

Bangladesh

The Development Challenge: Bangladesh is recognized for its considerable progress over the last 20 years in poverty reduction, family planning, agriculture, food security, increased gender equality in education, rural electrification and disaster response. Rates of economic growth have also been respectable, averaging 5-6 percent since the early 1990s. Nonetheless, Bangladesh remains one of the poorest, most crowded and disaster-prone countries in the world. Poverty remains widespread: approximately 67 million out of 133 million Bangladeshis live in poverty and more than 32 million live in extreme poverty. Problems related to governance, particularly with reference to the effectiveness and accountability of key public institutions, reduce the prospects for continued economic growth. Malnutrition levels are high, large numbers of people lack basic services, lawlessness and corruption are widespread, and human rights protections, especially for the poor, remain weak.

The World Bank estimates that per capita GDP in 2001 was approximately \$380 with GDP growth per capita averaging approximately 3-4 percent annually since 1990. Domestic public debt rose to 15 percent of GDP in 2001, up from 13 percent the previous year. The burden of domestic interest payments increased to 14 percent of budget revenue. (The new Bangladesh Nationalist Party-led coalition Government is, however, showing increased fiscal discipline and improvements are expected.) A relatively small proportion of the Government's debt, approximately \$30 million, is owed to the U.S. Government. Additional concessional loans from the IMF and World Bank may be forthcoming. Drawing on a broad consultative process, the Government has drafted an interim Poverty Reduction Strategy (iPRSP) called "A National Strategy for Economic Growth and Poverty Reduction." After being reviewed by the international donor community, it was forwarded to the IMF and World Bank for approval. If approved, the iPRSP could trigger additional concessional lending to Bangladesh in the near future.

One of the U.S. Government's top priorities in Bangladesh is building broad support for the international war on terrorism. Bangladesh is one of a handful of moderate, democratic Islamic nations in the world today, and is an ally in efforts to combat terrorism. Promotion of democracy is the most important U.S. objective in Bangladesh, since achieving all other goals depends upon the existence of a strong democratic system of government. Promotion of economic growth, including education, is another core objective, because democracy can only flourish if Bangladesh's economy develops and living standards are raised. In addition, the need to combat HIV/AIDS has recently been added as a high level U.S. interest because the country appears to be on the brink of a serious HIV/AIDS outbreak. While HIV/AIDS prevalence is low today, Bangladesh shares most of the characteristics of high prevalence countries and action is needed now to avoid the politically, socially and economically destabilizing affects of a widespread epidemic.

The USAID Program: USAID's program pursues objectives in population and health, economic growth, environment, energy, food security and disaster mitigation, as well as democracy and governance. In addition, the Mission is launching a new education objective during fiscal year 2003. Collectively, these efforts seek to reduce poverty in Bangladesh through sustained economic growth and good governance.

USAID's health objective seeks to reduce population growth and fertility while continuing to improve children's health and stopping the spread of infectious diseases, including HIV/AIDS. The small enterprise/agribusiness objective promotes economic growth and combats poverty by expanding opportunities for agribusiness and small business in domestic and higher value export markets. Important natural resource management and biodiversity conservation problems are addressed under the environmental objective, which seeks to improve the management of open water resources and conserve remaining tropical forests. USAID's energy objective supports privatization and efficient development of Bangladesh's energy sector. Under its food security and disaster preparedness objective, USAID helps to ensure that those living in extreme poverty benefit from economic growth. (Activities under this objective also include financing for a new, three-year program to study the feasibility of tapping deep aquifers underlying most of Bangladesh for arsenic free water, as well as work on the epidemiology of arsenicosis.) USAID's democracy and governance objective seeks to build demand for good governance by focusing on local government and parliamentary development as well as human rights, anti-trafficking

efforts and protecting the rights of women and children. Activities under USAID's new education objective will focus on promoting school readiness and seek to introduce innovative learning opportunities in school, after school and at home that will improve basic education.

USAID's program in Bangladesh is distinguished by its efforts to reach out to all levels of Bangladeshi society. The Mission has developed an outreach program that attempts to show Bangladeshis how USAID's activities have a direct impact on the lives and well being of everyone, especially the poor. In telling USAID's story, generally in Bangla, staff and partners exchange ideas with the audience on family, community and broader society. While the encouraging results of these outreach activities are still preliminary, the Mission firmly believes that a fuller understanding of U.S. assistance among Bangladeshis serves not only USAID's development objectives but also broader American interests. USAID's program is also distinguished by the fact that, in contrast to other donors, its assistance is channeled principally through non-governmental organizations. Nonetheless, USAID works closely with Government of Bangladesh and other donors to plan and coordinate the delivery of development assistance.

Other Program Elements: USAID/Bangladesh relies on field support from USAID pillar bureaus to implement many of its programs. Field support from: (1) the Bureau for Global Health provides essential support in contraceptive procurement; (2) the Bureau of Economic Growth, Agricultural and Trade supports the work of the Global Trade and Technology Network in Bangladesh, home gardening and biosafety activities, and three partnerships under the University Linkages Project; and (3) the Bureau of Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance (DCHA) supports child labor prevention and labor union development activities. In addition, the Office of Private and Voluntary Cooperation within DCHA manages approximately ten activities concerned with child survival, cooperative development, Farmer to Farmer outreach, and private voluntary organization support in Bangladesh. USAID also supports the work of an advisor from the U.S. Department of the Treasury to improve banking oversight, as well as work by the U.S. Geological Survey addressing the problem of arsenic in ground water and deep-water aquifers. The Mission has recently given its concurrence for an initiative supported by the Leahy War Victims Fund to help strengthen a center for torture survivors in Bangladesh and participates in the Energy and Equity components of the South Asian Regional Initiative. P.L. 480 Title II funds in Bangladesh are fully integrated into the Mission's food security and disaster assistance objective and support a variety of programs aimed at improving food security and preventing and mitigating disasters.

Other Donors: USAID participates actively in local donor coordination meetings, chairing a number of sector-specific subcommittees. In terms of program resources, the largest donors to Bangladesh are, in order, the World Bank, Japan, the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the United Kingdom, the United States, the European Union (EU), and the United Nations. The World Bank program emphasizes health and education, rural development, and private sector development. Japan has large programs in rural development, health and education, infrastructure and disaster prevention. The ADB is devoting substantial resources to the education, energy, finance/industry and governance. The United Kingdom, through its Department for International Development (DFID), has focused its program on population and health, education, governance, public administration, rural development and roads.

