

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Office of Democracy and Governance
Program Title:	Rule of Law Program
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	932-001
Planned FY 2005 Obligation:	\$2,560,000 DA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2006 Obligation:	\$2,600,000 DA
Year of Initial Obligation:	1997
Estimated Year of Final Obligation:	2007

Summary: The Democracy and Governance (DG) Office rule of law (ROL) program provides technical assistance and support to USAID missions worldwide through the development of new methodologies based on synthesis of lessons learned in the design and implementation of ROL assistance and through management of contracts, grants, cooperative agreements, and interagency agreements. The purpose of this DG program is to strengthen USAID programming and reinforce country-based efforts in the areas of:

- Promoting respect for human rights;
- Improving the institutional administration of justice;
- Increasing access to justice;
- Building local constituencies for justice sector reform and improvement; and
- Supporting the role of legal systems in consolidating democracy.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2005 Program: The DG Office will continue to build upon activities that have provided innovative technical guidance to USAID missions, helped improve U.S. ROL field programs, and further established USAID's role as a leader in rule of law and justice sector assistance. FY 2005 resources will increase the DG Office's capacity to provide such technical assistance through its office staff, new grants, and research projects. The primary uses for FY 2005 funds are technical personnel to carry out field support and technical leadership and grant and contract management (\$577,000 DA); new Leader with Associate grants to provide rapid response capacity for crisis and non-presence countries as well as other core programs including possible Global Development Alliance efforts (\$400,000 DA); rapid response contracts in support of State Department's Office of the Coordinator for Reconstruction and Stabilization (S/CRS) (\$200,000 DA); technical research and guidance in the areas of transitional justice, dispute resolution, human rights, court management, and enforcement of judgments (\$525,000 DA); and support to the International Judicial Relations Committee of the United States Federal Judiciary (\$40,000 DA). The remaining balance of \$818,000 will go to cross-cutting programs which include performance management, special projects, assessments, personnel, and research support.

FY 2006 Program: The FY 2006 program will require continued funding of two non-direct hire staff in order to provide an adequate level of field support to missions, and to carry out the technical research and training for which the division is responsible, non-direct hire staff will be needed (\$440,000 DA). The DG Office will continue funding a Democracy Fellow to promote inter-agency learning and outreach (\$160,000 DA). In FY 2006, the DG Office will require additional funds for rapid response activities under both the Rule of Law Technical Services IQC and the Leader with Associates awards (\$300,000 DA). Also, it is anticipated that USAID field missions will request assistance in developing community policing, anti-trafficking, and other programs involving civilian police training. USAID will prepare guides and sponsor training on community policing and organization of civilian police powers (\$200,000 DA). The remaining balance will go to cross-cutting programs including performance management, special projects, assessments, personnel, and research support.

Performance and Results: In 2004, USAID has reinvigorated its leadership among agencies working in the rule of law field and improved relationships with partner organizations both inside and outside the U.S. Government. The DG office has shared experience in post-conflict situations and developed technical leadership products for the State Department's Office of the Coordinator for

Reconstruction and Stabilization (S/CRS). USAID has taken a leading role in the S/CRS ROL working group (that includes the Department of Justice, State and Defense), proposing a substantial restructuring of the originally proposed task matrix for the group. USAID has nurtured contacts with the Defense Department and has been active in joint agency ROL planning for both Afghanistan and Iraq.

New Rule of Law indefinite quantity contracts were awarded in July 2004 that will allow USAID missions to have access to five different firms with substantial experience in legal development activities. New task orders have been awarded for Afghanistan and West Bank and Gaza, and others are in process. A new "Guide to Administrative Law" for DG officers was completed in January 2005.

Over the past year, the DG Office has provided rule of law assistance to 22 field missions, including Afghanistan and Iraq, where staff designed some of the largest ROL programs to date. Program-funded staff provides much of the field support. Turnaround time has improved, especially in high priority actions. For example, the Darfur War Crimes Documentation Project, an associate award under the RIGHTS Consortium, was presented, approved, and mobilized in about a week.

The DG Office has increased ROL support worldwide. In Africa, the DG Office has been closely involved in rule of law planning for Liberia and Sudan as well as providing direct support to South Africa. In the Latin American and Caribbean region, the DG Office participated in a lengthy full and open competition to select the Honduras ROL contractor. In the Asia and Near East region, several of the staff is involved in the design of programs for Iraq and assisting countries such as Afghanistan, Cambodia, and East Timor. The DG Office has assisted seven Europe and Eurasia missions, while completing the region's ROL assessment. The DG Office maintains very close and supportive relationships with the respective regional bureaus that have come to rely heavily upon the DG Office for technical guidance. For example, the DG Office staff is frequently called upon by the Africa Bureau and the Women in Development Office for briefings and advice (e.g., the Women's Legal Rights project).

Examples of field support include: In Panama, USAID provided recommendations and suggested prioritizations on ROL programming during the bridge period (October 2003-September 2004) along with preliminary recommendations for ROL programming for the future mission strategy (FY 2005-2009). The DG Office worked with the Africa Bureau to prioritize ROL program options for Liberia and Sudan. In Cambodia, the DG Office designed a DG strategy which included a ROL program, and also a large human rights program (second largest after Colombia) that is currently being implemented. The DG Office also provided extended coverage for three months to the mission of Afghanistan to manage the current ROL program and design a new follow-on program, one of the largest ROL initiatives in the world. In East Timor, the DG Office provided both in-country and virtual support to develop the mission's DG program as well as rule of law strategy.

The DG Office continues to assist field missions, other bureaus, and the Department of State by providing mechanisms for timely obligation of funding to partners that are expert in implementing ROL assistance. For example, through a cooperative agreement with the RIGHTS Consortium (Freedom House, National Democratic Institute for International Affairs, and the American Bar Association), the Darfur War Crimes Documentation Project was presented, approved, and mobilized in about a week. Through the same cooperative agreement, USAID implements the legal and judicial reform and the women and the law programs of the Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI). A new associate award in 2004 expanded MEPI-funded programming implemented by the DG Office to develop a judicial independence agenda for Morocco, to conduct assessments in Oman and Yemen, and to plan for a Middle East Justice Institute.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Office of Democracy and Governance

	DA	ESF
932-001 Rule of Law Program		
Through September 30, 2003		
Obligations	19,467	8,186
Expenditures	14,273	3,161
Unliquidated	5,194	5,025
Fiscal Year 2004		
Obligations	1,418	4,500
Expenditures	0	0
Through September 30, 2004		
Obligations	20,885	12,686
Expenditures	14,273	3,161
Unliquidated	6,612	9,525
Prior Year Unobligated Funds		
Obligations	0	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2005 NOA		
Obligations	2,560	0
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2005		
Obligations	2,560	0
Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 NOA		
Obligations	2,600	0
Future Obligations	0	0
Est. Total Cost	26,045	12,686