

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Morocco
Program Title:	Improved Government Responsiveness to Citizens
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	608-013
Status:	New in FY 2004
Planned FY 2005 Obligation:	\$4,000,000 ESF
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2006 Obligation:	\$11,000,000 ESF
Year of Initial Obligation:	2004
Estimated Year of Final Obligation:	2008

Summary: In December 2003, USAID and the State Department approved the new USAID/Morocco Democracy and Governance program "Improved Government Responsiveness to Citizens" to be financed by Economic Support Funds (ESF) beginning in fiscal year 2005. In order to avoid a gap in democracy programs in Morocco for FY 2004, the regional Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) provided bridge funding for this program. A contract was awarded at the end of FY 2004 to begin strengthening Morocco's parliament. The rationale for this program is based on the urgent need for the Government of Morocco (GOM) to do a better job of responding to the real needs of its citizens or face the prospect of their looking elsewhere. In addition, good governance is a prerequisite for an enabling environment for investment and job creation. Governance must be transparent, accountable, and equitable. This program strives to support a system that encourages debates and works on improving leadership for the long term while building a partnership between citizens and government to immediately deliver tangible results at the local level. The USAID democracy program is directly related to the MEPI goal of promoting the rule of law and accountable, effective government institutions.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2005 Program: Strengthen Democratic National Governance Institutions (\$750,000 ESF). USAID will help the Parliament of Morocco shape policies and put into motion laws, norms, and standards that will set the environment for the national policy arena in the legislative branch of government. The Parliamentary program has been designed to strengthen Parliament's oversight and policy assessment capacity, as well as its ability to review the national budget, and also to engage citizens and citizen groups in policy through outreach efforts. USAID will develop the capacities of members of both chambers of Parliament and the institution itself to undertake policy research and analysis, strengthen the skills of Parliamentary members directly involved in oversight committees, and improve practices and systems for transparency, accountability and gender in pilot ministries. Principle contractors are The International Development Group of the State University of New York (prime) and ARD (sub).

Promote and Support Anti-Corruption Reforms (\$100,000 ESF). USAID/Morocco will strengthen the capacity of the executive branch in public sector management and auditing. Within the executive branch, USAID will work with the College of Inspectors General of the Ministries, the Inspector General of Territorial Administration and the Control General. Similar capacity building work will be undertaken with the Region Audit Courts. Funding for these activities will be provided under the Sustainable Urban Management II Indefinite Quantity Contract (IQC). Contractor to be determined in early FY 2005.

Support Democratic Local Government and Decentralization (\$3,150,000 ESF). Effective decentralization and devolution will occur when elected local government has the necessary level of qualified personnel and financial resources to formulate, implement, and enforce policy decisions, and to provide services transparently and efficiently. USAID will work at the regional and local government levels to help ensure governance capacities based on democratic practices at these levels. USAID will work at the local level bringing government entities, civil society, and the private sector together to identify problems, prioritize needs and implement solutions, most particularly in the housing sector. USAID will address the Government of Morocco's priority of working on the urban slums by providing support to the development of civil society organizations within the slums and to municipal governments in order to help them respond

to the priorities of the community. The local governance component will support a selected number of cities and work with them to help improve their overall management with special emphasis on improved fiscal performance and responsiveness to the needs of impoverished citizens. USAID will also train both elected and appointed officials in techniques and approaches for community outreach, strategic planning, management and monitoring. Economic Growth activities under SO 11 activities related to microfinance and finance in general, including DCA facilities, will be closely linked to SO 13 efforts to deliver concrete improvements to citizens through improved democratic process. Funding for these activities will be provided under the Sustainable Urban Management II IQC. Contractor to be determined in FY 2005. Up to \$20,000 in ESF will be transferred to the US Embassy in Morocco, under a 632a agreement, for a small grants fund.

FY 2006 Program: Strengthen Democratic National Governance Institutions (\$4,000,000 ESF). USAID will continue helping the Moroccan Parliament shape policies and put laws, norms, and standards into motion that will set the environment for the national policy arena in the legislative branch of government. The parliamentary program has been designed to strengthen Parliament's oversight and policy assessment capacity, as well as its ability to review the national budget that is proposed by the executive branch and also to engage citizens and citizen groups in policy through outreach efforts. Additional support will be provided to national level citizen groups and non-profit organizations with priority policy concerns to improve their organizational development and capacities to address their policy concerns with national governance institutions, both directly and through the newly liberalized media.

Promote and Support Anti-Corruption Reforms (\$1,250,000 ESF). Working in conjunction with activities to improve local government services, USAID/Morocco will strengthen the capacity of public sector management and auditing both in executive branch organs with audit and inspector general functions as well as regional branches of the National Audit Court. By enhancing professionalism and skills for public administration at the local level through strengthened oversight functions, newly devolved local government services will be delivered more transparently and with greater accountability.

Support Democratic Local Government and Decentralization (\$5,250,000 ESF). USAID/Morocco will continue to build on previous work aimed at bringing local level government entities, civil society, and the private sector together to identify problems, prioritize needs and implement solutions, most particularly in the housing sector with a project under the SUM II IQC. Through work such as participatory strategic planning, leadership training for local officials, and integrated budget and planning systems, citizens and government will work to better establish democratic practices at the local level.

Expand and Improve Access to Economic and Social Infrastructure (\$500,000 ESF). Loan guarantees will be supported to promote municipal and urban infrastructure development. Micro credit for housing will also be supported through Development Credit Authority facilities.

Performance and Results: In FY 2004 USAID managed nine activities under the democracy and governance Special Objective (SpO) area through both international and local grants. As a direct result of investments and programming inputs under this SpO, USAID made significant contributions to the evolving political environment and impetus for decentralization and devolution of central authority to regional and local levels of government. USAID assistance facilitated the reform of the local tax structure which was implemented in FY 2004. All of the activities undertaken in FY 2004 went far in informing the evolution of the new USAID/Morocco Democracy and Governance strategy that underpinned SO 13 and which began in late FY 2004.

The success of this new SO is measured by the following illustrative indicators, which will be finalized when the performance monitoring plan is developed:

- Parliament's development and promulgation of policies that would strengthen transparency, accountability, equity and local governance;
- Citizen's perception of corruption in government both at the local and the national level;
- Number of audits in target Ministries and Local Development Units;
- Citizen participation with civil society and local governments;
- Citizen perception of improved service delivery

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Morocco

608-013 Improved Government Responsiveness to Citizens	DA	ESF
Through September 30, 2003		
Obligations	0	0
Expenditures	0	0
Unliquidated	0	0
Fiscal Year 2004		
Obligations	449	2,500
Expenditures	0	173
Through September 30, 2004		
Obligations	449	2,500
Expenditures	0	173
Unliquidated	449	2,327
Prior Year Unobligated Funds		
Obligations	0	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2005 NOA		
Obligations	0	4,000
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2005		
Obligations	0	4,000
Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 NOA		
Obligations	0	11,000
Future Obligations	0	5,000
Est. Total Cost	449	22,500