and advocacy for a transition to a democratic government in Burma. There will be an enhanced focus on preparing the Burmese population, both inside and outside Burma, to participate in a free and democratic society in the future. Principal grantees are the National Endowment for Democracy, Internews, and the World Education/World Learning Consortium (WE/WL). The State Department-managed portion of this program component will support information and media activities (radio, newspapers, newsletters, human rights documentation) and institution building programs (independent trade unions, political party development, ethnic coalitions and solidarity building efforts, women's groups, student groups, transition planning) through a grant to the National Endowment for Democracy.

Improve the Quality of Basic Education (\$1,500,000 ESF; \$2,757,000 ESF Prior Year Unobligated). USAID will support the development of a viable and sustainable education system that will be recognized in and transferable to Burma when refugees return to their homeland. Activities include training and capacity building of teachers, principals, and administrators; curriculum development; and special education. A Request for Assistance (RFA) in FY 2005 will determine focus areas to be funded. The principal grantee is the WE/WL.

Improve Child Survival, Health, and Nutrition (\$1,500,000 ESF; \$3,300,000 ESF Prior Year Unobligated). Humanitarian assistance to refugees along the Thai-Burma border will improve access to primary health care, maintain nutrition and food security for refugees, and provide access to health care for Burmese in Thailand residing outside refugee camps. An RFA in FY 2005 will determine focus areas to be funded. Principal grantees are the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and International Rescue Committee (IRC).

Prevent and Control Infectious Diseases of Major Importance (\$436,000 ESF; \$1,000,000 ESF Prior Year Unobligated). The regional HIV/AIDs program, which includes Burma, will continue. The malaria and infectious diseases program launched in FY 2003 along the Thai-Burma border will continue. An RFA in FY 2005 will determine focus areas to be funded. The principal grantee is the American Refugee Committee.

FY 2006 Program: Establish and Ensure Media Freedom and Freedom of Information (\$3,850,000 ESF). \$750,000 will be provided to targeted programs through the U.S. Embassy's American Center. USAID plans to continue preparing the Burmese population, in and out of Burma, to participate in a free and democratic society in the future. Partners include WE/WL and Internews.

Improve the Quality of Basic Education (\$1,000,000 ESF). USAID plans to continue funding in focus

areas resulting from the RFA. Partners to be determined (TBD).

Improve Child Survival, Health, and Nutrition (\$1,150,000 ESF). USAID plans to continue funding in focus areas resulting from the RFA. Partners TBD.

Prevent and Control Infectious Diseases of Major Importance (\$1,000,000 ESF). Pending USAID's Asia Near East Bureau approval for the new RDM/A strategic framework, activities under this program may be funded and managed under a regional HIV/AIDS and Infectious Diseases SO in FY 2006.

Performance and Results: USAID's partners in democracy activities are WE/WL and Internews. WE/WL helped broaden access to informational and training resources of the U.S. Embassy's American Center in Rangoon. Internews provided media management courses and monitoring and coaching sessions for 54 media managers (including 12 women) and granted funds to media organizations to support their core costs. Internews-funded media resource centers provided free access to valuable information to help journalism and media professionals improve their production, marketing, fundraising, office systems, and technical skills. In FY 2003/2004, the Open Society Institute (OSI) provided \$5,000 to \$12,000 grants per year to six partner organizations. OSI provides scholarships and ongoing interim education to Burmese refugee students who have fled Burma and wish to continue their studies.

USAID works primarily through the IRC in the camps and the IOM outside of the camps on health related activities along the Thai/Burma border. IOM FY 2004 accomplishments include: (1) health care training for more than 150 medics who work in the camps and as backpack medics inside Burma with Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs); (2) sustained levels of maternal and child survival (an infant mortality rate of 29 deaths per 1,000 live births) on par with those of surrounding Thai communities; and (3) the Mae Tao clinic in Thailand led by Dr. Cynthia Maung treated more than 30,000 refugees and IDPs living along the border. In addition, an outpost of Mae Tao Clinic inside the Karen State of Burma provided preventive and curative health services for approximately 15,000 IDPs living in 28 villages near the border.

To address the needs of Burmese migrants in Thailand, USAID signed a grant with IOM at the end of FY 2002 to work on health issues and at the end of FY 2004 to work on migrant rights. The Migrant Health Project focuses on Chiang Rai and Tak provinces and aims to increase the level of awareness on primary and secondary preventative and curative measures, communicable disease control, and reproductive health conditions. In FY 2004, IOM held health promotion or training activities for nearly 25,000 migrants, or about 63% of the targeted population. Likewise, IRC helped more than 32,000 migrants to access public health centers. The new Migrant Rights Project aims to build capacity in Thailand to incorporate a human rights approach in labor migration management.

WE/WL is USAID's main partner in education on the border. Key FY 2004 achievements include the organization of bimonthly meetings among the Karen Education Department, ZOA Refugee Care-Netherlands and Consortium to coordinate activities to maximize the efficiency of resources for educational development activities inside the camps and in the migrant communities outside the camps. Management training was held for 78 school head teachers and camp leaders. Forty-five science teachers received training on the science curriculum and activities.

In adult literacy and special education, significant results include the completion of Phase I of the Adult Literacy classes through a sub-grant to the Karen Women Organization (KWO). The KWO in Nupo will likely take responsibility for the continuation of the Adult Literacy School. Sixteen new students were enrolled in special education classes, bringing the total to 50 for the school year. Thirty-five teachers attended a workshop on Karen Sign Language and the Blind and Deaf curricula in all Karen camps.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Burma

482-002 Promote Democracy and Aid Burmese Refugees	CSH	DA	ESF
Through September 30, 2003			
Obligations	6,460	4,033	22,992
Expenditures	6,460	4,033	19,698
Unliquidated	0	0	3,294
Fiscal Year 2004			
Obligations	0	0	7,871
Expenditures	0	0	5,963
Through September 30, 2004			
Obligations	6,460	4,033	30,863
Expenditures	6,460	4,033	25,661
Unliquidated	0	0	5,202
Prior Year Unobligated Funds			
Obligations	0	0	9,423
Planned Fiscal Year 2005 NOA			
Obligations	0	0	7,936
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2005			
Obligations	0	0	17,359
Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 NOA			
Obligations	0	0	7,000
Future Obligations	0	0	0
Est. Total Cost	6,460	4,033	55,222