USAID works closely with other donors in the fields of population and health (UNFPA, UNICEF, and the World Bank), economic growth (DFID, Switzerland, the ADB and the EU), energy (Japan, the Kuwait Fund, and the ADB), food security (World Food Program, the EU and the Canadian International Development Organization, CIDA) and democracy and governance (DFID, World Bank, International Organization for Migration and CIDA).

Bangladesh PROGRAM SUMMARY

(in thousands of dollars)

Accounts	FY 2001 Actual	FY 2002 Actual	FY 2003 Prior Request	FY 2004 Request
Child Survival and Health Programs Fund	15,500	39,950	33,700	32,000
Development Assistance	42,050	21,670	24,720	18,850
Economic Support Fund	0	3,000	7,000	6,000
PL 480 Title II	67,658	23,974	45,083	45,445
Total Program Funds	125,208	88,594	110,503	102,295

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE SUMMARY

388-001 Integrated Family Planning and Health				
CSH	14,000	39,950	33,700	32,000
DA	26,000	0	0	0
388-005 Private Enterprise Development				
DA	5,700	4,800	5,600	4,500
ESF	0	0	1,500	1,000
388-006 Environment				
DA	1,800	2,900	2,700	2,500
ESF	0	0	500	500
388-007 Bilateral Energy				
DA	2,500	4,770	5,470	3,500
ESF	0	1,500	1,500	1,500
388-008 Food Security and Disaster Management				
DA	3,050	3,700	2,600	2,100
ESF	0	500	1,500	1,500
PL 480	0	23,974	10,000	45,000
388-009 Democracy and Governance				
CSH	1,500	0	0	0
DA	3,000	5,500	6,000	3,250
388-010 Education				
DA	0	0	2,350	3,000
ESF	0	0	2,000	1,500
TRANSFER				
ESF	0	1,000	0	0

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Bangladesh
Program Title:	Integrated Family Planning and Health
Pillar:	Global Health
Strategic Objective:	388-001
Status:	Continuing
Proposed FY 2003 Obligation:	\$33,700,000 CSH
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$32,000,000 CSH
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 1997
Estimated Completion Date:	FY 2006

Summary: USAID's National Integrated Population and Health Program includes: (1) technical assistance to expand, improve and sustain a package of basic health and family planning services available from non-governmental organizations (NGOs), especially to the poor; (2) technical assistance and commodity support to increase national contraceptive prevalence and contraceptive security; (3) technical assistance and programs for HIV control; (4) technical assistance for polio eradication; and (5) research, monitoring and evaluation activities to guide and measure program progress.

The principal beneficiaries of this assistance are women and children served by USAID's NGO Service Delivery Program (NSDP) and the millions of customers who purchase family planning commodities and oral re-hydration salts supplied by the Social Marketing Company (SMC). This company currently provides 70 percent of the condoms and 30 percent of the oral contraceptives used in Bangladesh. Additional beneficiaries include a growing number of men and women seeking voluntary surgical contraception, adolescents receiving reproductive health information, and members of high-risk groups who receive information and services to lower their risk of HIV infection.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2003 Program:

NGO Services (\$15,250,000 CSH). USAID will build upon the NGO service-delivery program begun in 1997. USAID-supported service delivery by 41 local NGOs will provide integrated maternal and child health and family planning services in areas covering approximately 22 million (17 percent of Bangladesh's population). USAID assistance will expand the range and quality of clinical services and increase their use, especially by the poor; strengthen the institutional capabilities of the recipient NGOs; and influence government policy to expand the role of the private sector in health service provision. The principal grantee is Pathfinder International.

Family Planning (\$10,550,000 CSH). In addition to expanding family planning services at the NGO clinics noted above, USAID will fund: (1) contraceptives for SMC, (2) technical assistance to improve family planning and health logistics, (3) contraceptive security, (4) technical assistance to help the Government of Bangladesh (GOB) plan and implement expanded clinical contraceptive services including voluntary surgical contraception, and (5) behavior change communication activities addressing the reproductive health needs of adolescents. Principal prime grantees include: Social Marketing Company, SMC, John Snow, Inc., EngenderHealth, and Johns Hopkins University. All family planning agreements will incorporate clauses that implement the President's directive reinstating the Mexico City Policy.

HIV/AIDS (\$3,700,000 CSH). Although HIV prevalence is currently low, high-risk behavior is widespread in Bangladesh. This situation, combined with high levels of infection in neighboring countries, makes HIV a "disaster in waiting". Unpublished data show that prevalence among injecting drug users has more than doubled, from 1.7 percent in 2001 to 4.0 percent in 2002 - a development that may presage a substantial increase of infection among other high-risk groups and a subsequent "breakout" of the infection into the general population. Current USAID-funded activities focused on high-risk groups need to be substantially

scaled up to forestall a crossover into the general population as recently occurred in India. USAID has proposed a new HIV/AIDS strategy with eight objectives: (1) expand behavior change interventions among high-risk groups; (2) improve sexually transmitted infection (STI) services for high-risk groups; (3) enhance NGO technical capabilities in HIV prevention; (4) promote condom use through social marketing and NGO's working with high-risk groups; (5) initiate voluntary counseling, testing and care for people infected with HIV; (6) strengthen sero and behavioral surveillance; (7) conduct research on new approaches and strategies; and (8) address policy issues to create an enabling environment to expand prevention activities. Principal grantees include Family Health International (prime) and others to be selected.

Polio Eradication (\$500,000 CSH). Support for polio eradication, by providing technical assistance to the GOB for polio surveillance, will be continued. The contractor is Management Sciences for Health.

Research, Monitoring and Evaluation (\$3,700,000 CSH). USAID will continue an operations-research program to improve the content and implementation of the GOB's Essential Service Package, which is the basis of NSDP. In addition, national Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) will be continued every three years, with the next one conducted in 2003-2004, and NGO Impact Surveys every two years, to assist USAID and the GOB to monitor the health and family planning status of Bangladeshis, including the population served by NSDP. Principal prime grantees are ICDDR,B (International Centre for Diarrheal Disease Research, Bangladesh), Macro, Inc., and the Carolina Population Center.

FY 2004 Program:

NGO Services (\$15,011,000 CSH). USAID will continue support to local NGOs to provide quality essential services to millions of Bangladeshis. The USAID program will serve as a model for an expanded private sector role in the provision of quality healthcare in the country.

Family Planning (\$9,789,000 CSH). USAID will continue support for the social marketing of contraceptives at a diminished level, and provide technical support to expand voluntary long-term clinical contraception.

HIV/AIDS (\$3,000,000 CSH). USAID will expand its assistance for HIV/AIDS prevention. The strategy will continue to address behavior change and harm reduction among high-risk groups through peer education, STI treatment, and condom promotion, along with surveillance and research.

