

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Regional Development Mission-Asia (RDM-Asia)
Program Title:	Improved Regional Environmental Conditions
Pillar:	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Strategic Objective:	486-ZZZ
Status:	New in FY 2005
Planned FY 2005 Obligation:	\$8,000,000 DA; \$1,736,000 ESF
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2006 Obligation:	\$10,500,000 DA; \$500,000 ESF
Year of Initial Obligation:	2005
Estimated Year of Final Obligation:	2009

Summary: The United States - Asia Environmental Partnership (US-AEP) is a regional program that promotes environmentally sustainable growth and improved quality of life in Asia. Since its inception, US-AEP has facilitated hundreds of partnerships between U.S. and Asian government agencies, businesses, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to address the environmental challenges associated with rapid urban and industrial growth. In recent years, the program has focused on six Asian countries - India, Indonesia, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam.

During FY 2004, USAID commissioned a strategic assessment to assist the program in developing a new strategy, as part the Regional Development Mission/Asia's (RDM/A) strategic framework. The Report recommended that US-AEP program resources be focused on two key urban environmental issues that have significant health, economic, and gender impacts - water supply/sanitation and air quality. The FY 2005 and 2006 programs are planned in accordance with these recommendations and with a view to promote the regional sharing of best practices among practitioners. Furthermore, starting in FY 2005, this new regional Strategic Objective (SO) will be broadened to include forest, coastal, and marine resources management and biodiversity activities.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2005 Program: Improve Access to Clean Water and Sanitation (\$4,000,000 DA). To increase advocacy for expanded water access, USAID will provide technical assistance and training to strengthen the capacity of Asian NGOs and consumer groups to expand awareness of water access issues. Planned activities include a regional grants program to assist NGOs, working with private sector entities and other partners, to develop and implement public awareness campaigns; conduct water market analyses and disseminate results; identify sanitation options and costs; develop financing and cost-recovery strategies; and identify appropriate sanitation technologies. To improve water service and increase financing for expanded water access, USAID will provide technical assistance and training to strengthen the management and technical capacity of water utilities and local entrepreneurs. Planned activities include a twinning program linking U.S. utilities with Asian water providers to assist the Asian counterparts to develop financial plans for full-cost recovery through reduced non-revenue water and better tariffs; improve operating performance through reduced water losses and other measures; identify technologies and sources of financing for initiatives that expand water and sanitation access; and design cost-recovery schemes for initial piped connections. To improve the enabling conditions for expanded water access, USAID will provide technical assistance to strengthen the capacity of local and national governments to improve the policy framework. Planned activities will assess the current status of the key enabling conditions, such as tariff reform, land tenure, and regulations for inter-governmental fiscal transfers, and identify the required changes in the enabling conditions. Best practices in all areas will be shared through a regional forum, financing workshops, and a knowledge management system. Principal contractors/grantees to be determined through a competitive solicitation.

Reduce, Prevent and Mitigate Pollution (\$1,000,000 DA). USAID will fund initiatives at the city, national, and regional levels to improve urban air quality in Asia and simultaneously respond to the Presidential Initiative on Global Climate Change. To strengthen the capacity for air quality management, USAID will provide training and technical assistance to local governments, working in collaboration with NGOs,

academic institutions, and training organizations. Planned activities include a partnership grants program to support training and demonstration activities that improve air quality monitoring, the preparation of air quality databases and emissions inventories, the use of air quality planning tools, and the identification and assessment of air quality improvements. Co-benefits approaches (health and environmental impacts plus mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions) will be promoted. To strengthen the enabling conditions for improved air quality, USAID will provide technical assistance and training to local and national governments, working with NGOs and private sector associations. Planned activities include training workshops, exchanges, and grants to improve the institutional framework for air quality management, strengthen the capacity for financing air quality plans, and strengthen the capacity for compliance and enforcement of air quality regulations. Regional workshops and a knowledge management system will provide for the sharing of best practices and the replication of successes to other locations. Principal partners will be the Clean Air Initiative for Asian Cities (CAI-Asia) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA).

Improve Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and Biodiversity Conservation (\$3,000,000 DA, \$1,736,000 ESF). RDM/A will assume responsibility for forest, coastal, and marine resources management, and biodiversity activities previously funded by the East Asia and Pacific Environmental Initiative and managed by USAID in Washington D.C. A grants program will be initiated with FY 2005 funds to address critical environmental challenges in the areas listed above. EAPEI was previously managed and reported under strategic objectives 498-015 and 498-024. Principal grantees to be determined.

FY 2006 Program: Improve Access to Clean Water and Sanitation (\$7,300,000 DA). This program will continue to be a key element of USAID's work. Depending on the success of this water initiative, USAID may extend its technical assistance and training activities to other cities. Principal contractors/grantees will be the same as in FY 2005.

Reduce, Prevent and Mitigate Pollution (\$1,200,000 DA). The air activities will continue, with additional training modules and partners included. CAI-Asia and the U.S. EPA will continue as primary partners.

Improve Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and Biodiversity Conservation (\$2,000,000 DA; \$500,000 ESF). The program would support innovative activities in forest and marine resource conservation. Principal grantees will remain the same.

Performance and Results: US-AEP activities in FY 2004, under SO 498-009, built capacity and fostered the sharing of expertise among its partners - the key people, institutions, and forces that drive environmental decision making in Asia. New, continuing, and self-sustaining partnerships generated in FY 2004 totaled 144 as compared with 106 in FY 2003, a 35% increase. Of particular note is the number of continuing partnerships developed in FY 2004, 79 as compared with seven in FY 2003. The significantly larger number of continuing partnerships reflects US-AEP success in forging the kinds of long-term relationships with partners that will ultimately sustain US-AEP's activities and initiatives over time. US-AEP was also successful in involving an increasing number of U.S. and Asian institutions in knowledge transfer activities. In FY 2004, a total of 1,686 institutions participated in activities sponsored by US-AEP, an increase of 134 over last year. The number of Asian institutions increased by 191, while the number of U.S. institutions decreased by 57. This reflects US-AEP's increased efforts to encourage exchanges and sharing of best practices among its member countries in the region and a move away from primary focus on United States to Asia knowledge transfer. US-AEP activities in FY 2004 leveraged \$1.5 million in non-government funds and \$8.8 million in Global Development Alliance funds.

By program completion, US-AEP countries will have sustainable initiatives in place that will help improve urban air and water quality and address other urban environmental challenges, such as waste management. US-AEP local partners will be able to participate more actively in environmental decision making, and government partners will be able to more effectively enforce regulations, leading to cleaner and healthier urban environments in Asia.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Regional Development Mission-Asia (RDM-Asia)

486-ZZZ Improved Regional Environmental Conditions	DA	ESF
Through September 30, 2003		
Obligations	0	0
Expenditures	0	0
Unliquidated	0	0
Fiscal Year 2004		
Obligations	0	0
Expenditures	0	0
Through September 30, 2004		
Obligations	0	0
Expenditures	0	0
Unliquidated	0	0
Prior Year Unobligated Funds		
Obligations	0	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2005 NOA		
Obligations	8,000	1,736
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2005		
Obligations	8,000	1,736
Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 NOA		
Obligations	10,500	500
Future Obligations	0	0
Est. Total Cost	18,500	2,236