2006 Summer Seminar Series

Grants Under Contracts (GUCs)
USAID 2006 Summer Seminar

Panel Members:

Mark Walther, OAA/DCHA

Anicca Jansen, EGAT/PR/MD

Jeanne Briggs, DCHA/OTI

Alan Chvotkin, Professional Services Council

Kevin Wiedmann, Abt Associates

August 22, 2006

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GUCs Seminar Context

- Historical/Current Policies
- Microenterprise Context
- Office of Transition Initiatives Context
- Industry Perspective
- Areas in Need of Additional Policy Guidance and/or Models/Procedures

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Historical Policy Context

Mark Walther
USAID/OAA/DCHA

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- Contract Information Bulletin (CIB) 92-7
  - USAID Management Control
  - USAID Inherently Governmental Functions
  - Requirements the same as USAID-executed grants
  - Five Procedural Points

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Historical Policy Context

- AID General Notice 4-8-92 (announced to broader Agency audience)
- CIB 94-23 (sample clauses/model grants available; other clarifications)
- CIB 98-28 (advance payments allowed for grant portion of funds)

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Current Policy

- ADS 302.3.4.8
  - Grants to nongovernmental organizations
  - Clearance of GC or RLA
  - Approval of Head of Contracting Activity (HCA)

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Current Policy

- **ADS 302.3.4.8 (Continued)**
  - **US not to exceed $100,000; no limit on non-US**
  - **Not feasible to accomplish objectives thru normal mechanisms**
  - **USAID significantly involved—selection criteria and grant recipients**
  - **Ensure requirements of USAID grants applied**
  - **Ability to terminate**
  - **No Cooperative Agreements**

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GUCs As A Program Tool

Annica Jansen, USAID/EGAT,
Office of Microenterprise Development

August 22, 2006

What the Microenterprise Development Office does …

- Provides technical services –
  Directly and through agreements
- Manages large grant facility -
  Implementation Grant Program
- Co-finances innovative mission activities -
  The PRIME fund
- Supports learning / information exchange

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How GUCs have supported MD programs

Pass through…

WE NEED SOME ASSISTANCE

GUC

WE HAVE A MECHANISM THAT CAN ASSIST

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Reaching Special Populations

I want to help hard to reach populations, but I don't know how

GUC

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Poverty Tool Testing

IRIS oversight

Prototype developed → GUC → Roll out of Poverty Tool

Grants through PACT to test

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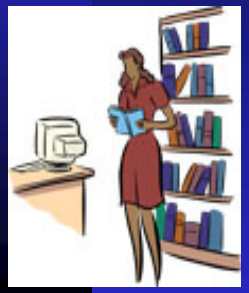
Guide to New Product Development



Research on Designing new Products

IDEA

Draft Guide

GUC

Grants to MFIs to test guide

Release of guide

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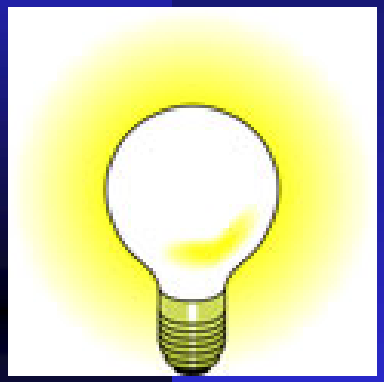
Learning what is happening in the field



I have some money, what would you like to do with it?

Woah!

I better learn about insurance!

Insurance

Insurance

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Summary of Uses

- Pass through
- Fund a theme of particular interest, and
- Foster learning around that theme
- Test products before fully rolled out
- Scan the environment

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Challenges

- Grants under Sub-Contract (GUSs?)
- Can become slush fund with no strategic focus
- Learning is different than monitoring
- Grant size limited to $250,000

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Benefits

- Flexible
- Rapid response & roll out
- Can “troll” for ideas
- Programmatic control
- One management unit
- Grant size limited to $250,000

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Office of Transition Initiatives

Jeanne Briggs,
USAID/DCHA/OTI

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- Why does OTI use Grants Under Contract (GUC)?
- How does it work for OTI?
- Monitoring, Evaluating, and Reporting