Polio Eradication (\$500,000 CSH). USAID will continue limited support for polio eradication in urban areas by providing technical assistance to the GOB through the World Health Organization.

Research, Monitoring and Evaluation (\$3,700,000 CSH). USAID will continue its operations-research program and work on the DHS.

Performance and Results: SMC increased its sales of oral contraceptives and condoms by 18.8 percent and 9.8 percent, respectively. USAID-supported NGOs continued to increase the quality and range of services provided and the numbers of clients reached. Couple years of contraceptive protection provided by these NGOs (for all family-planning methods combined) increased by 29 percent. USAID plays a key role in strengthening the GOB's clinical and voluntary surgical contraception program by providing technical assistance, training and other services, as needed. The first two project districts saw a 13 fold increase in use in voluntary surgical contraceptive procedures from FY 2001 to FY 2002 (815 vs. 10,640), and impressive increases have occurred in project districts added later. Technical assistance helped the GOB procure 446 million condoms for the public sector and for SMC. A strategy for contraceptive security was launched to help the GOB prepare to manage its future contraceptive needs. USAID worked with high-risk groups promoting behavior change and risk reduction to keep HIV/AIDS from exploding. So far, prevalence remains low. However, rates are rising rapidly among injecting drug users and this trend poses a substantial risk to the broader population.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Bangladesh

	CSH	DA
388-001 Integrated Family Planning and Health		
Through September 30, 2001		
Obligations	62,960	76,915
Expenditures	48,563	58,958
Unliquidated	14,397	17,957
Fiscal Year 2002		
Obligations	31,250	1,222
Expenditures	9,174	13,071
Through September 30, 2002		
Obligations	94,210	78,137
Expenditures	57,737	72,029
Unliquidated	36,473	6,108
Prior Year Unobligated Funds		
Obligations	0	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2003 NOA		
Obligations	33,700	0
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2003		
Obligations	33,700	0
Proposed Fiscal Year 2004 NOA		
Obligations	32,000	0
Future Obligations	48,764	0
Est. Total Cost	208,674	78,137

Data Sheet

388-003: No Summary and/or Pillar information entered for this SO.

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Bangladesh
Program Title:	Private Enterprise Development
Pillar:	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Strategic Objective:	388-005
Status:	Continuing
Proposed FY 2003 Obligation:	\$5,600,000 DA; \$1,500,000 ESF
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$4,500,000 DA; \$1,000,000 ESF
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 2000
Estimated Completion Date:	FY 2006

Summary: USAID's program for enterprise development includes technical assistance and training to promote and develop more market-oriented policies, laws and regulations, to strengthen key business support organizations, and to improve productivity and competitiveness of enterprises in targeted sectors. Direct beneficiaries include rural households, micro-, small and medium-sized private firms, agribusiness, and key providers of private sector support services.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2003 Program:

Improved Performance and Growth of Agribusiness (\$2,200,000 DA, \$500,000 ESF). USAID will continue to support its agribusiness development project, which promotes private agribusiness growth within an open and competitive market environment. The project will maintain its focus on expanding opportunities for clients in the five targeted subsectors (fisheries, horticulture, poultry, grains and dairy and livestock) by improving their productivity, market access, and the quality and value-added of their products. The project will continue to address key policy and institutional issues that can alleviate constraints to growth, including a potentially high-impact, industry-managed Seal of Quality program for the shrimp industry. This ground-breaking initiative seeks to improve the competitiveness of Bangladeshi shrimp (the country's second largest export) in world markets by assuring buyers that products marked with the seal meet the highest sanitary, environmental and labor standards. It could serve as a model for other export-oriented subsectors of the Bangladeshi food industry. Other capacity-building activities include an independent flourmill industry quality control system, and an agribusiness management human resource development program. USAID will also work to strengthen agribusiness management capacity in Bangladesh in order to help alleviate a serious shortage of adequately trained professional managers in private agribusiness. Principal contractors include the Louis Berger Group (prime), Cargill Technical Services (sub), and Land O'Lakes (sub).

Expanded Opportunities for Growth of Small Business and Microenterprise in Targeted Sectors (\$3,400,000 DA, \$1,000,000 ESF). USAID will continue to support its ongoing pond aquaculture project, which provides technical assistance and training to help small farmers adopt low-cost technologies that improve household fish production, income and nutrition. Through the Global Trade and Technology Network, USAID will support a local business service providing information to help link local firms with potential trade and investment partners in the United States and other countries. If ESF funding is made available, USAID will also maintain its support for a recently placed U.S. Treasury Department advisor providing training and technical assistance to Central Bank staff to enhance the Bank's effectiveness in regulating and supervising financial institutions in the country. This year USAID will launch new projects in small business development and information and communications technology (ICT). The new small business project will provide an array of technical assistance and training services, as well as associated policy and institutional support, to help small businesses within targeted sectors expand their sales and employment. The primary focus will be on small and medium enterprises, but the project is also expected to promote commercial market linkages between formal businesses and microenterprise groups. This approach has been successfully piloted by USAID's current small business project as a means of

providing new sources of growth for microenterprises and improving the production capacity of larger firms. The new ICT project will provide technical assistance, training and material support to: help establish a legal and policy environment to enable Bangladeshi ICT firms to expand business within and outside Bangladesh; develop pilot projects in e-governance within the GOB to improve transparency and promote efficiency; and develop activities that enhance the productive capacity of Bangladesh's human resource base to deliver ICT applications that support business competitiveness. Principal prime contractors and grantees include the University of Maryland's Institute for Reform and the Informal Sector Center, the WorldFish Center, and Helen Keller, International.

FY 2004 Program:

Improved Performance and Growth of Agribusiness (\$1,500,000 DA, \$500,000 ESF). USAID will support its ongoing agribusiness project in identifying market opportunities, alleviating constraints, and helping businesses expand within the project's five targeted subsectors. USAID also intends to build on its initial efforts to strengthen agribusiness management capacity.

Expanded Opportunities for Growth of Small Business and Microenterprise in Targeted Sectors (\$3,000,000 DA, \$500,000 ESF). USAID will maintain support to extend proven technologies to small farmers under the ongoing pond aquaculture project. USAID will also provide funding to further develop promising market linkage activities and policy initiatives launched during the first year of the small business development project and will develop new activities aimed at stimulating business growth and employment within the targeted sectors. Based on an assessment of progress made during the first year of operation of the new ICT project, together with an evaluation of current priority needs, funding will be increased for ICT-related human capacity development, e-governance and policy reform. Pending satisfactory prospects for success after initial trial periods, support will continue for the U.S. Treasury Department's bank supervision program and the global trade leads initiative launched in late 2002.

