

## Data Sheet

<b>USAID Mission:</b>	Guyana
<b>Program Title:</b>	Democratic Governance Consolidated
<b>Pillar:</b>	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
<b>Strategic Objective:</b>	504-006
<b>Status:</b>	New in FY 2004
<b>Planned FY 2005 Obligation:</b>	\$1,937,000 DA
<b>Prior Year Unobligated:</b>	\$0
<b>Proposed FY 2006 Obligation:</b>	\$2,438,000 DA
<b>Year of Initial Obligation:</b>	2004
<b>Estimated Year of Final Obligation:</b>	2008

**Summary:** USAID's democracy and governance program in Guyana focuses on consolidating democratic institutions by promoting citizens' participation in policy making, fostering transparency and accountability in government, and reducing vulnerability to ethnic and political conflict.

### Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

**FY 2005 Program:** Strengthen Democratic National Governance Institutions (\$200,000 DA). USAID will fund technical assistance and training for a number of parliamentary committees, staff, and other relevant bodies in budget disclosure, oversight mechanisms, legislative drafting and analysis, and constituency outreach. University of Guyana students will participate in internship programs with legislative committees. Principal contractors are Research Triangle Institute (RTI) and DPK consulting (sub).

Promote and Support Free and Fair Elections (\$500,000 DA). USAID will continue to fund technical assistance and training for the Guyana Elections Commission (GECOM) in organizational and operational management, electoral reform, and elections administration. Limited commodity support for computer hardware and software applications will be provided to help GECOM prepare for the 2006 national elections. USAID is also prepared to provide support for elections materials. Principal contractors are RTI and Democracy International (sub).

Promote and Support Anticorruption Reforms (\$125,000 DA). USAID funded technical assistance will help the Public Procurement Commission and at least three civil society organizations (CSO) improve oversight systems and controls of local and national public institutions. USAID will fund technical assistance in the formulation of anticorruption measures and, if needed, computers and office equipment for targeted institutions. Principal contractors are RTI and DPK consulting (sub).

Establish and Ensure Media Freedom and Freedom of Information (\$200,000 DA). USAID will fund training programs for journalists in research and analysis, investigative reporting, opinion polling, and journalistic ethics. A national civic education campaign will be initiated. Television and radio talk shows, debates, and other formats will be used to inform the public on issues and to allow for the expression of a wide range of opinions. Principal contractor is RTI.

Improve Justice Sector/Legal Framework (\$457,000 DA). USAID will work with the courts to improve case management and reduce the backlog of cases. USAID will continue to promote the use of the USAID created Mediation Center to resolve civil disputes and reduce case backlogs. Public awareness campaigns will be developed and implemented by the Mediation Center in cooperation with the Guyana Bar Association, judges, and prosecutors. Principal contractors are RTI and DPK consulting (sub).

Protect Human Rights and Equal Access to Justice (\$250,000 DA). To help mitigate ethno-political conflict, USAID will support a national level dialogue aimed at reducing ethnicity in politics, supporting mediated inter-party dialogue, and developing conflict prevention and resolution mechanisms. USAID will support and strengthen the new Ethnic Relations Commission through training for commissioners and staff in strategic planning, public relations, and reconciliation techniques as well as computers and other office equipment. Principal contractors are RTI and Aurora Associates (sub).

Strengthen Civil Society (\$205,000 DA). USAID will identify five to ten CSOs and provide technical assistance, training, commodities, and equipment to increase their ability to influence government policy at the local and national levels. CSOs representing women and other disadvantaged or marginalized groups will be prioritized in program activities. Principal contractor is RTI.

**FY 2006 Program:** Strengthen Democratic National Governance Institutions (\$200,000 DA). USAID will continue to provide technical assistance and training to improve the oversight systems of Parliament and to establish mechanisms to facilitate greater citizens' input in decision making. Same implementers as above.

Promote and Support Free and Fair Elections (\$400,000 DA). USAID will continue to work with GECOM to ensure that an open and transparent 2006 national election takes place and the results are widely accepted. USAID will also support the presence of international elections observers to validate the integrity of the electoral process. Same implementers as above.

Promote and Support Anticorruption Reforms (\$200,000 DA). USAID will continue to improve oversight systems and anticorruption controls by providing technical assistance and training to government officials and CSOs. Technical assistance and commodity support will also be provided to implement anticorruption measures and to make the Public Procurement Commission operational. If opportunities arise during the 2006 election year, technical assistance will be provided to government staff. Same implementers as above.

Establish and Ensure Media Freedom and Freedom of Information (\$200,000 DA). USAID will continue to concentrate its resources to the civic education campaign. Same implementers as above.

Improve Justice Sector/Legal Framework (\$400,000 DA). USAID will continue to work with the courts to improve case management and reduce case backlog. USAID will also continue to promote the use of the Mediation Center as another mechanism to reduce case backlog. Same implementers as above.

Protect Human Rights and Equal Access to Justice (\$300,000 DA). To help avoid violence during the 2006 national election, USAID will continue to help mitigate ethnic-political conflict. Because most of the violence during previous post-election periods was perpetrated by youth, USAID will also provide support for activities and events that encourage interaction and collaboration among youth from different ethnicities, including sporting events, clubs, community, youth groups, student events, or religious ecumenism at the local, regional, and national levels. Same implementers as above.

Support Democratic Local Government and Decentralization (\$150,000 DA). This is a new component. USAID will intensify its efforts in the area of local governance improvement and provide technical assistance for fiscal decentralization to support local government and electoral systems reforms. Principal contractor is RTI.

Strengthen Civil Society (\$150,000 DA). USAID will continue to assist CSOs to amplify their role in policy making and political change by forming alliances and networks across issues and sectors as well as across geographic space. In conjunction with the work carried out with the

media, work will continue with the civic education program. Same implementers as above.

**Performance and Results:** Principal outcomes to be expected at the end of this program are a more informed and active citizenry that can present issues to decision makers; an efficient and fully equipped Guyana Elections Commission capable of registering voters in a timely and accurate manner and conducting free and fair national and local elections; an independent and efficient National Assembly that represents the needs of the Guyanese people with enhanced legislative drafting and analysis capabilities; a better functioning judiciary that has eliminated its court backlog and has formally adopted alternative dispute resolution (ADR) mechanisms to accelerate the resolution of civil cases; and, a country that has reduced its ethnic and political conflict.

## US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Guyana

504-006 Democratic Governance Consolidated	DA
<b>Through September 30, 2003</b>	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	0
<b>Fiscal Year 2004</b>	
Obligations	1,850
Expenditures	450
<b>Through September 30, 2004</b>	
Obligations	1,850
Expenditures	450
Unliquidated	1,400
<b>Prior Year Unobligated Funds</b>	
Obligations	0
<b>Planned Fiscal Year 2005 NOA</b>	
Obligations	1,937
<b>Total Planned Fiscal Year 2005</b>	
Obligations	1,937
<b>Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 NOA</b>	
Obligations	2,438
Future Obligations	3,775
Est. Total Cost	10,000