

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Lebanon
Program Title:	Strengthening Democracy through Economic Freedom
Pillar:	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Strategic Objective:	268-XXX
Status:	New in FY 2007
Planned FY 2006 Obligation:	\$0
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2007 Obligation:	\$15,500,000 ESF
Year of Initial Obligation:	2007
Estimated Year of Final Obligation:	2009

Summary: The goal of this strategic objective (SO) that is being developed under USAID's new strategy for Lebanon (FY 2007- FY 2009) is to promote economic growth and development for the purpose of serving democracy. Activities will build on the achievements of the previous economic growth objective. Economic growth activities will focus on fostering economic and social development at the municipal level, working upwards to national government institutions. The program will enhance grassroots movements to effect change and accountability, build on grassroots initiatives at domestic and regional levels to effectively use the strong opportunities for growth in the information and communication technology (ICT), tourism, and agri-business sectors. Activities will utilize the current international climate for political, security, and economic alliances that will achieve transparent governance, ultimately leading to expanded economic freedom. The program will foster institutional change through the prosperity and growth of the middle class, mitigating the appeal of extremist ideologies.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2006 Program:

This objective is new in FY 2007 and builds on the activities under SO 268-001 that will close in FY 2006.

FY 2007 Program:

Achieve Equitable Access to Quality Basic Education (\$300,000 ESF). Funds will be used to provide more than 200 high school students with scholarship assistance at American educational institutions. Principal Implementer: To Be Determined (TBD).

Improve Private Sector Competitiveness (\$4,500,000 ESF). USAID plans to reinforce the economic and social foundations of democracy through a number of activities targeting selected private sectors, namely ICT, tourism, and physical infrastructure construction. Funds will be used to develop sustainable tourism activities to improve the living standards of rural communities and reinforce geographical expansion of tourism through niche markets. The ICT sector yields numerous opportunities for development, including potential for employment, reducing the cost of bandwidth, software development, and telecommunications infrastructure. Principal Implementer: TBD.

Increase Agricultural Sector Productivity (\$6,900,000 ESF). USAID plans to create jobs and increase incomes by assisting agri-businesses with the production and marketing of specialty agricultural products locally and for export. New USAID programs under this component will take into consideration previous experience and build on past successes and lessons learned and will continue to focus on agri-business small and medium enterprise development, niche food processing, and support for subsistence producers as part of a social safety net. Principal Implementer: TBD.

Increase Capacity of Higher Education to Contribute to Development (\$3,700,000 ESF). USAID funding will provide more than 850 university students with scholarship assistance at American educational institutions. Without USAID's assistance, these students would not be able to have access to American-style education. Principal Implementer: TBD.

Protect and Increase the Assets and Livelihoods of the Poor (\$100,000 ESF). The amount of \$100,000 might be used to provide small grants to support local non-governmental organizations in their humanitarian and development projects. Principal Implementer: TBD.

Performance and Results: As this SO will be launched in FY 2007, no performance can be reported at this time.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Lebanon

268-XXX Strengthening Democracy through Economic Freedom	DA	ESF
Through September 30, 2004		
Obligations	0	0
Expenditures	0	0
Unliquidated	0	0
Fiscal Year 2005		
Obligations	0	0
Expenditures	0	0
Through September 30, 2005		
Obligations	0	0
Expenditures	0	0
Unliquidated	0	0
Prior Year Unobligated Funds		
Obligations	0	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2006 NOA		
Obligations	0	0
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2006		
Obligations	0	0
Proposed Fiscal Year 2007 NOA		
Obligations	0	15,500
Future Obligations	700	20,000
Est. Total Cost	700	35,500