Performance and Results: Performance expectations were met or exceeded in 2002. The focus on small business and agribusiness development within targeted subsectors remains central to Bangladesh's efforts to stimulate and diversify economic growth. Total annual sales of USAID-assisted enterprises that are attributable to partners' interventions reached an estimated \$54.15 million in 2002, exceeding the target value of \$45 million. Domestic sales accounted for \$44.45 million of this year's total, with exports at \$9.7 million. USAID is recognized as the leading donor in the agribusiness sector, and notable successes in domestic sales were achieved in the poultry and grains subsectors. While the overall volume of shrimp exports increased, the export value fell as a result of lower world market prices. USAID's small business development project extended its successful market linkage approaches both within currently targeted sectors (leather goods, footwear and home-textiles) and promising new sectors such as handmade paper products, personal protective equipment, electrical products, and information technology. The rural-based home gardening and pond aquaculture projects continued to demonstrate and extend the economic and nutritional benefits of their activities to tens of thousands of farm households. Good progress was made in several policy initiatives, including an Information Technology Law that will provide a legal framework for IT sector growth, a Secured Transactions Law that will improve credit access for small businesses, and the new Seal of Quality certification program for the shrimp industry, which has strong potential to improve the competitiveness of Bangladesh's second-leading export. USAID has in other ways maintained a leading role in advising the GOB and other stakeholders on policies and practices related to information technology and e-commerce through conferences, consultations, training, a major study on IT-enabled services, and a pilot e-government activity with the Law Commission.

By program completion, USAID assistance will have significantly increased opportunities for agribusiness and small businesses to expand their enterprises within both domestic and international markets, as well as for microenterprises to grow through closer ties to Bangladesh's formal market economy.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Bangladesh

	CSH	DA	ESF
388-005 Private Enterprise Development			
Through September 30, 2001			
Obligations	525	33,689	0
Expenditures	525	25,553	0
Unliquidated	0	8,136	0
Fiscal Year 2002			
Obligations	0	4,800	0
Expenditures	0	6,019	0
Through September 30, 2002			
Obligations	525	38,489	0
Expenditures	525	31,572	0
Unliquidated	0	6,917	0
Prior Year Unobligated Funds			
Obligations	0	0	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2003 NOA			
Obligations	0	5,600	1,500
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2003			
Obligations	0	5,600	1,500
Proposed Fiscal Year 2004 NOA			
Obligations	0	4,500	1,000
Future Obligations	0	7,629	2,000
Est. Total Cost	525	56,218	4,500

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Bangladesh
Program Title:	Environment
Pillar:	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Strategic Objective:	388-006
Status:	Continuing
Proposed FY 2003 Obligation:	\$2,700,000 DA; \$500,000 ESF
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$1,426,000 DA
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$2,500,000 DA; \$500,000 ESF
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 2001
Estimated Completion Date:	FY 2007

Summary: USAID's program to improve the management of open water and tropical forest resources includes technical assistance and training to: (1) establish community-based resource management systems; (2) restore selected aquatic and tropical forest habitats and ecosystems; (3) heighten awareness among stakeholders, local governments and national level policy-makers regarding the need to sustainably manage natural resources, and (4) improve public sector and NGO natural resource management capacity. Direct beneficiaries include target communities of poor fisherfolk and forest resource users whose lives depend upon open water and forest resources. Indirect beneficiaries include surrounding communities where up to 80 percent of the families are partially dependent on these resources.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2003 Program:

Management of Aquatic Ecosystems through Community Husbandry (MACH) (\$1,500,000 DA). USAID will continue its efforts to strengthen 37 local Resources Management Organizations (RMO) to sustainably manage 9,366 hectares of wetland. It will also work to stimulate support for community-based co-management of natural resources with the goal of incorporating the approach into local planning processes. In addition, USAID will continue to work with the 216 credit groups it established to help provide alternative sources of income to local residents, and undertake further efforts to safeguard the 64 community fish sanctuaries that have been established.

MACH was conceived as a pilot effort to test whether a co-management approach, involving the entire community of resource stakeholders, could effectively challenge the long tradition of "command and control" in natural resources management. Separate reviews undertaken by USAID and the National Steering Committee concluded that the model is working, that performance has been good, and that attention should be focused on ensuring that the model is complete, sustainable and replicable. Accordingly, USAID will act to ensure that the program achieves these three goals. Contractors and grantees include Winrock International (prime), Bangladesh Center for Advanced Studies (sub), Center for Natural Resources Studies (sub), and Caritas (sub).

Improved Management of Tropical Forest Resources (\$1,200,000 DA, \$500,000 ESF). USAID will launch a new, multi-year, bilateral forest co-management activity to protect natural remaining tropical forest areas. The activity will help establish essential links between the terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems while building local capacity in tropical forest resources management. In conjunction with the MACH activity and the Arannyak Foundation (see below), it will consolidate lessons learned in community-based resource management and will stimulate the development of a protected area management system in Bangladesh.

USAID will also provide limited support to the Arannyak Foundation (The Bangladesh Tropical Forest Conservation Foundation), authorized in September 2000, pursuant to the Tropical Forest Conservation Act, to permit it to provide subgrants to implement tropical forest conservation activities.

The Prior Year Unobligated Carryover (\$1,426,000 DA) will be used primarily to support the Tropical Forestry Conservation Program. Limited amounts also may be used in MACH program.

FY 2004 Program:

Management of Aquatic Ecosystems through Community Husbandry (MACH) (\$1,300,000 DA). USAID will continue its efforts to: fully develop community-based RMO's and related institutions and beneficiary groups and ensure their sustainability; intensify the wetlands rehabilitation activities so that their impact can be fully assessed; further develop the constituency for co-management of natural resources through an expanded outreach/public education effort; and expand the use of the MACH co-management approach by the GOB and by others involved in environmental protection activities.

Improved Management of Tropical Forest Resources (\$1,200,000 DA, \$500,000 ESF). USAID will build upon its efforts to develop and institutionalize a co-management planning and implementation model for selected natural forest tracts; improve forest ecosystem management; encourage a positive policy environment for co-management; and lay the foundation for a conservation constituency in Bangladesh. USAID will also continue to provide support to the Arannyak Foundation to implement tropical forest conservation activities.

