USAID's Support for Democracy and Governance

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Administrator
Andrew Natsios
USAID

Advisory Committee
on Voluntary Foreign
Assistance

State Department Photo

"The best hope for peace in our world is the expansion of freedom worldwide….U.S. policy is to seek and support the growth of democratic movements and institutions in every nation and culture, with the ultimate goal of ending tyranny."

President Bush Inaugural Address 2005

![USAID - From the American People]

USAID: Leader in Democracy

- Largest Democracy Promotion Donor
- 20 Years Experience
- Over 400 Democracy Officers
- Over 80 Countries Served

Elections in Burkina Faso Winter 2004- Photo Dana Beegun USAID

Why does USAID support Democracy?

- <u>Principle:</u> Freedom is the inalienable right of all people.

- <u>Development Experience:</u> Accountable and effective governance is essential for development.

- <u>National Security:</u> Democracy addresses a root cause of political extremism and international terrorism.

USAID's Democracy Goal and Objectives

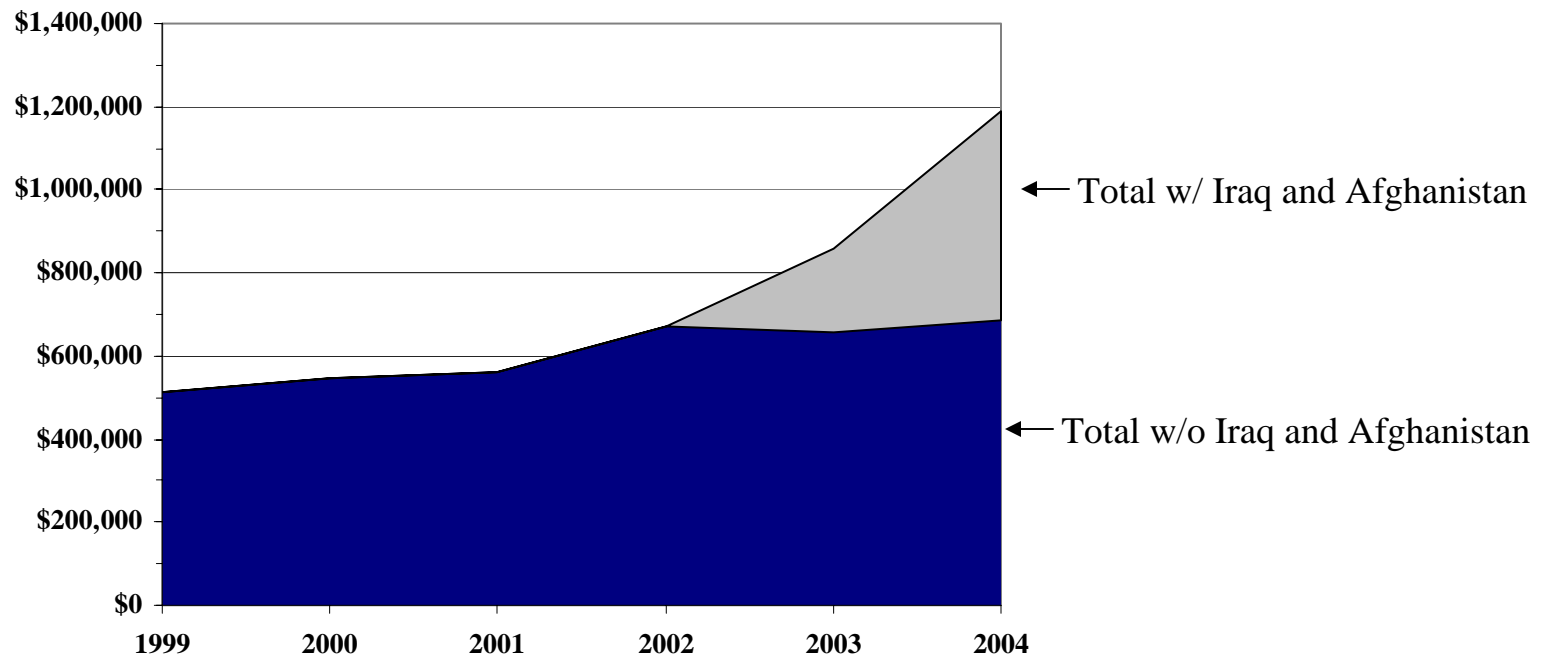*"The transition to, and consolidation of, democracy and good governance throughout the world."*

1. Expand political freedom and competition.
2. Promote justice and human rights through the rule of law.
3. Strengthen democratic and accountable governance.

USAID Democracy and Governance Budget

USAID Managed DG Budget

Chart: USAID Managed DG Budget, years 1999–2004, y-axis from $0 to $1,400,000. Two areas labeled "Total w/ Iraq and Afghanistan" and "Total w/o Iraq and Afghanistan".

USAID Democracy and Governance Budget

Budget Breakdown by DG Objective

- 47% Expand Political Freedom and Competition
- 40% Strengthen Democratic and Accountable Governance
- 13% Promote Justice and Human Rights through the Rule of Law

Country Based Challenges Require Country Based Strategies

- Political change happens at the country level.

- Democratization is constrained by internal resistance to reform.

- Good governance is constrained by inadequate capacity.

Rural voting station Mongolia June 2004
Photo Michael Miklaucic USAID

DG Strategic Assessment

1. Consensus
2. Competition
3. Rule of Law
4. Inclusion
5. Good Governance

Consensus

Agreement on National Identity and the Constitutional Structure of the State

Activities

- Constitutions and constitutional processes
- National dialogue
- Post-crisis elections
- Civic education

Women delegates at a Loya Jirga listen to King Zahir Shah.

Competition

State and Society Encourage Peaceful Competition

A ballot to be used in the January 30th Iraqi election- State Department photo

Activities

- Multi-Party elections
- Non-partisan electoral administration
- Democratic political parties
- Freedom of the press
- Separation of powers and checks and balances
- Decentralization
- Legislative oversight
- Civil society

Rule of Law

Just Laws and Rules are Applied Equitably

Activities

- Legal and judicial reform
- Judicial independence
- Support for human rights organizations
- Access to justice
- Administration of justice

Inclusion

All Citizens Able to Participate in Political, Social, and Economic Life

Activities

- Universal suffrage and political participation
- "Get out the vote" efforts
- Civil society
- Decentralization of political/economic power
- Access to justice

Good Governance

Public Institutions of Society Work as they are Supposed to – Both State and Non-State Institutions

Activities

- Executive branch capacity building
- Anti-corruption initiatives
- Legislative strengthening
- Security sector reform
- Democratic local government
- Civil society

Challenges to Democratization

Regime Challenges

- Totalitarian regimes
- Authoritarian/ Semi-authoritarian regimes
- Emerging democracies
- Consolidating democracies

Structural Challenges

- State fragility
- Backsliding
- Corruption
- Clientelism and Patronage

HISTORY OF SUCCESS

- South Africa
- Poland
- El Salvador
- Mozambique
- Indonesia
- Ukraine
- Georgia
- Afghanistan
- Iraq

Rally for Democratic Reform Slovakia