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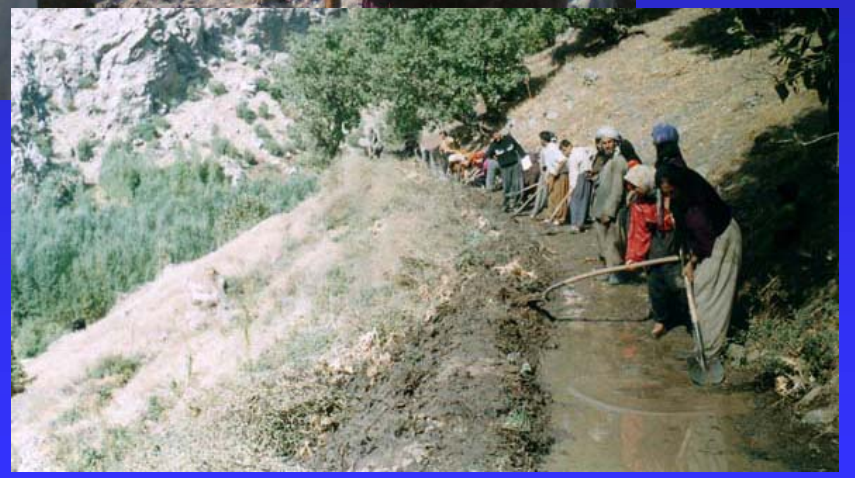
Examples of OTI Use of GUC

- **Iraq: Grant to Local Administration to remove surface trash and sewage. 280 laborers, $190,000**



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Examples of OTI Use of GUC

- DRC: Community grant to re-build a market destroyed by war to increase provide a focal activity for two ethnic groups, $50,000

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Examples of OTI Use of GUC

- **Sri Lanka: Supported training workshops for members of mediation boards to address tension between those who have and have not received tsunami aid. $35,000**

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Why does OTI use GUC?

- Large volume and small amounts
  - OTI had 10-12 country programs per year
  - Each program lasts 2-3 years
  - 200 to 800 small grants per country program
  - $500-$100,000 per grant
- Examples:
  - DRC: 258 grants, average $40,000
  - Haiti: 576 grants, average $21,000
  - Extreme cases:
    - Iraq: 5261 grants, average $64,000
    - Afghanistan: 710 grants, $160,500

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Why does OTI use GUC?

- To support non-traditional USAID partners
  - Grants aim to "advance peaceful democratic change," and may focus on non-traditional activities or activities that cannot be funded by others
  - Use in-kind grants to support groups that lack financial and organizational capacity in the traditional sense of a ‘grantee’
  - Partners include local indigenous groups; cooperatives; associations; informal groups; NGOs; local, regional and national governments; student groups; media; private sector

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Characteristics of an OTI Grant Under Contract

- Labor Intensive
  - Contractor works with grantee to develop grant, provide technical support, monitor implementation
  - Primarily "disbursed" in-kind - Contractor procures office equipment, printing materials, conference/seminar venues, agricultural equipment or building supplies and labor
- Prototype grant involves:
  - Broad and diverse community participation in the grant's design and implementation; community contribution (e.g. in labor or materials); catalytic nature; short-term, high-impact; a media component to amplify the results; and tangible visible benefits

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Division of Labor and Responsibility

OTI

- USG strategy and vision
- Connections to Embassy, Mission Director, and other donors
- Reviews grant concept
- 'Clears' grant objective and macro-budget

Contractor

- **Develops grant (detailed budget, objective, outputs, reporting)**
- **Grantee assessment**
- **Awards grant**
- **Financial, legal, contractual, management, and administration of grant**

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How do we manage all of these grants?

- Contractor summarizes data in the OTI Activity Database
  - Provides weekly information to OTI field and Washington staff on grants, objectives, status, etc.
- Contractor uses internal accounting, procurement, and grant management systems
  - OTI field and Washington staff use for reporting and information
  - Database does not substitute contractor's systems, nor is it a financial system