Performance and Results: As a result of MACH's accomplishments a population of more than 500,000 is benefiting from ecosystem and biodiversity preservation, as well as increased fish production and improved nutrition and incomes. An area of 9,366 hectares (nearly 94 square kilometers) of floodplain is now being sustainably managed. Sixty-four community-managed fish sanctuaries have been established, exceeding planned targets. In addition, 185,000 native trees have been planted at two project sites, which will help to restore wetland and riparian ecosystems. Efforts to make up for lost income due to fishing restrictions have led to the creation of 216 community credit groups (one-third of them women-led) with 4,493 members. Through these organizations, some 3,443 individuals have received credit and technical assistance for supplemental income generation. To stimulate policy support for increased conservation, USAID has supported a multi-donor assisted fisheries sector review and helped pioneer the development of the National Wetlands Network, an influential association of activists and organizations that helps inform policymakers about wetland conservation issues.

USAID's tropical forestry activities will begin in FY 2003 and therefore there are no results to report yet.

By the time the environment program is completed, USAID/Bangladesh anticipates that: (1) wetland and tropical forestry co-management systems will be incorporated into local planning processes throughout Bangladesh; (2) a large constituency for wetlands and tropical forest conservation will be established; and (3) there will be widespread support for both the wetland and tropical forestry conservation and the co-management approach among influential policy makers in Bangladesh.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Bangladesh

388-006 Environment	CSH	DA	ESF
Through September 30, 2001			
Obligations	2,275	3,213	0
Expenditures	1,893	1,151	0
Unliquidated	382	2,062	0
Fiscal Year 2002			
Obligations	0	1,560	0
Expenditures	381	1,336	0
Through September 30, 2002			
Obligations	2,275	4,773	0
Expenditures	2,274	2,487	0
Unliquidated	1	2,286	0
Prior Year Unobligated Funds			
Obligations	0	1,426	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2003 NOA			
Obligations	0	2,700	500
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2003			
Obligations	0	4,126	500
Proposed Fiscal Year 2004 NOA			
Obligations	0	2,500	500
Future Obligations	0	3,500	1,000
Est. Total Cost	2,275	14,899	2,000

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Bangladesh
Program Title:	Bilateral Energy
Pillar:	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Strategic Objective:	388-007
Status:	Continuing
Proposed FY 2003 Obligation:	\$5,470,000 DA; \$1,500,000 ESF
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$3,500,000 DA; \$1,500,000 ESF
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 1996
Estimated Completion Date:	FY 2006

Summary: USAID's program to improve the performance of key institutions in the energy sector includes technical assistance, training and other assistance to: (1) increase institutional capacity through reforms in the gas and power sector; (2) create an improved enabling environment to help attract foreign investment; and (3) improve rural power sector performance to help alleviate poverty in rural areas.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2003 Program:

Total Energy Program (\$5,470,000 DA, and \$1,500,000 ESF). USAID's activities in the energy sector address both power and gas, and emphasize policy change within the sector. Because of close inter-connections, the three represent a single functional area. Assuming the GOB agrees to permit gas exports and to take additional substantive steps in energy sector privatization, ESF funds will be used to assist these activities. If the GOB decides not to permit gas exports or take additional steps in the privatization process, ESF funds will be reprogrammed for use in an alternative sector. Principal contractors and grantees include the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, PA Government Services Inc., and the Institute of International Education. Other partners include the U.S. Energy Association and the U.S. Energy Department.

-- Policy Activities (\$2,720,000 DA). USAID will continue to provide technical assistance and training to restructure and reform the state-dominated Bangladesh power and natural gas sector. Initially, assistance will focus on fine tuning the draft Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission Act. Later in the fiscal year, efforts are expected to shift to capacity building and development of implementing regulations for the Energy Regulatory Authority, which will be created under the Energy Act. USAID assistance will: (1) encourage continued "unbundling" and separation of policy, regulatory and commercial functions; (2) promote improved performance of distribution companies; and (3) assist the Government in anticipating and addressing the social impacts of market reforms. Support and assistance to build financial, management and operational capabilities also will be extended to further other energy sector reforms instituted by the Government, for example, power sector distribution and power and gas transmission. In addition, support for a partnership between the Power Grid Company of Bangladesh (PGCB) and the Bonneville Power Administration to improve the institutional capacity of PGCB will continue. A new partnership will also be established between the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology and a U.S. university through USAID's University Linkages program to strengthen local capabilities in energy economics and related policy issues.

-- Rural Power Sector Activities (\$2,750,000 DA). Technical assistance, provided through the new Rural Power for Poverty Reduction Project (RPPR-II), will consolidate the successes of the earlier RPPR-I Program that brought electricity to remote areas through rural power distribution cooperatives and strengthened the management and technical capabilities of the Rural Electrification Board (REB) and its constituent rural electric cooperatives. The new focus will be on ensuring the sustainability of USAID's long-standing effort in this sector. Prospects are good for enlisting other donors to work with the same

USAID technical assistance contractor (National Rural Electric Cooperative Association), thereby permitting a more coordinated overall technical assistance effort.

-- Gas Sector Activities (\$1,500,000 ESF). USAID will help introduce a regulatory development model, design a database for better management of production sharing contracts, develop a tariff methodology to reflect the cost of supply, and provide other focused assistance to the gas sector. In addition, should a favorable decision be made on allowing gas exports, technical assistance will be provided to Bangladesh to address the many financial, technical and policy issues that are likely to accompany the large-scale export of gas by pipeline.

FY 2004 Program:

Total Energy Program (\$3,500,000 DA, and \$1,500,000 ESF). Activities in the energy sector will continue to focus on gas and power, and policy change within the sector. Once again, assuming the GOB agrees to permit gas exports and to take additional substantive steps in its energy sector privatization efforts, ESF funds will be used to further this work. The program includes:

-- Policy Activities (\$1,750,000 DA). USAID plans to use FY 2004 funds to provide additional assistance to further the implementation of gas and power sector reform, strengthen the regulatory regime and other capacity building efforts. Partnerships under the University Linkages project and between PGCB and the Bonneville Power Administration are expected to continue.

-- Rural Power Sector Activities (\$1,750,000 DA). The RPPR-II project will continue to focus on strengthening institutional management and efficient systems operation to ensure the sustainability of this long-standing effort. In addition, the existing partnership program will be continued and new partnerships, focusing on distribution issues, will be formed as the reform and restructuring process moves forward.

-- Gas Sector Activities (\$1,500,000 ESF). Assuming Bangladesh decides to permit gas exports, efforts will be directed towards creating new human and institutional capacity within the GOB to support this effort and towards ensuring that the benefits from exports accrue to the people of Bangladesh. USAID also expects to offer support for efforts to encourage use of environmentally friendly, compressed natural gas in the transportation sector. A partnership to exchange U.S. expertise with the Bangladesh gas transmission company will be established.

