

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Cambodia
Program Title:	Improving Basic Education
Pillar:	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Strategic Objective:	442-011
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$2,000,000 DA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$1,187,000 DA
Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:	\$2,200,000 DA
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 2003
Year of Final Obligation:	FY 2005

Summary: The USAID basic education program in Cambodia promotes improvements in the relevance and quality of basic education through curriculum reform and teacher training.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

Improve quality of education (\$2,000,000 DA; \$1,187,000 DA Prior Year Unobligated). USAID will fund the development of a new curriculum for grades one through nine that will include a life-skills component focused on civic education, health and nutrition, and practical knowledge of the agro-ecosystem. This curriculum will reinforce language, math, science and critical thinking skills covered in the core basic education curriculum. Students will apply these skills to address everyday problems faced at school, home and in the community. USAID's implementing partner will work with the Ministry of Education (MOE) to select and design curriculum materials to achieve defined age-specific competencies. Program priorities include gender balance in enrollment, inclusive education for students with disabilities, and assuring continued attendance for poor females, minority groups (including Cambodia's Islamic Cham population) and students in remote areas. Activities will also support the recruitment and training of teachers from Cambodia's minority groups, highland tribes, and the large disabled population. The program will strengthen understanding and support of the life-skills curriculum and student-centered learning methodologies at all levels of the basic education system, including teachers, teacher trainers, school administrators and education sector officials. It will provide information to parents and local government officials, including elected commune council members. The life-skills curriculum and syllabi will be phased into the regular pre- and in-service training program in selected cluster schools and provincial teacher training colleges (PTTCs) for testing and evaluation. Activities will be implemented in all 22 provinces of Cambodia, in all 18 provincial teacher training colleges and in six regional training colleges, promising a broad impact over the entire national primary education system. The implementing agency will be announced in the second quarter of FY 2004.

FY 2005 Program:

Improve quality of education (\$2,200,000 DA). USAID's implementing partner will finalize evaluation of and changes to the curriculum. The curriculum will be linked to textbooks and circulated through the education system. The program will continue on-the-job training for ministry staff in the design and testing of student-centered, competency-based curricula and learning materials. Partnerships will be strengthened between the MOE and stakeholders in the curriculum development and testing process. Coordination will continue with education sector working groups to achieve education for all and reform in the education sector. At the cluster school level, and at the PTTCs, teacher trainers will be trained in the delivery of the life-skills curriculum and the use of student-centered learning methodologies. The program will monitor and support trainers at PTTCs and teachers in schools for delivery of the life-skills curriculum. Parent groups will be involved in the schools to gain support and to discuss how parents can help their children master the required skills. The new curriculum will be publicized to build demand for education services in communities. Additional workshops and seminars will be conducted for school principals,

education sector officials and other stakeholders at the national, provincial and cluster school levels to strengthen understanding and support for the revised curriculum and improved methodologies.

Performance and Results: USAID and the Royal Government of Cambodia reached agreement on the project, results and indicators in FY 2003. Program implementation will begin the second quarter of FY 2004.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Cambodia

	DA	ESF
442-011 Improving Basic Education		
Through September 30, 2002		
Obligations	0	0
Expenditures	0	0
Unliquidated	0	0
Fiscal Year 2003		
Obligations	2,600	2,000
Expenditures	0	0
Through September 30, 2003		
Obligations	2,600	2,000
Expenditures	0	0
Unliquidated	2,600	2,000
Prior Year Unobligated Funds		
Obligations	1,187	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2004 NOA		
Obligations	2,000	0
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2004		
Obligations	3,187	0
Proposed Fiscal Year 2005 NOA		
Obligations	2,200	0
Future Obligations	0	0
Est. Total Cost	7,987	2,000