

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Montenegro
Program Title:	Democracy and Governance
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	170-0200
Status:	Continuing
Planned FY 2005 Obligation:	\$1,398,000 AEEB
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$1,269,000 AEEB
Proposed FY 2006 Obligation:	\$1,320,000 AEEB
Year of Initial Obligation:	2003
Estimated Year of Final Obligation:	2007

Summary: USAID's democracy and governance assistance in Montenegro is concentrated on strengthening the rule of law, civil society, political processes, independent media, and anti-trafficking initiatives. USAID provides targeted technical assistance, training, sub-grants, and commodities support to improve the effectiveness, independence, and accountability of the judiciary. The capacity of civil society is developed through equipping non-governmental organizations (NGOs), political parties, and trade unions with skills and knowledge to effectively serve and represent citizens. Finally, USAID is providing assistance to develop a parliamentary structure that functions efficiently and is accountable to citizens, as well as advancing the competence and competitiveness of independent media.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2005 Program: Improve Justice Sector/Legal Framework (\$500,000 AEEB, \$118,000 AEEB carryover). The Judicial System Reform Project (JSRP) will continue providing technical assistance, training, and commodity support to implement the rules and procedures relating to the new Appellate and Administrative Courts and the Administrative Office, established under the Courts Act. The support will concentrate on improving court operations and will include the provision of expert advice in judicial skills and court management to increase the judiciary's independence as well as streamline the processing of cases, improve caseload management, and reduce backlogs at all levels of the court system. Principal partner: Checchi and Company Consulting, Inc. (prime).

Strengthen Civil Society (\$300,000 AEEB, \$950,000 AEEB carryover). The focus will be on organizational and skills development for NGOs, education of trade union members in collective bargaining and modern trade union functions through technical assistance and training, and support for advocating for legislative change. The current NGO development activity will be extended into FY 2006. The Montenegro Advocacy Program (MAP) has achieved its original objective of enhancing the capacity of a core group of Montenegrin organizations to conduct effective advocacy campaigns. The focus will be shifted from NGO advocacy capacity strengthening to capacity to advocate for the enforcement of the rule of law. The labor reform activity will phase out in FY 2005. Key elements of the activity, such as collaborating with economic and social councils throughout the Republic, may continue under other appropriate USAID programs. A new program with the National Albanian-American Council (NAAC) will start in 2005 to promote good relations between youth of different ethnic origins. Principal partners: American Organization for Technical Training and Educational Research (American ORT), American Center for International Labor Solidarity (ACILS) (primes).

Support Democratic Political Parties (\$498,000 AEEB, \$100,000 AEEB carryover). Assistance under this component includes development of political party and parliamentary structures to strengthen their roles and increase capacity. The program will continue to provide advisory assistance to political parties and the Parliament to strengthen their roles in local governance and make them more relevant and actively engaged in local communities. In addition, the activity will provide technical assistance and training to strengthen legislative oversight and increase citizen

participation in Parliament. The activity will end in February 2006, leaving in place an internal party capacity to continue long-term reform and development initiatives, along with a parliamentary structure that is capable of effectively representing citizens' needs while functioning efficiently and transparently. Principal partners: National Democratic Institute (NDI) (prime).

Reduce Trafficking in Persons (\$100,000 AEEB, \$100,000 AEEB carryover). USAID will continue to focus on strengthening judicial capacity in this area and phase out support for the shelter for victims of trafficking since the Government is committed to providing this support in the future. Principal partner: International Organization for Migration (IOM) (prime).

FY 2006 Program: Improve Justice Sector/Legal Framework (\$825,000 AEEB). USAID intends to phase out the Judicial System Reform Project (JSRP) in June 2006, and initiate a new program during FY 2006 with a focus on continued support for the Judicial Training Center, the new Appellate and Administration Courts, and the new Administrative Office; further development of the Judicial Council's functions; legislative drafting, including work on a new Constitution and legal commentaries; limited rehabilitation of selected basic courts and conversion of their filing systems; and further training in court administration for all courts. Principal partners: Checchi and Company Consulting, Inc.(prime), and to be determined (TBD).

Strengthen Civil Society (\$400,000 AEEB). In FY 2006, USAID plans to complete implementation of its current civil society activity and determine what further assistance might be required. Given the continuing needs of the NGO sector, a new activity could continue to enhance the rule of law through more active civil sector advocacy, improve the enabling operative environment for NGOs, develop issue-specific NGO policy networks, and improve the general public perception of the effectiveness of the civil society sector. Principal partner: TBD.

Reduce Trafficking in Persons (\$55,000 AEEB). USAID plans to continue to support anti-trafficking initiatives and will assist the Government to revise and implement its National Action Plan to Combat Trafficking, respond more effectively to improving institutional weaknesses which have hampered anti-trafficking efforts to date, and adopt anti-TIP legislation and measures to inform and educate the public including potential victims. Principal partner: TBD.

Performance and Results: Since the inception of the democracy portfolio, the Media Sustainability Index (MSI) registered increases in three essential areas: 1) the legal and regulatory indicator; 2) the professional journalism indicator; and 3) the media business management indicator, reaching the FY 2004 target for near sustainability of 2.42 (3.0-4.0 is the sustainability range). The indicator "increased political party attention to basic economic and social reforms" exceeded the target set for FY 2004. The political parties began to address citizens' priorities on economic and social issues and their solutions. In FY 2004, a 48% positive score was registered across the 30 factors addressed in the Judicial Reform Index (JRI), representing a 37.5% increase since 2001, as it relates to the judiciary's capacity to protect citizens' essential civil and economic rights. The FY 2004 target was a 50% positive score, a target that was nearly met. The NGO Sustainability Index for 2004 improved from 4.7 in 2003 to 4.0 (one being the highest), thus meeting the target set for the year, but still remaining in the mid-transition range, demonstrating that the NGO sector as a whole is not yet sustainable.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Montenegro

170-0200 Democracy and Governance	AEEB
Through September 30, 2003	
Obligations	5,570
Expenditures	1,454
Unliquidated	4,116
Fiscal Year 2004	
Obligations	5,336
Expenditures	2,914
Through September 30, 2004	
Obligations	10,906
Expenditures	4,368
Unliquidated	6,538
Prior Year Unobligated Funds	
Obligations	1,269
Planned Fiscal Year 2005 NOA	
Obligations	1,398
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2005	
Obligations	2,667
Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 NOA	
Obligations	1,320
Future Obligations	2,400
Est. Total Cost	17,293