Performance and Results: As of FY 2002 the energy program has met or exceeded targets for most indicators. In FY 2002, power sector unbundling exceeded expectations, with 1,884 kilometers of transmission lines transferred to the newly established Power Grid Company of Bangladesh against a target of 600 kilometers. There also have been other limited but positive unbundling and structural reform in the power and gas transmission sector. Continued assistance in rural electrification has further strengthened the capacity of the Rural Electrification Board and the rural power co-operatives. The number of electrical connections in rural areas has increased significantly, and the total number of legal power connections grew from 5.34 million in FY 2001 to 6.31 million in FY 2002.

Other reforms have lagged, however. Passage of draft legislation to bring about much needed regulatory reform in the gas and power sectors is once again on hold. Earlier versions of this legislation were scheduled for introduction in the Parliament by the previous Government. The new Government has proposed significant changes which include combining power, gas and petroleum product regulation under one act. USAID and other donors have reviewed the drafts several times and suggested specific changes to ensure independence and authority of the proposed Regulatory Commission. The draft is now awaiting cabinet approval before it is introduced in the Parliament. It is expected that this legislation will be passed in FY 2003. Passage will set the stage for further necessary policy and institutional reforms.

By the time the energy program is completed, USAID/Bangladesh anticipates that an independent regulatory body for the gas and power sectors will be established and functioning effectively, the private sector will play a significant role in power generation, transmission and distribution, and the rural electrification program will be effective and fully self-sustaining.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Bangladesh

	DA	ESF
388-007 Bilateral Energy		
Through September 30, 2001		
Obligations	29,335	99
Expenditures	22,864	99
Unliquidated	6,471	0
Fiscal Year 2002		
Obligations	4,815	1,500
Expenditures	4,577	0
Through September 30, 2002		
Obligations	34,150	1,599
Expenditures	27,441	99
Unliquidated	6,709	1,500
Prior Year Unobligated Funds		
Obligations	0	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2003 NOA		
Obligations	5,470	1,500
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2003		
Obligations	5,470	1,500
Proposed Fiscal Year 2004 NOA		
Obligations	3,250	1,500
Future Obligations	5,508	2,500
Est. Total Cost	48,378	7,099

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Bangladesh
Program Title:	Food Security and Disaster Management
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	388-008
Status:	Continuing
Proposed FY 2003 Obligation:	\$2,600,000 DA; \$1,500,000 ESF; \$10,000,000 PL 480
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$300,000 DA
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$2,100,000 DA; \$1,500,000 ESF; \$45,000,000 PL 480
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 2000
Estimated Completion Date:	FY 2006

Summary: USAID's program to improve food security for vulnerable groups and to mitigate effects of disaster, funded by DA, ESF and P.L. 480 Title II resources, includes: (1) technical assistance and capacity-building to improve food security policy; (2) technical assistance, training and construction of environmentally-sound infrastructure, primarily in rural areas; (3) training and technical assistance to improve disaster preparedness at the community level; and (4) technical assistance and outreach to diversify in agriculture production. Beneficiaries include the rural and urban poor, with emphasis on the rural poor, especially vulnerable children and women.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2003 Program:

Improved Environmentally-Sound Community Infrastructure (\$450,000 DA). DA resources, complemented by Title II resources, will support community infrastructure improvements including low cost, hard surface, farm-to-market roads; earthen village roads; safe drinking water and sanitation facilities; school rehabilitation; flood proofing activities (homestead raising, building multi-purpose community flood shelters, social/community places development, and marketplace development); local government building construction; and urban slum rehabilitation (improvement of drainage, footpaths, community latrines and bathing facilities). Grantees are CARE and World Vision.

Improved Disaster Management (\$150,000 DA). DA resources, complemented by Title II resources, will support disaster management activities to strengthen community-level disaster preparedness and response/mitigation mechanisms. Grantees are CARE and World Vision, complemented by USAID/OFDA-supported climate forecasting and urban disaster mitigation efforts.

Enhanced Diversity in Agriculture Production (\$650,000 DA). Agricultural diversification will help reduce vulnerability to major crop failure and contribute to more sustainable use of land and water resources. DA-funded agricultural diversification efforts will emphasize outreach efforts in wheat and maize production and papaya research emphasizing biotechnological approaches to disease problems. Activities will include training of farm families in improved technologies, and promotion of appropriate mechanization. Grantees are the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (prime), and Cornell University (sub).

USAID's agricultural diversification strategy is also supported by P.L. 480 Title II resources. Monetization proceeds will be used to help small and marginal farm families increase their food production (fish, poultry, and home gardening) and cash incomes through training and technology transfer.

Strengthened Food Security Capacity (\$1,350,000 DA; \$1,500,000 ESF; \$300,000 DA Prior Year Unobligated). USAID will provide technical assistance to support the GOB's new 'Comprehensive Food Security Policy' in those areas that complement USAID's food security strategy. The effort will also help

the GOB to identify and implement more appropriate access-to-food and nutrition-focused policies and programs. The program will include research and analysis for improving access-to-food and nutrition status of the poor and vulnerable, combined with limited institutional capacity building. The technical assistance will, among other things, encourage the GOB to adopt measures to assist the most needy. In addition, DA resources will be used for food security program performance monitoring and management. The contractors/grantees for these activities remain to be determined. The Prior Year Unobligated funds will be used for food security program performance monitoring and management activities.

DA resources will support impact studies of arsenic contamination, including plant health and agricultural sustainability, food chain uptake and food safety issues. Contractors include the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (prime) and Texas A&M University (sub). The ESF resources will support work by the U.S. Geological Survey on the feasibility of tapping deep aquifers underlying most of Bangladesh for arsenic free water, plus work by ICDDR,B in the epidemiology of arsenic.

FY 2004 Program:

Improved Environmentally Sound Community Infrastructure (\$250,000 DA). In FY 2004, DA resources, complemented by Title II resources, will support community infrastructure improvements including earthen village roads, water and sanitation, school rehabilitation, homestead raising, building multi-purpose community flood shelters, social/community places development, marketplace development, local government building construction and urban slum rehabilitation.

Improved Disaster Management (\$400,000 DA). Complemented by Title II resources, the activity will continue in the same fashion as FY 2003. Emphasis will be placed upon the sustainability of the disaster contingency plans.

Enhanced Diversity in Agriculture Production (\$1,350,000 DA). USAID plans to continue agricultural diversification activities.

