

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Regional Center for Southern Africa
Program Title:	A More Competitive Southern African Economy
Pillar:	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Strategic Objective:	690-014
Status:	New in FY 2004
Planned FY 2005 Obligation:	\$5,400,000 DA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2006 Obligation:	\$5,000,000 DA
Year of Initial Obligation:	2004
Estimated Year of Final Obligation:	2010

Summary: USAID's regional program to improve the economic competitiveness of southern African economies includes technical assistance and training to: (a) reduce policy and regulatory barriers to free trade; (b) deepen capacity to negotiate and implement trade agreements; and (c) develop intra-regional and international business linkages and industrial clusters. This program is organized as a Regional Trade Hub, and as such, serves as the programmatic vehicle for the Presidential Initiative on Trade for African Development and Enterprise. The program also provides a base for consolidated U.S. government trade advocacy services and advances Global Development Alliances (GDA) with the private sector.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2005 Program: Improve Economic Policy and Governance (\$1,000,000 DA). USAID is providing technical assistance to regional and national officials to coordinate policies to improve economic stability and simplify trade rules among regional trade regimes. USAID is supporting private sector engagement in public policy advocacy on market liberalization, regulatory compliance and government transparency. Further, USAID is supporting increased competitiveness by helping to reduce transport and transaction costs through streamlining government involvement and supporting private-sector investment in these sectors. Principal contractor: The Services Group (prime).

Increase Participation in Global Trade and Investment (\$1,450,000 DA). USAID is improving regional trade capacity by assisting southern African countries to interpret and enforce regional and global trade commitments. Programs offer trade capacity training, promotion of private sector involvement in trade policy, attracting private sector partners to jointly fund selected regional sector development, and provide commercial advice advocacy for regional firms to engage in U.S. trade opportunities such as the Africa Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA). USAID continues to fund trade capacity-building support to the Southern African Customs Unions participating in Free Trade Agreement negotiations with the United States. Principal contractor: The Services Group (prime).

Increase Private Sector Growth (\$2,950,000 DA). USAID assistance is promoting increased U.S. - African business linkages under AGOA and regional business development. USAID support is facilitating the development of competitive clusters of firms and making use of partnerships with the private sector in targeted industries. Principal contractors: The Services Group (prime), CARANA Corporation (prime); Abt Associates, Incorporated (sub).

FY 2006 Program: Improve Economic Policy and Governance (\$1,000,000 DA). USAID plans to continue implementing activities begun in FY 2005, i.e., coordinate policies to increase economic growth and investor confidence, assist private sector groups to engage in public policy, implement free trade legislation and improve private sector participation in transport and customs services. Principal contractor: The Services Group (prime).

Increase Participation in Global Trade and Investment (\$1,500,000 DA). USAID expects to build capacity in regional and global trade structures, promote policy reforms and reduce impediments to competitiveness including reducing tariffs that penalize value-added processing in the region. Principal

contractor: The Services Group (prime).

Increase Private Sector Growth (\$2,500,000 DA). USAID plans to continue expanding U.S.-African business linkages, providing technical assistance to improve the competitiveness of African products and services, and publicizing the role of trade in combating poverty. USAID will foster public-private partnerships within the region and from abroad. Principal contractors: The Services Group (prime), CARANA Corporation (prime); Abt Associates, Incorporated (sub).

Performance and Results: Program implementation has just begun under the new USAID strategy. By the end of the strategy, USAID expects significant growth in total exports within the region and globally. Southern Africa also will have attracted increased Foreign Direct Investment as well as house companies that produce products that are competitive in regional and world markets. An increased number of business associations will be engaged in advocacy regarding public policy and regulatory issues.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Regional Center for Southern Africa

690-014 A More Competitive Southern African Economy	DA	DFA
Through September 30, 2003		
Obligations	0	0
Expenditures	0	0
Unliquidated	0	0
Fiscal Year 2004		
Obligations	6,000	2,500
Expenditures	83	0
Through September 30, 2004		
Obligations	6,000	2,500
Expenditures	83	0
Unliquidated	5,917	2,500
Prior Year Unobligated Funds		
Obligations	0	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2005 NOA		
Obligations	5,400	0
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2005		
Obligations	5,400	0
Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 NOA		
Obligations	5,000	0
Future Obligations	46,061	0
Est. Total Cost	62,461	2,500