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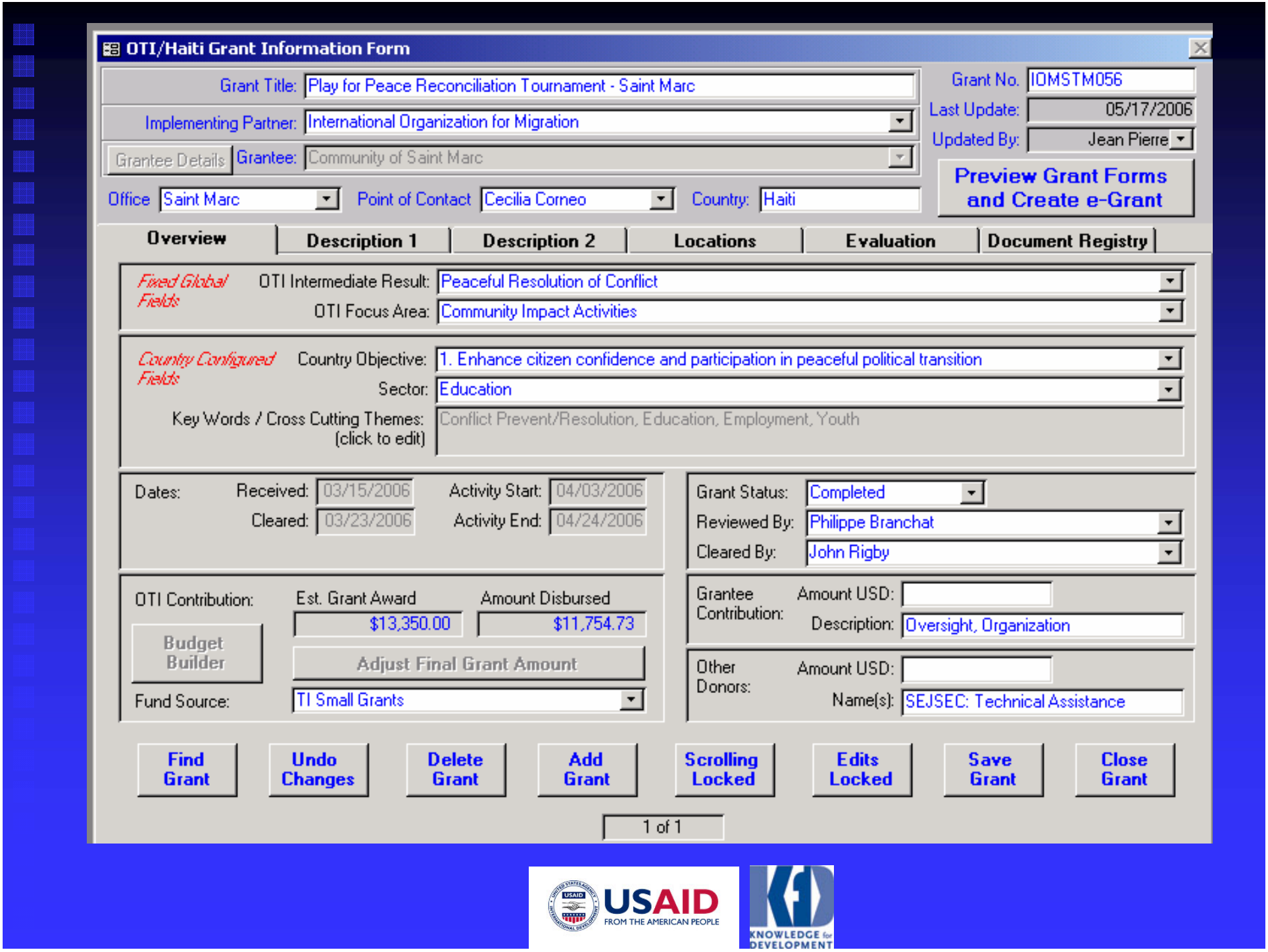