Strengthened Food Security Capacity (\$100,000 DA, \$1,500,000 ESF). Technical assistance for this activity to improve access-to-food and nutrition-focused food security policies and programs is expected to continue at the same level. DA resources will continue to be used for food security program performance monitoring and management.

Performance and Results: In 2002, the CARE program has constructed 358 kilometers of low-cost hard surface farm-to-market roads, and the World Vision program has rehabilitated 182 kilometers of earthen village roads. In addition, both programs have created 4.1 million person-days of seasonal employment. The upgrading of farm-to-market roads resulted in a 62% reduction in staple food transport costs since the program began in 2000. Better roads also created jobs and improved access to markets and services. In 2002, the CARE and World Vision programs provided 125,805 people with access to hygienic sanitation facilities and provided 104,000 people access to safe drinking water. Under the community-based disaster management component, contingency plans now ensure that 25 million vulnerable people in 271 high disaster prone areas have access to emergency relief supplies within 72 hours of a disaster. Although Bangladesh suffered under moderate flood conditions throughout the FY 2002 monsoon, no external assistance was sought due to the increased flood-management capacity of the GOB. USAID can claim credit, in part, for this increased management capacity. In 2002, 24,019 persons, of whom 30% were women, were trained in community-based disaster management practices. USAID's flood proofing program benefited nearly 152,200 people in 225 villages in 2002 by reducing property damage and increasing access to potable water during floods, thereby reducing the incidence of diarrhea.

USAID's support through FY 2006 will consolidate the improvements made in rural community infrastructure and the promotion of agricultural diversification. USAID's NGO partners will ensure local capacity in disaster mitigation and relief so that suffering and loss are minimized. In addition, local villagers and poor women will continue to benefit from participation in humanitarian and development activities at the community level.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Bangladesh

388-008 Food Security and Disaster Management	CSH	DA	ESF
Through September 30, 2001			
Obligations	1,200	15,331	0
Expenditures	1,200	12,116	0
Unliquidated	0	3,215	0
Fiscal Year 2002			
Obligations	0	4,519	1,500
Expenditures	0	2,842	0
Through September 30, 2002			
Obligations	1,200	19,850	1,500
Expenditures	1,200	14,958	0
Unliquidated	0	4,892	1,500
Prior Year Unobligated Funds			
Obligations	0	300	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2003 NOA			
Obligations	0	2,600	1,500
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2003			
Obligations	0	2,900	1,500
Proposed Fiscal Year 2004 NOA			
Obligations	0	2,100	1,000
Future Obligations	0	3,500	0
Est. Total Cost	1,200	28,350	4,000

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Bangladesh
Program Title:	Democracy and Governance
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	388-009
Status:	Continuing
Proposed FY 2003 Obligation:	\$6,000,000 DA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$1,703,000 DA
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$3,250,000 DA
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 2000
Estimated Completion Date:	FY 2006

Summary: USAID's democracy and governance program promotes awareness and advocacy for transparent local governance, parliamentary responsiveness to citizens, and protection of human rights. It supports local governance and anti-corruption through training and grants to local NGOs for research and advocacy. Anti-trafficking initiatives include technical assistance, training and grants for awareness campaigns, support for the rescue and recovery of victims, and legal assistance to promote the prosecution and conviction of traffickers. Training and grants to local NGOs cover a range of human rights activities, targeted at reducing domestic violence and abuse of power. A labor program promotes workers' rights through training and technical assistance to organize garment workers and support the elimination of child labor.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2003 Program:

Active Constituency for Strong Elected Local Government Created (\$1,800,000 DA). USAID technical assistance and training, as well as subgrants to 15 local NGOs, will provide the knowledge and resources necessary to build awareness of the value of elected local governments at all levels, provide models, and increase citizen participation. The program will also train elected officials to work in partnership with communities to improve service delivery. A survey of knowledge, attitudes and practices will be conducted to serve as a baseline for future progress, as well as an assessment of political processes, conflict mitigation needs, and the progress of democratization in Bangladesh aimed at generating new strategies to promote democratic reform. Principal prime contractors and grantees include Associates in Rural Development, Rupantar and others to be determined.

Improved Responsiveness of Parliament to Citizens (\$1,200,000 DA). The National Democratic Institute and the International Republican Institute will provide technical assistance to political parties and the Parliament to reduce conflict, improve the committee system and increase the responsiveness of political parties, the Parliament and its members to citizens' input and concerns. The principal grantee is the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs. The International Republican Institute is expected to begin activities soon.

Increased Awareness of and Advocacy for Human Rights (\$3,000,000 DA). Training, technical assistance and 20 subgrants to NGOs will increase human rights awareness, document abuses by law enforcement agencies, increase anti-corruption and anti-trafficking efforts, and promote effective advocacy for change. Schools for former child laborers and the children of garment workers will receive continued support, as will the highly successful Working Women's Education Center. The principal grantees are the Academy for Educational Development and Transparency International Bangladesh with the American Center for International Labor Solidarity as a sub.

The \$1,703,000 DA Prior Year carryover will be used for political party design and studies related to early childhood education and madrassah schools.

FY 2004 Program:

Active Constituency for Strong Elected Local Government Created (\$1,850,000 DA). USAID plans to provide technical assistance and training to hold national and regional events to develop a legislative agenda and to advocate for amendments to relevant legislation to promote decentralized governance.

Improved Responsiveness of Parliament to Citizens. Efforts to strengthen political parties and parliamentary committees will continue with no new funding.

Increased Awareness of and Advocacy for Human Rights (\$1,400,000 DA). Enhanced rule of law activities may include expanded anti-corruption initiatives, investigative journalism and training to support the separation of the judiciary from the executive branch. In addition, support for anti-trafficking, schools for former child laborers and the children of garment workers, and the Working Women's Education Center, is expected to continue.

Performance and Results: Overall, USAID's democracy and governance programs in Bangladesh were able to meet or exceed targets. In 2002, USAID's democracy activities achieved significant results in three program areas. In anti-trafficking, one USAID-supported NGO effected the return of 58 women and children from internal and external trafficking and helped the police to arrest 78 traffickers, of whom 29, or 37% of the total, received convictions. The USAID-funded anti-trafficking association built a consensus among NGOs, government and donors on using one logo, one message and one set of materials for all anti-trafficking initiatives. This very significant development was a first in South Asia and became the basis of a nationwide communications campaign. In anti-corruption, the Government of Bangladesh committed to establishing an independent anti-corruption commission as promoted by Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB), an organization established with USAID support. Studies of the Bureau of Anti-Corruption, Parliament's Public Accounts Committee and the Auditor General's Office were conducted and disseminated with widespread media coverage. In 2002, TIB emerged as a regional leader in South Asia, coordinating the 2002 household corruption survey for five countries. In labor development, the Working Women's Education Center for garment workers was so successful that the Department of Labor funded three additional centers. Despite a delay in start-up due to 9/11, constituency building in local governance and human rights began to lay a foundation for reform.

