

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Ukraine
Program Title:	Strengthening Citizen Participation
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	121-0213
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$13,361,000 FSA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$7,173,000 FSA
Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:	\$12,403,000 FSA
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 2003
Year of Final Obligation:	FY 2007

Summary: USAID's program fosters increased participation of citizens in promoting their interests and rights by: strengthening the effectiveness of civil society organizations (CSOs); making political parties more representative of citizens' concerns; improving the credibility and competitiveness of the electoral process; and increasing the availability of quality information.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

Civil Society (\$7,774,043 FSA, \$1,956,333 FSA carryover). USAID will work to assure more credible and fair presidential elections in 2004. The civil society project (UCAN) will provide advocacy training to CSOs promoting a fair electoral process and will award small grants to think tanks interested in conducting and disseminating analyses of the most salient political and economic issues of the election year. The project will focus on building the capacity of CSOs to stimulate civic initiatives, to increase public awareness of civic actions, and to improve organizational management and financial viability. The Eurasia small grants program has allocated grants for Ukrainian NGOs in three areas: public administration reform; civil society (including election related activities); and private enterprise development. USAID will work on designing a new anti-corruption project to further advance policy measures to decrease corruption. Principal contractor/grantee: Institute for Sustainable Communities and the Eurasia Foundation (prime). The implementing partner for the anti-corruption project will be determined.

Elections (\$1,000,000 FSA, \$4,750,000 FSA carryover). Two activities to support elections will be initiated. The first activity will strengthen the competitiveness and the credibility of the electoral process through improving the legal and regulatory framework as well as the adherence to this legal framework by the Government of Ukraine (GOU), political parties, and candidates. The goal of the second activity is to ensure that the election process is more participatory, transparent, and accountable through improved voter education, participation and oversight. Principal contractor/grantee: to be determined.

Media programs (\$2,158,000 FSA, \$466,854 FSA carryover). USAID's media programs will offer training to journalists on election-related issues and media law and will support voter education nation-wide. The Strengthening of Independent Media Program will continue providing institutional support to Ukrainian media associations and increased access to legal aid to journalists and media outlets. Under the Ukraine Reform Education Program (UREP), USAID will support the production of news and information products to ensure the availability of quality information within Ukraine's constrained media environment. To increase citizen understanding of key reform issues, USAID will fund the broadcast of over 90 hours of TV news, 100 hours of radio news, the production of 10 different brochures, as well as a bi-monthly publication with a total circulation of 14,000. Principal contractor/grantees: Internews Network and the Center for Ukrainian Reform Education), a Ukrainian NGO.

Political parties (\$2,429,173 FSA). Training for political parties on sound platform development and party poll watching will continue. Technical assistance will be provided to the Committee of Voters of Ukraine

(CVU) to improve its election monitoring. A series of coalition building trainings will be conducted for party leaders from three different political blocs to promote cooperation across party lines. Grantees are the International Republican Institute (IRI) and the National Democratic Institute (NDI), (both prime).

FY 2005 Program:

Plans include launching of a newly designed anti-corruption project with activities, which could include the analysis and further advancement of anti-corruption policy reform measures and associated NGO initiatives. Principal contractor/grantee: to be determined.

Civil society project (UCAN) (\$8,322,581 FSA). UCAN will support efforts for networking and outreach activities throughout Ukraine, complementing on-going support to CSOs through grants and training. It will focus on refining the systems and mechanisms that have been put in place to assure responsive, client-driven provision of training, consulting, information, networking and grants for CSOs. Attention will be given to developing initiatives to strengthen the information technology capacity of CSOs. The Eurasia Foundation will provide grants in the areas of civil society, private enterprise development, and public administration policy and reform. Principal grantees: The Institute for Sustainable Communities and the Eurasia Foundation (primes)..

The Strengthening of Independent Media Program (\$3,080,146 FSA). The program will continue to support an improved legal and regulatory environment, and to facilitate legal aid and legal defense for journalists. The USAID-supported Ukraine Reform Education Program (UREP) will continue to reach Ukrainians through an array of dissemination tools (TV, radio, publications, press club network, website, trainings, information line, etc.). UREP will remain active in ensuring that accurate and unbiased information on various reform topics is disseminated throughout Ukraine. Prime contractor/grantees: Internews Network and the Center for Ukrainian Reform Education (CURE), a Ukrainian NGO.

Strengthening the legal framework and the voter participation and oversight for elections (\$1,000,000 FSA). Activities in this area will target the parliamentary elections, currently scheduled for 2006. The specific activities will largely depend on the quality and the outcome of the preceding presidential elections in October 2004. Under political party training, IRI plans to target women, youth, and political parties, focusing on get-out-the-vote efforts, preventing election fraud, and citizen participation. NDI will promote the emergence of strong political parties at the national and regional level and help the Committee of Voters of Ukraine (CVU) attract new members and diversify its funding and design. Grantees are IRI and NDI (prime).

Performance and Results: USAID's activities achieved the following results in 2003: enhancement of civic participation by strengthening the capacity of CSOs to foster civic initiative and government responsiveness and accountability; improvements in media and CSO legislation; increase in cooperation among political factions; formation of political blocs; and improvements in political parties organizational and public outreach efforts.

By program completion, USAID expects that some parties will improve the extent to which they seek to promote their platforms. Public policy will receive broad public hearing, and pressure to reduce corruption and improve accountability of public organizations will be intensified. Professionalism of an independent media will be strengthened. Citizens will have better understanding of the reform issues. Free speech activists will diversify their advocacy campaigns tactics.