Data Sheet

USAID Mission: El Salvador
Program Title: Ruling Justly
Pillon:

Pillar: Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian

Assistance

Strategic Objective: 519-021
Status: Continuing
Planned FY 2006 Obligation: \$3,727,000 DA

Prior Year Unobligated: \$0

Proposed FY 2007 Obligation: \$250,000 DA
Year of Initial Obligation: 2004

Estimated Year of Final Obligation: 2008

Summary: USAID's democracy and governance program will help strengthen the rule of law, assist in increasing access to justice, and promote greater transparency, accountability and more responsive governance. Activities are intended to improve the transparency and responsiveness of the justice system, to increase the use of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms to reduce congestion in the formal judicial system, to assist in reducing crime through gang prevention, to help devolve responsibility and decision-making authority from the national to the subnational level, and encourage more transparent and effective management of public resources and decision making with greater citizen participation.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities: FY 2006 Program:

Promote and Support Anti-Corruption Reforms (\$2,040,000 DA). USAID is promoting more transparent and effective management of public resources by supporting increased access to public information, public employee ethics, civil society oversight, and citizen involvement in decision-making. The newly adopted Ethics Policy for the Executive Branch will be implemented through training of public officials and technical assistance. USAID is supporting coalitions of civil society organizations to begin monitoring resource allocation, public spending and service delivery. Technical support is being provided for independent civil society organizations to monitor the Government of El Salvador's (GOES) compliance with the Inter-American Convention against Corruption. Transparency of judicial institutions will be improved through training, technical assistance, and grants to citizen advocacy coalitions and selected justice sector institutions. Principal contractor: Casals and Associates.

Strengthen the Justice Sector (\$1,387,000 DA). USAID is working with the Public Defender's Office and selected municipalities to improve the reliability and effectiveness of mediation centers through training, technical assistance and public outreach. USAID helps institute peer mediation in four schools, and partnerships will be developed with other government entities to expand access to Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) and promote a culture of lawfulness and nonviolence. Revision of ADR legislation will address gaps in the legal status of new mediation programs. When ADR legislation is passed, USAID will support its implementation through training and technical assistance to justice sector actors. USAID also targets youth-at-risk to reduce crime through community-based gang prevention activities, including family education and vocational training. Principal contractors and grantees: Casals and Associates and others to be determined through a competitive process.

Support Democratic Local Government and Decentralization (\$300,000 DA). USAID assistance is promoting a national enabling policy environment to provide more responsibilities, decision-making authority and corresponding resources to the local level, while enhancing local government capacity. Technical support to the National Local Development Commission is

helping define and implement an action plan for local development. Technical assistance is being provided for the drafting of key legislation, including fiscal decentralization, definition of roles and responsibilities of the national and local governments, and improved transparency and accountability of local governments. Principal contractor: Casals and Associates.

FY 2007 Program:

Promote And Support Anti-Corruption Reforms (\$250,000 DA). USAID will train and give support to coalitions of civil society organizations and government institutions to help increase the number of public agencies operating in a transparent manner, to help broaden citizen oversight, and to help improve effective service delivery. Same partners as above.

Performance and Results: This program started in late 2004. During FY 2005, USAID concentrated efforts on conducting assessments, designing activities and selecting implementing mechanisms. As a result, program implementation just began and there are limited results to report at this time. Successful implementation should result in improved access to justice through increased use of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms; a more efficient justice system, greater community involvement in public safety, and increased governmental transparency and accountability.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

El Salvador

| DA |
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| 0 |
| 0 |
| 0 |
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| 5,327 |
| 0 |
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| 5,327 |
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| 5,327 |
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| 0 |
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| 3,727 |
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| 3,727 |
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| 250 |
| 10,696 |
| 20,000 |
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