By program completion, Bangladeshis will be more aware and active in support of human rights, anti-trafficking, anti-corruption and child labor. Civil society will advocate more effectively for reforms to local and national governance to accommodate democratic decentralization. Parliament and political parties will be more efficient and responsive to citizens.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Bangladesh

388-009 Democracy and Governance	CSH	DA	ESF
Through September 30, 2001			
Obligations	495	4,939	2,580
Expenditures	495	582	1,161
Unliquidated	0	4,357	1,419
Fiscal Year 2002			
Obligations	1,005	4,421	0
Expenditures	623	2,946	1,186
Through September 30, 2002			
Obligations	1,500	9,360	2,580
Expenditures	1,118	3,528	2,347
Unliquidated	382	5,832	233
Prior Year Unobligated Funds			
Obligations	0	1,703	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2003 NOA			
Obligations	0	6,000	0
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2003			
Obligations	0	7,703	0
Proposed Fiscal Year 2004 NOA			
Obligations	0	3,500	500
Future Obligations	0	7,000	1,000
Est. Total Cost	1,500	27,563	4,080

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Bangladesh
Program Title:	Education
Pillar:	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Strategic Objective:	388-010
Status:	
Proposed FY 2003 Obligation:	\$2,350,000 DA; \$2,000,000 ESF
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$3,000,000 DA; \$1,500,000 ESF
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 2003
Estimated Completion Date:	FY 2008

Summary: This new objective, approved December 12, 2002, seeks to improve school children's performance by creating more participatory, relevant and accountable learning systems. It will do so by developing and demonstrating innovative approaches, including mass media, to improve school readiness, classroom performance, and community involvement to bring about qualitative improvements in basic education. At the same time, it will put into practice effective strategies to bring innovation into a resistant formal sector. Integrity, transparency and accountability will be integrated into all activities to counter corrupt practices in the education sector. To achieve the objective, the strategy will target three sets of interventions: (1) increased opportunities for effective early learning; (2) innovative learning tools for children and teachers developed and used; and (3) increased capacity of selected institutions to foster education system change.

Activities under this objective complement other donor and Government of Bangladesh efforts, support Education For All objectives and fill critical gaps, in particular, in early childhood education and learning materials development. Interventions will target children and teachers directly, from early childhood through primary school - inside and outside the classroom - and will motivate champions and change agents at the community and national levels to increase public demand for school accountability, quality improvement and effective results in Bangladesh's primary schools.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2003 Program:

In last year's CBJ submission, FY 2003 funds for this objective (\$2,350,000 in DA \$2,000,000 in ESF) were notified under SO9 and SO5, respectively. Activities include:

-- Early Learning Opportunities (\$1,000,000 DA and \$2,000,000 ESF). Three grants awarded in FY 2002 to increase school readiness, improve reading and math skills and improve school access for tribal children in the Chittagong Hill Tracts will continue. Other new activities will increase opportunities for effective early learning and improve school readiness and, ultimately, student performance throughout the country via children's educational television programming. The Mission plans to explore using Global Development Alliance mechanisms to support implementation of the media component. In addition, small-scale and carefully targeted interventions will complement and expand learning opportunities and increase parental awareness and support for early learning, as well as future demand for better quality in the classroom. The three existing grantees include Save the Children/USA, Plan International and CARE Bangladesh. Other contractors/grantees for this activity remain to be determined.

-- Innovative Learning Tools for Children and Teachers (\$1,000,000 DA). Activities will introduce innovative learning tools that will inspire children and teachers to improve skills and performance in the classroom and other settings. Activities will lay the foundation to transform learning in Bangladesh by demonstrating effective ways for teachers, parents and communities to bring effective tools into formal learning systems. The contractor/grantee for this activity remains to be determined.

-- Increased Capacity to Foster Education System Change (\$350,000 DA). Activities will promote leadership capacity at the national and local levels to stimulate demand for improved services and better achievement in primary education. The approach will link democratic development in Bangladesh and the reform of its education system by engaging stakeholders at all levels, including parents, teachers and community leaders, and ensuring that that educational reforms are homegrown. The contractor/grantee for this activity remains to be determined.

FY 2004 Program:

Early Learning Opportunities (\$2,250,000 DA; \$1,500,000 ESF). The three grants to increase school readiness, improve reading and math skills and improve school access will continue. Other activities to increase opportunities for effective early learning and improve school readiness throughout the country via a mass media program led by television will continue.

Innovative Learning Tools for Children and Teachers (\$500,000 DA). Activities to strengthen early learning through innovative tools that will improve children's skills and performance, to demonstrate effective ways for teachers, parents and communities to stimulate learning in all kinds of schools and to help lay the foundation for transformed learning in Bangladesh will continue.

Capacity to Foster Education System Change (\$250,000 DA). Activities to promote leadership capacity at the national and local levels to motivate changes and improved basic education services in primary schools will continue.

Performance and Results: Three basic education grants were awarded in August 2002 prior to the approval of the new objective, under the Mission's democracy and governance objective. These grants were for innovative pre-school and primary school activities to increase school readiness, improve reading and math skills, get parents involved in their children's education and improve access to schools for tribal children in the Chittagong Hill Tracts. Activities under these grants started only recently and therefore there are no results to report yet.

By the time the basic education activities are completed in FY 2008, USAID anticipates that: early childhood development programs that increase school readiness will be available nationwide through mass media and in targeted rural communities; improved learning tools will be utilized in all types of schools to improve student performance; parents and communities be more active advocates of quality improvement, and local leaders will contribute to the education reform agenda.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Bangladesh

388-010 Education	DA	ESF
Through September 30, 2001		
Obligations	0	0
Expenditures	0	0
Unliquidated	0	0
Fiscal Year 2002		
Obligations	0	0
Expenditures	0	0
Through September 30, 2002		
Obligations	0	0
Expenditures	0	0
Unliquidated	0	0
Prior Year Unobligated Funds		
Obligations	0	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2003 NOA		
Obligations	2,350	2,000
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2003		
Obligations	2,350	2,000
Proposed Fiscal Year 2004 NOA		
Obligations	3,000	1,500
Future Obligations	11,000	4,650
Est. Total Cost	16,350	8,150