## **Data Sheet**

USAID Mission:West African Regional Program (WARP)Program Title:Food Security and Natural Resource Management

Pillar: Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade

Strategic Objective: 624-006
Status: Continuing

Planned FY 2005 Obligation: Continuing \$6,314,000 DA

Prior Year Unobligated: \$0
Proposed FY 2006 Obligation: \$7,500,000 DA

Year of Initial Obligation: 47,500,500 BA

Estimated Year of Final Obligation: 2007

**Summary:** Economic development in West Africa is hindered by natural disasters such as recurring drought and invasions of locusts and by an agricultural system in which subsistence farming still predominates. USAID's program seeks to reduce vulnerability to catastrophic events and to increase incomes by 1) supporting regional systems for monitoring food security and mitigating the impact of disasters; 2) improving the ability to manage the region's natural resource base; 3) promoting agricultural growth through improved access to income enhancing technologies; and 4) fostering economic integration and growth through agricultural policy initiatives.

## Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2005 Program: Improve Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Mitigation (\$1,500,000 DA). USAID is the lead donor supporting the region's crop monitoring system. To increase food security and help mitigate the effect of disasters, USAID strengthens regional capacity to monitor food production and respond to potential food crises. Activities include supporting field missions to evaluate crop production and the famine early warning systems in 11 countries, drafting and disseminating 10 regional monitoring reports on the state of the agricultural season, producing national crop monitoring reports in nine countries, and preparing and publishing five regional reports on food security issues. In addition, USAID will train professionals from 11 countries to analyze satellite images for food security monitoring. USAID will also finance the expansion of the regional crop monitoring system to two coastal countries (Togo and Benin), and will deploy an improved food security monitoring tool, the vulnerability assessment mechanism (VAM) that monitors not only cereal production, but all sources of farmers' livelihoods in three countries. Finally, USAID will provide training to the national crop protection units in nine countries, and equipment and resources to six countries for locust control. Principal grantees: Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) (prime).

Improve Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and Biodiversity Conservation (\$600,000 DA). USAID helps to monitor the environmental changes taking place in the region and improve management of the region's natural resources. To accomplish this goal, USAID works with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) to provide 17 countries in the region with satellite images and maps of their natural resources. USAID also trains environmental scientists from 15 countries to analyze and use this information for decision-making, including making forecasts about future land resource conditions. USAID supports the operations of CILSS' regional natural resource management unit, where much of this training and analysis takes place. Finally USAID helps CILSS to disseminate natural resources management techniques, to produce brochures, information bulletins, and reports on environmental issues, and to assist three countries (Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone) to prepare National Environmental Action Plans. Principal grantees: CILSS and the U.S. Geological Survey (primes).

Increase Agriculture Productivity (\$3,214,000 DA). Under the Initiative to End Hunger in Africa, USAID seeks to promote agricultural growth through basic research in key cereals, improve the allocation of scarce research funds, and transfer technologies with the potential for quick adoption and for increasing incomes. To accomplish this, USAID provides operating funds to the primary agricultural research coordinating institutions in the region. USAID also invests in basic research and the transfer of knowledge and germ-plasm in four key cereal crops - maize, rice, sorghum and millet - that are important

to millions of farmers in the region, in horticultural crops with the potential to improve nutrition and increase incomes, and in biotechnologies to eliminate viruses in rice and tomatoes. USAID will produce 25 brochures, manuals, and technical bulletins that will be used by extension services and farmers' organizations; transfer 15 new technologies to increase crop productivity, and train 76 technicians and 500 farmers in new agricultural technologies and practices. Principal contractors and grantees: CILSS (prime); and others to be determined.

Improve Economic Policy and Governance (\$1,000,000 DA). Under the Initiative to End Hunger in Africa, USAID seeks to promote agricultural growth through policy reform and regional integration. USAID supports the development of and provides technical assistance to develop a regional biosafety policy, a necessary precondition for the introduction of bioengineered crops. USAID is also supporting the development of policies for expansion of the electric power grid to agricultural production areas. Principal contractors and grantees: CILSS (prime); Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the West and Central Africa Council for Agricultural Research and Development (subs); and others to be determined.

**FY 2006 Program:** Improve Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Mitigation (\$1,500,000 DA). USAID will continue to support the region's crop monitoring system, including extending the system and crop monitoring training to coastal countries. Medium-term training for locust control will also be provided as will implementation of the VAM to three more countries. Same implementers as FY 2005.

Improve Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and Biodiversity Conservation (\$600,000 DA). USAID will use the information and maps produced to date to influence national environmental policies. Additional staff from national governments will be trained in the use of image analysis, modeling and resource management forecasting. USAID will also disseminate information on natural resources management practices to key national ministries. Same implementers as FY 2005.

Increase Agricultural Productivity (\$4,900,000 DA). USAID plans to expand its focus on agribusiness and the private sector. In particular, it will promote the development of the food processing cluster that serves the region's growing urban markets. USAID intends to target established food processors seeking better quality inputs from farmers and suppliers, work with industry on grades and standards, and strengthen regional food technology institutes. Principal contractors and grantees: to be determined.

Improve Economic Policy and Governance (\$500,000 DA). USAID plans to continue to support the development of the regional biosafety framework. USAID will also assist ECOWAS to develop policies in the domains of norms and standards, agricultural research and development policy, and regional information systems. Same implementers as FY 2005.

Performance and Results: USAID's investment in the regional food monitoring system has had a major impact on regional food security. Specifically, USAID's support of CILSS has strengthened the organization's ability to effectively manage and implement key programs. The result has been improved crop monitoring and a more effective regional famine early warning system. During the recent locust invasion of six Sahelian countries, CILSS demonstrated its importance to the region by playing a critical role in tracking the expected impact of the invasion. USAID has also improved environmental monitoring in the region. Recently, CILSS published a major study on the state of the environment in the Sahel. Additionally, USAID programs enabled the collection and transfer of Landsat and Corona satellite images covering a 40-year period to 17 countries thus providing the region with the data required to do effective forward planning in this area. The VAM, mentioned above, promises to be an extremely effective tool for identifying vulnerable populations and has strengthened capacity to rapidly respond to their needs. More recently, USAID has made significant achievements in agriculture. In FY 2004, USAID partners trained 600 people in technical subjects such as hydrology and crop protection; developed 106 new informational products (crop bulletins and educational materials on biotechnology); and developed 93 new technologies such as cereal varieties, and disseminated 23 of them regionally. USAID's program will not only make the region more food secure, but will also increase incomes and help break the prevailing cycle of subsistence farming and poverty.

## **US Financing in Thousands of Dollars**

## West African Regional Program (WARP)

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624-006 Food Security and Natural Resource Management	DA	DFA	ESF
Through September 30, 2003			
Obligations	16,576	4,600	3,550
Expenditures	7,884	4,576	1,447
Unliquidated	8,692	24	2,103
Fiscal Year 2004			
Obligations	7,480	0	0
Expenditures	3,247	0	640
Through September 30, 2004			
Obligations	24,056	4,600	3,550
Expenditures	11,131	4,576	2,087
Unliquidated	12,925	24	1,463
Prior Year Unobligated Funds			
Obligations	0	0	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2005 NOA			
Obligations	6,314	0	0
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2005			
Obligations	6,314	0	0
Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 NOA			
Obligations	7,500	0	0
Future Obligations	15,000	0	0
Est. Total Cost	52,870	4,600	3,550