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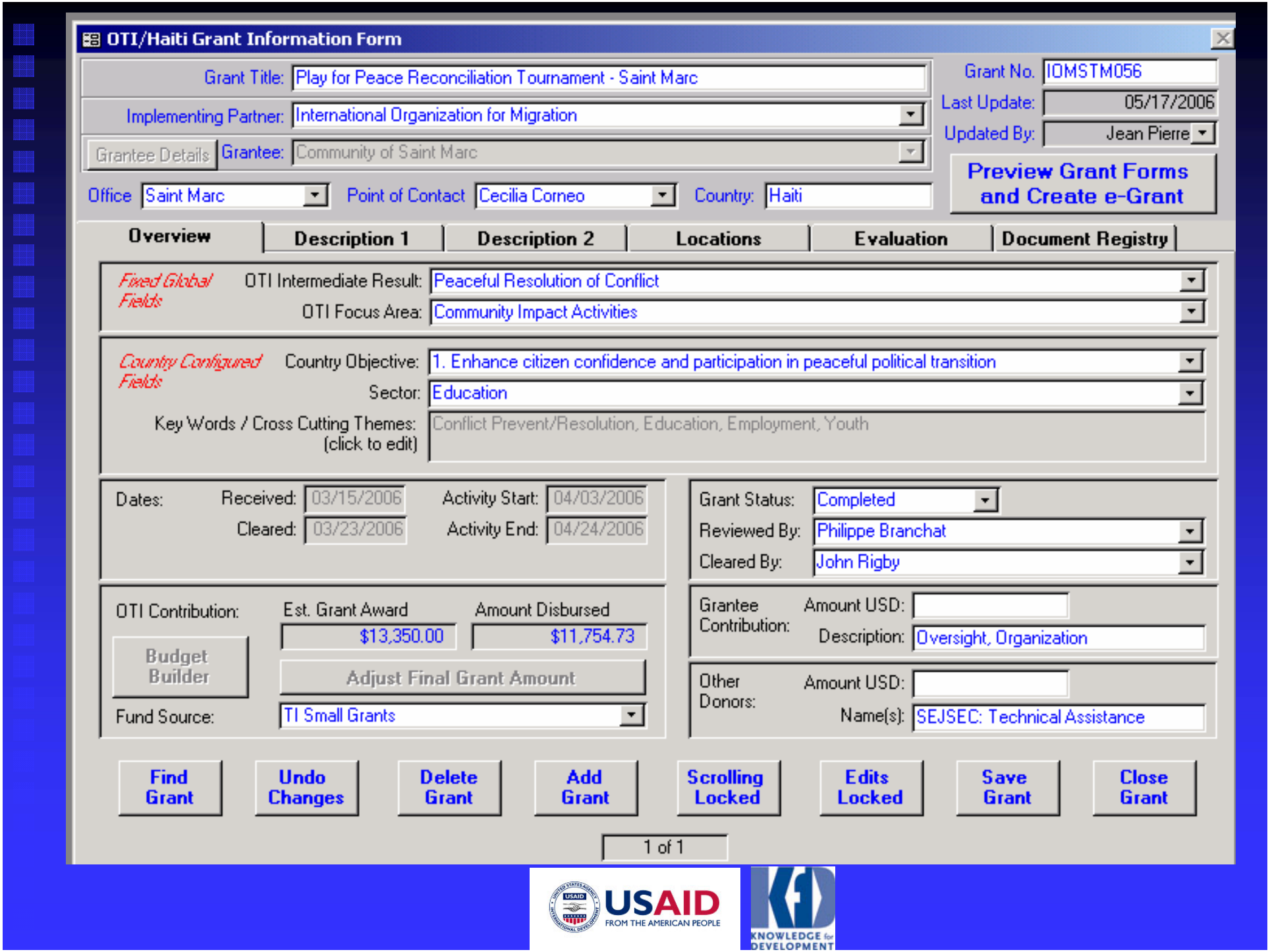

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Monitoring, Evaluating, Reporting

- Grantee, Contractor and OTI monitor grant implementation
- Grantee submits final report; contractor/OTI evaluates impact and feeds lessons into future activities (with the same grantee or of the same type)
- Lessons feed back into OTI's continuously-evolving strategy

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A Private Sector View

Alan Chvotkin,
Professional Services Council

August 22, 2006

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GRANTS UNDER CONTRACTS
KEY TOPICS

THREE MAJOR TOPICS TO BE COVERED

- ***Financial and Administration Issues***
- ***Corporate Accounting Treatment Issues***
- ***Contracting Issues***

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Financial and Administration Issues

- Advance funding for grants under contracts
- Approval of advance funding
- Methods of advance funding
- Staffing
- Financial risks

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Corporate Accounting Treatment Issues

- Why the Accounting Treatment of Grants Under Contracts is Important
- Costs that Arise in the Management of Grants Under Contracts
- Available Accounting Options

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Contracting Issues

Kevin Wiedmann

Abt Associates

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- Contractor Liability
- GUC versus Cooperative Agreement
- USAID directed grants to local government (affiliated/owned) organizations
- Procurement under grants
- Branding/Marking application
- GUC programs under GSA contracts
- Level of USAID monitoring and oversight in grant lifecycle process
- Standardized Terms and Conditions for grant agreements
- PMP requirements
- Standards for measuring successful impact of a GUC component
- Grants Manual

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INDUSTRY QUESTIONS?

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THANK YOU!

- Audience Thoughts/Experiences
- Suggested Areas for further Policy Guidance
- Suggested Areas for Models/Procedures
- Other Thoughts?

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Thank you!
for attending the
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