

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	LAC Regional
Program Title:	Improve Equity and Quality of Education
Pillar:	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Strategic Objective:	598-023
Status:	Continuing
Planned FY 2005 Obligation:	\$14,380,000 DA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2006 Obligation:	\$14,000,000 DA
Year of Initial Obligation:	2001
Estimated Year of Final Obligation:	2006

Summary: USAID's Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) Regional Education and Training program focuses on initiatives that strengthen the skills of teachers and administrators in teaching reading, enhance the environment for educational policy reforms, and increase the relevance of workforce skills through training. These initiatives seek to advance the quality and equity of education regionally by fostering innovation, cooperation, and increased accountability. The program is actively engaged in supporting Summit of the Americas initiatives to improve educational accountability.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2005 Program: Improve the Quality of Basic Education (\$3,900,000 DA). USAID will continue to provide technical assistance and training to the three Centers of Excellence for Teacher Training (CETT) to train an additional 4,500 teachers in 13 countries. New educational materials will be developed and disseminated to further strengthen teaching methodologies. A workshop will be conducted to review the findings of an evaluation of CETT and develop strategies for refining methodologies based on the lessons learned. Efforts to identify additional private sector support for CETT will be intensified. USAID will continue financial support for the Partnership for Educational Revitalization in the Americas (PREAL), which will conduct high quality research, disseminate best practices in addressing key challenges in education reform, provide technical assistance to educational entities (including ministries of education), and monitor national and regional progress in implementing reforms. National educational report cards will be developed in two new countries and report cards updated for at least two other countries. The process of disseminating the findings of these report cards will strengthen the local nongovernmental organizations that produce them, as they become stronger advocates and voices for education reform. Through the Civic Engagement for Education Reform in Central America (CERCA) program, country-based strategies to enhance school-level accountability will be developed and implemented. Principal contractors and grantees: University of the West Indies, Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia, Universidad Pedagógica Nacional Francisco Morazan, Aguirre International, Creative Associates International, International Medical Services for Health, Inc., Inter-American Dialogue, and Academy for Educational Development.

Improve Quality of Workforce (\$8,100,000 DA). USAID will provide funds to train LAC students under the Cooperative Association of States for Scholarships (CASS) program to equip a broad base of potential leaders in LAC countries. Students will be taught skills, training and education needed for effective participation in market-based economies and democratic societies. Principal grantee will be Georgetown University Center for Intercultural Education and Development (prime).

FY 2006 Program: Improve the Quality of Basic Education (\$7,500,000 DA, \$2,000,000 ESF): USAID will continue to provide training and technical assistance to improve reading instruction. An additional 4,000 teachers in 15 countries are expected to be trained. USAID may expand

CETT to encompass more countries and strengthen math education. USAID will continue to provide technical assistance for educational accountability and policy debate on education reform in LAC. USAID will continue to mobilize broad constituencies across Central America to enhance educational accountability at the school level. An expanded component of this program may be support for local nongovernmental organizations to advocate policies that would help improve school-level accountability. Principal grantees will be the same as above.

Improve Quality of Workforce (\$6,000,000 DA). USAID will continue to provide funds to train LAC students under the CASS program. Principal grantee will be the same as above.

Performance and Results: CETT made impressive strides in training teachers, as well as in developing and disseminating tools and materials. CETT trained 4,973 teachers during FY 2004 for a total of 6,579 teacher trained to date. Over 14 diagnostic tools were developed, 355 teaching and learning materials distributed, 370 applied research projects completed, and over 15,000 students assessed. More than 225,000 children have benefited from the CETT program. Over \$2,568,000 in private sector resources have been raised to support CETT, and the fundraising skills of local partner institutions have been strengthened. Educational accountability has been promoted through the publication of 11 national report cards and a regional report card for Central America. These report cards have fostered national and regional policy dialogue on education. At the grassroots level, USAID has piloted school-level report cards and completed research on different models for enhancing educational accountability in five Central American countries. These pilots and models will serve as a basis for mobilizing constituencies for educational reform over the next two years. Finally, 304 students from LAC successfully completed courses of study at U.S. institutions under the CASS program. The rate of completion was 98% and 100% of the students returned home. Approximately 92% of students found employment upon their return.

By the end of the program, the quality and equity of education in the LAC region will have been advanced. CETT will have improved how reading is taught in the region, participating teachers will have skills to effectively teach reading in the early grades, and more children will learn how to read. Efforts to reform education, particularly with regard to educational accountability, will have been strengthened and expanded. CASS participants will have returned home, enhancing capacity in key sectors such as education, health, agricultural technology, and natural resource management.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

LAC Regional

598-023 Improve Equity and Quality of Education	CSH	DA	ESF
Through September 30, 2003			
Obligations	2,290	27,441	7,000
Expenditures	1,553	4,751	2,342
Unliquidated	737	22,690	4,658
Fiscal Year 2004			
Obligations	0	17,685	0
Expenditures	650	12,944	3,300
Through September 30, 2004			
Obligations	2,290	45,126	7,000
Expenditures	2,203	17,695	5,642
Unliquidated	87	27,431	1,358
Prior Year Unobligated Funds			
Obligations	0	0	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2005 NOA			
Obligations	0	14,380	0
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2005			
Obligations	0	14,380	0
Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 NOA			
Obligations	0	14,000	0
Future Obligations	0	34,586	0
Est. Total Cost	2,290	108,092	7,000