

## Data Sheet

<b>USAID Mission:</b>	Cuba
<b>Program Title:</b>	Civil Society Developed
<b>Pillar:</b>	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
<b>Strategic Objective:</b>	516-001
<b>Status:</b>	Continuing
<b>Planned FY 2006 Obligation:</b>	\$1,980,000 DA; \$8,910,000 ESF
<b>Prior Year Unobligated:</b>	\$0
<b>Proposed FY 2007 Obligation:</b>	\$9,000,000 ESF
<b>Year of Initial Obligation:</b>	1996
<b>Estimated Year of Final Obligation:</b>	

**Summary:** The primary goal of U.S. foreign policy towards Cuba is to hasten the transition to a democratic, market oriented government in Cuba. U.S. national interests in Cuba also include protecting American citizens and controlling U.S. borders by ensuring safe, legal, and orderly migration from Cuba. USAID's program will: increase solidarity with Cuban human rights activists; give greater voice for Cuba's independent journalists; develop and enhance independent Cuban non-governmental organizations; increase provision of direct outreach to the Cuban people; and increase planning efforts for a future political transition.

### **Inputs, Outputs, Activities:**

#### **FY 2006 Program:**

Strengthen Civil Society (\$8,910,000 ESF and \$1,980,000 DA). ESF funds are focusing on programs that increase solidarity with Cuban human rights activists, increase direct outreach to the Cuban people, and increase planning for a future political transition. ESF funds will also give greater voice for Cuba's independent journalists and enhance development of independent Cuban NGOs. USAID's program is reaching out to the Cuban people by transmitting accurate information on democracy, human rights and free enterprise to Cuban citizens. Information will flow via web pages which publish reports from independent journalists in Cuba, and through newsletters, faxes and e-mails to Cubans on the island. The program continues to work with U.S. universities, U.S. and U.S.-based Cuban NGOs, and independent Cuban citizens, to develop specific plans for assistance to a transition government, and to train prospective Cuban leaders in the functioning of free market economies. In addition, USAID DA funds continue to provide humanitarian support to Cuba's political prisoners, their families and those affected by natural or man-made emergencies on the island. The program will strengthen the capacity of independent Cuban NGOs through exchange visits between Cuba, the United States and other nations. The U.S. Department of State (DOS) is contemplating a transfer of a portion of these funds to the DOS/Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor for implementation.

#### **FY 2007 Program:**

Strengthen Civil Society (\$9,000,000 ESF). USAID will continue building solidarity with Cuba's human rights activists by continuing to support distribution of reports by Cuba's independent journalists and transmitting accurate information on democracy, human rights and free enterprise. The program will continue working with U.S. universities, U.S. and Cuban NGOs, and independent Cuban citizens, and to further transition planning. The program will continue to train prospective Cuban leaders in the functioning of free market economies. In addition, USAID will continue to provide humanitarian assistance to political prisoners, their families and others negatively affected by natural or man-made emergencies. Solidarity with independent human rights and civil society groups will be further strengthened via support of exchange visits of Cuban NGOs between Cuba, the United States and third countries. Exchange visits will enhance the capacity and effectiveness of independent Cuban NGOs and inform Cuban society about the functioning of a democratic society and individual entitlement to basic human rights and freedom of expression.

**Performance and Results:** In FY 2005, the Cuban democratic opposition initiated more than 1,800 acts of civic resistance. Civil society activities increased in spite of the Cuban government's March 2003

arrest and imprisonment of 75 activists, and despite increasing use of violence by Cuban authorities attempting to intimidate human rights activists, independent librarians, independent journalists, and other independent groups. The USAID program has helped attract increased international support for Cuban activists. Program partners delivered more than 100,700 pounds of food and medicine to families of political prisoners, human rights activists, and other victims of repression throughout Cuba. After Hurricane Dennis hit the island in August 2005, program partners provided food, shelter and other basic needs to Cuban activists who, through their broad on-island networks, helped thousands who had lost their homes and livelihood.

In FY 2005, program partners published via the internet more than 3,000 reports from Cuba's independent journalists. These reports were circulated in hard copy newsletters and by e-mail throughout the island as well as abroad. The program provided journalism training through correspondence courses and teleconferences to more than 100 independent journalists. USAID partners provided thousands of books, newsletters, videos and other informational materials, as well as office equipment to improve the management capacity of Cuban NGOs and their ability to support local community needs. The independent library movement helped established 19 new independent libraries during FY 2005.

In spite of active resistance from the Cuban government, program partners provided more than 5,400 short wave radios to the Cuban people, enabling families and individuals to listen to international programming of their choice. Partners also provided more than 70,000 books, and more than one million newsletters, brochures and other informational materials to the Cuban people during FY 2005. The program distributes approximately 100,000 newsletters to Cuban households every month. The program also supported direct outreach activities of the U.S. Interests Section in Havana, including multi-media, and internet access for Cuban citizens and other visitors.

USAID supported the development of plans to assist a post-Castro transition government in Cuba and of a model property claims tribunal to assist future efforts to resolve property disputes resulting from the Castro government's confiscation of private property from U.S. and Cuban citizens over the past 47 years.

Continued successful implementation of the program will further develop Cuban civil society, with citizens increasingly knowledgeable of their civil, legal rights and responsibilities. Program activities will promote understanding of the functions and benefits of a free market enterprise system and will help to alleviate the suffering of political prisoners and their families. In addition, it will strengthen the role and social service delivery capacity of independent Cuban NGOs. The program will encourage discussion of economic, financial, and legal institutions which will be required in a post-Castro democratic and free-market Cuban society.

## US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Cuba

	DA	ESF
516-001 Civil Society Developed		
<b>Through September 30, 2004</b>		
Obligations	0	33,786
Expenditures	0	25,959
Unliquidated	0	7,827
<b>Fiscal Year 2005</b>		
Obligations	0	13,351
Expenditures	0	9,799
<b>Through September 30, 2005</b>		
Obligations	0	47,137
Expenditures	0	35,758
Unliquidated	0	11,379
<b>Prior Year Unobligated Funds</b>		
Obligations	0	0
<b>Planned Fiscal Year 2006 NOA</b>		
Obligations	1,980	8,910
<b>Total Planned Fiscal Year 2006</b>		
Obligations	1,980	8,910
<b>Proposed Fiscal Year 2007 NOA</b>		
Obligations	0	9,000
Future Obligations	0	17,777
Est. Total Cost	1,980	82,824