

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	East Timor
Program Title:	Support for Democratic Transition
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	472-003
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$11,000,000 ESF
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$3,100,000 ESF
Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:	\$6,500,000 ESF
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 2001
Year of Final Obligation:	FY 2005

Summary: USAID's democracy program responds to East Timor's post-conflict development priorities. It includes four components:

- Increasing public participation in national and local governance by strengthening independent media, political parties and civil society organizations, and fostering civilian oversight of uniformed forces;
- Improving citizens' access to justice through judicial institution building and personnel training, expanding the reach of legal aid groups and increasing citizens' knowledge of rights, responsibilities and legal processes;
- Strengthening government and independent institutions, including local and national legislative and executive bodies, to implement democratic processes, adopt effective legislation and deliver services to communities; and
- Supporting the World Bank and Government of East Timor's Transitional Support Program (TSP) which provides budget support to the East Timorese government.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

Increasing public participation in governance (\$1,000,000 ESF, \$1,200,000 ESF Prior Year Unobligated). USAID will help civil society organizations in Dili and the districts develop advocacy and public outreach skills and build institutional capacity. USAID will support the efforts of community groups to strengthen local government responsiveness, political parties, and the National Parliament, while helping citizens solve their own problems without relying on government resources. USAID programs will enhance media professionalism, develop investigative journalism skills and sustainable management practices, and improve the legal environment. USAID will supplement technical assistance with small grants to local radio and newspapers. A successful program fostering constructive civil-military relations will be maintained. Prime grantees are Catholic Relief Services, International Republican Institute, Internews, and National Democratic Institute.

Improving citizen access to justice (\$1,300,000 ESF, \$500,000 ESF Prior Year Unobligated). To help develop East Timor's nascent judicial system, judges, prosecutors and public defenders in national and district courts will receive a mix of technical assistance and training. USAID will support legal aid services, efficient court administration, alternative dispute resolution, and public information campaigns to further citizens' knowledge of justice. Small grants will provide essential materials and equipment to the formal justice sector and support monitoring and advocacy by civil society organizations. Principle grantees are The Asia Foundation, International Development Law Organization, and International Foundation for Election Systems.

Strengthening government and independent institutions (\$1,200,000 ESF, \$1,400,000 ESF Prior Year Unobligated). USAID's technical assistance to East Timor's new legislative and executive bodies will lead to transparent and well-informed legislative drafting procedures that reflect public input into the decision-making processes. USAID will support the development of the Public Broadcast Service (PBS) and the

establishment of a Government Information Office to improve transparency in governance. USAID will support institutions such as the Ombudsman's office, the President's Office and the State Secretariat for Social Services that address the needs of potentially vulnerable groups, including veterans. Principle grantees are The Asia Foundation, Foundation Hironnelle, and International Foundation for Election Systems.

The Program Support Initiative (PSI) (\$1,500,000 ESF). PSI is a small grants mechanism that supports the three above program areas with small grants and operational costs. These grants support local organizations, Timorese government, or independent institutions as specific needs arise. The prime contractor is Development Alternatives Inc.

Transitional Support Program (TSP) (\$5,000,000 ESF). The U.S. Government is a major contributor to the TSP program. USAID intends to transfer the remaining tranche to the World Bank-administered TSP to meet critical budgetary shortfalls facing the Government of East Timor following performance benchmarks jointly agreed to by donors and the Government of East Timor.

Operating Expenses (\$1,000,000 ESF). Congressional authority has allowed USAID to use up to \$1,000,000 to support USAID administrative and management expenses.

FY 2005 Program:

Rule of law and local governance (\$2,500,000 ESF) and Small grants (\$1,000,000 ESF). USAID's transitional country strategy ends in 2004, and USAID is developing the country strategy for 2005 - 2009. Based on stakeholder discussions and the preliminary findings of the recent Democracy and Governance Assessment, USAID proposes a narrowing of the existing program. USAID will focus on the critical areas of the rule of law and local governance and in providing small grants to support NGOs promoting citizen's participation and advocacy. Rule of law will emphasize the formal justice system and alternative dispute resolution while local governance will emphasize popular participation and improved service delivery.

TSP (\$2,000,000 ESF) and administrative expenses (\$1,000,000 ESF). In the critical years of budget shortfall prior to East Timor receiving significant gas and oil revenues, USAID will continue to contribute to the TSP. Administrative expenses to support program management and oversight will be required.

Performance and Results: Citizen Participation. A media monitoring unit was established to provide constructive and quantitative feedback to media managers, trainers and mentors. Over the first two quarters measured, media outlets improved accuracy, quality and management skills by 16.3%. A code of practice workshop resulted in all 16-community radio stations adopting a shared code of best practice. Several political parties formed a new platform alliance after participating in USAID training on platform development and coalition building. USAID assisted the majority party's youth organization in holding a national congress to elect leadership, develop a platform and strengthen youths' role within the party. As a result of participation in the civic forum, the 77 community organizing committees have successfully lobbied government officials for improved services with nearly 70% of their requests receiving a positive response. Targeted training for women led to a 12% increase in women's participation in the organizing committees. Training for civil society working groups produced seven reports analyzing social problems with recommendations for draft legislation. The reports were then discussed in parliamentary committees.

Access to justice and institutional building. The public defenders national office established regular visits to all prisons, improving information about individual cases to those detained and reducing the number of irregular detentions, particularly for juveniles. Legal education resulted in additional cases being brought to the formal justice system, especially those of domestic violence and land disputes. A legal glossary was developed to assist judicial, legal, law enforcement and others to improve the effectiveness of justice sector service in a multi-language environment. USAID's support for PBS allowed it to continue broadcasting, install a board of directors, and establish policies and procedures allowing PBS to run as an independent entity. The parliamentary commission held the first public hearing in the district of Oecusse on border security issues.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

East Timor

	DA	ESF
472-003 Support for Democratic Transition		
Through September 30, 2002		
Obligations	374	20,532
Expenditures	10	4,561
Unliquidated	364	15,971
Fiscal Year 2003		
Obligations	0	11,916
Expenditures	197	14,485
Through September 30, 2003		
Obligations	374	32,448
Expenditures	207	19,046
Unliquidated	167	13,402
Prior Year Unobligated Funds		
Obligations	0	3,100
Planned Fiscal Year 2004 NOA		
Obligations	0	11,000
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2004		
Obligations	0	14,100
Proposed Fiscal Year 2005 NOA		
Obligations	0	6,500
Future Obligations	0	0
Est. Total Cost	374	53,048