

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Office of Democracy and Governance
Program Title:	Elections and Political Processes Program
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	932-002
Status:	Continuing
Planned FY 2006 Obligation:	\$19,800,000 DA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2007 Obligation:	\$7,150,000 DA
Year of Initial Obligation:	1997
Estimated Year of Final Obligation:	2009

Summary: The Democracy and Governance Office (DG) helps to expand and further develop more inclusive and representative political processes around the world. This work includes support for elections, referendum, constitutional process, legislatures, political/peace dialogue, political parties, and other processes. The three main avenues through which the DG Office works to accomplish these goals are field support, technical leadership, and cadre development.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2006 Program: Promote and Support Credible Elections Processes: Regional and country programs to support political freedom through credible electoral processes will continue to be implemented through the grants and contracts managed by the DG Office. Countries with national elections scheduled for 2006 and 2007 that may be candidates for DG Office assistance, include, but are not limited to the following: Algeria, Angola, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Colombia, East Timor, Georgia, Haiti, Liberia, Macedonia, Madagascar, Mauritania, Morocco, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Russia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Uganda, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, West Bank/Gaza, Yemen, and Zambia. The DG Office will support the completion of innovative technical election projects, such as the development of international standards for election monitoring, and initiate others on topics that include innovations in election technology and access to political processes by persons with disabilities. DG's Elections and Political Processes (EPP) staff plans to develop toolkits to help guide the field in free and fair democratic elections, including in post-conflict and fragile state environments. The DG Office will pursue innovative programming in support of more inclusive and secure political processes-- such as consensus building for peace-processes, elections, and referenda in fragile states, countries in conflict, and countries in transition. At the end of FY 2006, the EPP program will have supported the training and development of an expanded cadre of election technical experts capable of fulfilling key positions in support of electoral and other political processes, in various political environments. EPP staff will continue to provide highly accessible expertise to support free and fair elections worldwide.

Principal mechanisms: The DG Office will manage at least one cooperative agreement, for election and political process support, called the Consortium for Elections and Political Process with the primary holders of IFES, the International Republican Institute and the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (subgrantees: The Asia Foundation and the Carter Center). The DG office will manage three Indefinite Quantity Contracts (IQC) with IFES, Democracy International and Creative Associates International, Inc. (there are 34 subcontractors within these three IQCs). Another Cooperative Agreement may be competed. The same principal mechanisms are used for both EPP program components. (\$13,000,000 DA)

Strengthen Democratic Political Parties: Regional and country programs to support political party development and the development of competitive and fair political party systems will continue to be implemented through the grants and contracts managed by the DG Office. Countries with national elections scheduled for 2006 and 2007 that are candidates for DG Office assistance are listed under the first EPP program component. Demand for political party development advice and support and/or continued programming through one of our mechanisms may be requested in Algeria, Burkina Faso, Haiti, Liberia, Jordan, Nigeria, Morocco, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Uganda, West Bank/Gaza, and Yemen. Significant assistance and programming to strengthen democratic political groupings in Bahrain and

Kuwait are also anticipated. For our technical leadership agenda, the DG Office will support the development of innovative tools and programs in various areas, such as to help assess countries' progress in transparency of political finance, to improve the development of political parties in conflict settings, and to update the DG Office guide to political party programming. At the end of FY 2006, the DG office will have supported the training and development of an expanded cadre of technical experts capable of fulfilling key positions in support of political party development, including the development of political party systems. The DG Office will continue to provide highly accessible expertise to support political party development and transparency worldwide. (\$6,800,000 DA)

FY 2007 Program: Promote and Support Credible Elections Processes: The DG Office will continue to focus on field support, technical leadership, and cadre development for elections and political processes. While all election calendars are not set for 2007 worldwide, countries that may be candidates for DG Office election assistance include, but are not limited to Algeria, Armenia, Cambodia, Croatia, East Timor, Georgia, Russia, Nigeria, Philippines, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, and Uzbekistan. Conduct of credible elections in post-conflict and weak states will continue to be a focus of EPP's technical leadership, given the elections schedule for 2007 and 2008, and the need for an increase in highly qualified election technical expertise in post-conflict and fragile state settings. Cadre development, through various types of trainings, will also continue.

The DG Office will manage the following worldwide election support mechanisms: 1) one cooperative agreement; and 2) Three IQCs -- IFES, Democracy International, and Creative & Associates International, Inc. -- combined these IQCs have 34 subcontractors. The same mechanisms are used for both EPP program components. (\$4,645,000 DA)

Strengthen Democratic Political Parties: Longer-term political party development, between election cycles, will also continue. The DG Office will continue to provide highly qualified technical expertise to political party development worldwide and support its technical leadership on democratic political party strengthening, with an emphasis on assessment, evaluations, and best practices, particularly in transitional, weak, and failing states. Cadre Development, through various types of training, will continue. (\$2,505,000 DA)

Performance and Results: The efforts of the DG Office have been invaluable in helping to expand and further develop more inclusive and representative political processes around the globe. Through our mechanisms and field and Washington-based technical assistance, EPP has made exceptional progress to date, supporting elections and political party development in over 38 countries worldwide, including in ten fragile states. EPP also awarded three new IQCs with a \$400,000,000 ceiling, in order to facilitate the continued provision of high quality field support and technical leadership and buttress election and political processes worldwide.

This past year, the DG Office provided technical assistance to a number of groundbreaking democratic political processes that have been high priority U.S. foreign policy initiatives. For example, the DG Office provided EPP support to Afghanistan, a country where a series of democratic processes are taking place for the first time; to Haiti, Pakistan, and Colombia, where priority elections are forthcoming; and to Iraq, Lebanon, and West Bank/Gaza, where significant political changes have led to historic opportunities for democracy to take root. The DG Office also provided assistance and innovative programming to assist and improve political processes in ten fragile states, with emphasis on Haiti, Liberia, and Ethiopia, and conducted numerous election and political process strategic assessments and program designs. EPP has continued to support the Presidential regional foreign policy priority, the Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI). Coordination with implementers and donors is an identifying hallmark this year as EPP strove to advance the state of the art in political party assistance through the initiation of closer cooperation with predominant political party assistance donors, resulting in an ongoing donor working group to share information and ideas and to initiate joint party assistance initiatives. EPP efforts included conducting six trainings this year for DG officers on election and political processes, including special sessions on elections and conflict and on parties in local government.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Office of Democracy and Governance

932-002 Elections and Political Processes Program	DA	ESF
Through September 30, 2004		
Obligations	32,162	17,341
Expenditures	22,261	3,270
Unliquidated	9,901	14,071
Fiscal Year 2005		
Obligations	2,095	0
Expenditures	0	0
Through September 30, 2005		
Obligations	34,257	17,341
Expenditures	22,261	3,270
Unliquidated	11,996	14,071
Prior Year Unobligated Funds		
Obligations	0	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2006 NOA		
Obligations	19,800	0
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2006		
Obligations	19,800	0
Proposed Fiscal Year 2007 NOA		
Obligations	7,150	0
Future Obligations	0	0
Est. Total Cost	61,207	17,341