

## Data Sheet

<b>USAID Mission:</b>	Sri Lanka
<b>Program Title:</b>	Democracy and Governance
<b>Pillar:</b>	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
<b>Strategic Objective:</b>	383-009
<b>Status:</b>	Continuing
<b>Planned FY 2005 Obligation:</b>	\$774,000 DA; \$4,250,000 ESF
<b>Prior Year Unobligated:</b>	\$0
<b>Proposed FY 2006 Obligation:</b>	\$1,774,000 DA; \$3,000,000 ESF
<b>Year of Initial Obligation:</b>	2003
<b>Estimated Year of Final Obligation:</b>	2007

**Summary:** The Democracy and Governance Strategic Objective (SO) supports the establishment of a stable post-conflict society and will create structures and develop the capacity for citizen engagement in the peace process. An integrated, multitrack peace structure will be supported through training and technical assistance to government institutions, political parties, and civil society organizations. This effort will establish a channel for national collaboration between local communities and negotiators. USAID's work to enhance citizen participation and strengthen provincial and local government is building the capacity of institutions that have an important role in garnering support for devolution - an essential element of a future federal system. This SO will support effective and participatory delivery of services in multiethnic communities. Promoting the nonviolent resolution of disputes is an important tool in the conflict-affected areas, while support for community mediation will address challenges to reintegrating communities in the North and East of the country.

### **Inputs, Outputs, Activities:**

**FY 2005 Program:** Support Peace Processes (\$774,000 DA, \$2,250,000 ESF). USAID will support 48 multistakeholder political dialogues on the peace process. Four civil society organizations will establish community-based forums in 48 locations, with quarterly meetings held in each location. The community forums will recommend programs for peacebuilding and conflict mapping which will be funded through a small grants program. The third national survey on public knowledge, attitudes, and perceptions on the peace process will be implemented. A second television series on the human cost of the conflict will be produced and aired on national television and will be used as an awareness-raising and educational tool for peacebuilding. Principal contractors, grantees, and agencies include Academy for Educational Development (AED), Social Indicators (with funding from the United Kingdom), Foundation for Co-existence, National Peace Council, Sarvodaya, and the Anti-War Front (with funding from Denmark and Canada).

Support Democratic Local Government and Decentralization (\$2,000,000 ESF). USAID/Sri Lanka will implement a new initiative to strengthen local government; enhance the capacity of political parties and elected officials to engage grassroots organizations; support a community mediation board; and train paralegals to empower vulnerable groups to assert their rights. USAID will provide technical assistance to five local authorities across two provinces to modernize financial systems and revenue collection, and encourage participatory decision making and improved service delivery. The SO will also support two Sri Lankan policy research institutions to engage with political party workers and elected officials to generate cross-party support on issue-based reforms. USAID will support the Ministry of Justice to develop a contingent of mediation trainers along with Tamil language training materials to enable the program to expand into the North and East. A network of four national and five provincial nongovernmental organizations will establish paralegal training programs for community leaders across seven districts.

**FY 2006 Program:** Support Peace Processes (\$1,774,000 DA, \$1,500,000 ESF). The SO will continue to support 60 multistakeholder political dialogues on the peace process. Four civil society organizations will continue to support community based forums in the 48 locations established in FY 2005, with an additional 12 forums established in this financial year. The fourth national survey on public knowledge, attitudes, and perceptions on the peace process will be implemented. The third and final television series

on the human cost of the conflict will be produced and aired on national television. The series will continue to be used as an awareness-raising tool at community fora and in programs funded by other donors. Principal contractors, grantees and agencies include AED, Social Indicators, Foundation for Co-existence, National Peace Council, Sarvodaya, and the Anti-War Front.

Support Democratic Local Government and Decentralization (\$1,500,000 ESF). USAID will conduct an interim assessment on the results of technical assistance provided to five local authorities in FY 2005. Based on lessons learned, assistance will be expanded to support an additional five local government authorities across two provinces. The SO will provide support to political parties and elected officials at the local level to broaden support for issue-based reforms. USAID will establish a National Local Government network to promote best practices. USAID also plans to support the Ministry of Justice to establish community mediation programs in the North and East. The network of national and provincial nongovernmental organizations plans to expand the paralegal training programs for community leaders into additional districts across the country.

**Performance and Results:** To date, 53 grants were issued to civil society organizations, providing them with an integrated plan of support for a multistakeholder political dialogue. The SO also supported the capacity building of key institutions - the Ministry of Constitutional Affairs, the Government of Sri Lanka's Secretariat for Coordinating the Peace Process, and civil society organizations - in conflict analysis and communications. Sri Lanka social survey groups benefited from technical assistance to improve their design and analytical capabilities, and the results of the second national survey on the peace process were launched. The innovative use of information and communications technology enabled the political stakeholders to establish virtual forums for a multiparty dialogue on peace-related issues.

USAID's activities in this strategic objective allow the Government of Sri Lanka, the United National Party, the Tamil National Alliance, and the Sri Lanka Muslim Congress to participate in regular meetings on the peace process. However, two smaller Sinhala nationalist parties, seen as potential "spoilers" in the peace process, have agreed in principle to engage in these discussions but have yet to begin participating. USAID provides assistance to these political parties' researchers, encouraging contributions towards the development of a shared text on technical positions that can be used in the peace negotiations. This multiparty political forum known as "One Text" is the only facilitated dialogue in Sri Lanka in which all the major political parties, from all three ethnic groups, engage on the substantive issues of the peace process.

USAID implemented a pilot program of community meetings known as People's Tables in 17 districts. These community meetings, which are linked to the One Text Initiative, will form the basis for a broader grassroots engagement in the peace debate and establish a channel of communication between local communities and national politicians.

By program completion, Sri Lanka will have established an integrated multipartisan peace structure at the political, civil society, and grassroots levels, enhancing transparency and building support for the peaceful resolution of the conflict. The capacity of local government will be enhanced and best practices shared in a national network of local government bodies. Improved service delivery will demonstrate the benefits of devolved decision making and strengthen the implementation of decentralization or devolution of powers that will come about as a result of the peace process.

## US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Sri Lanka

383-009 Democracy and Governance	DA	ESF
<b>Through September 30, 2003</b>		
Obligations	0	0
Expenditures	0	0
Unliquidated	0	0
<b>Fiscal Year 2004</b>		
Obligations	0	4,000
Expenditures	0	0
<b>Through September 30, 2004</b>		
Obligations	0	4,000
Expenditures	0	0
Unliquidated	0	4,000
<b>Prior Year Unobligated Funds</b>		
Obligations	0	0
<b>Planned Fiscal Year 2005 NOA</b>		
Obligations	774	4,250
<b>Total Planned Fiscal Year 2005</b>		
Obligations	774	4,250
<b>Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 NOA</b>		
Obligations	1,774	3,000
Future Obligations	12,150	3,050
Est. Total Cost	14,698	14,300