

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Democratic Republic of the Congo
Program Title:	Basic Education
Pillar:	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Strategic Objective:	660-005
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$2,880,000 DA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:	\$3,270,000 DA
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 2004
Year of Final Obligation:	FY 2008

Summary: The USAID basic education objective in the DRC is focused on improving quality, access, and student retention, especially for girls by concentrating on improving community participation in education, improving teacher skills, and increasing the supply of appropriate texts and other learning materials. USAID/DRC expects to promote sustainable improvements in these educational areas by introducing innovative programs that generate enhanced educational impact and increased community participation.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

With basic education and Africa Education Initiative (AEI) funds from the Development Assistance (DA) account, USAID/DRC will increase the number of children enrolled in primary schools in targeted areas by 15% for girls and 10% for boys. USAID/DRC will also increase primary school completion rates over the life of the FY 2004-2008 Integrated Strategic Plan by 20% for girls and boys. The target for total number of children enrolled in primary schools affected by USAID programs will be 110,000. This number estimates that a total of 100 schools at 660 students per school will be reinforced with increased teacher capacity and learning materials, and will experience increased retention and achievement of students. The principal contractor has been Winrock International.

Improve the quality of basic education through innovative teacher training programs (\$1,380,000 DA). USAID will train teachers in the production and use of local materials that support the national curriculum and are based on active pedagogy, namely, one that encourages student-centered learning; develop technology-based community learning centers to improve teacher skills and materials development; and distribute the national curriculum and teachers' kits. These activities will result in a greater cadre of trained teachers; greater availability of teaching and learning materials; and improved student test scores. The principal contractor is Education Development Center.

Improve community participation in basic education (\$500,000 DA). USAID will link scholastic and community based learning activities; conduct information, education, and communication (IEC) campaigns on the value of education for girls; promote community fund raising programs and capacity development of school boards, parent teacher organizations, student associations and other support groups; administer skill programs for Parent-Teacher Association members, teachers and school administrators; and support learning and other development learning opportunities through community radio.

Increase access, retention, and achievement particularly for girls (\$1,000,000 DA). USAID will fund activities to mentor female students; train teachers not to reflect gender bias in the classroom; ensure adequate sanitation facilities for girls (where appropriate); disburse scholarships to girls; train teachers to motivate and engage students; and develop income generating activities for parents in collaboration with the Mission's Livelihoods activities.

FY 2005 Program:

With continued DA funding (\$3,270,000 DA), USAID/DRC plans to continue and reinforce activities funded in FY 2004 to increase the quality of and access to education, as well as retention and performance of students, especially girls. Implementing partners will be selected through a competitive process.

Performance and Results: Building on the sound successes of the prior strategy, USAID/DRC's education program, which provides scholarships and incentives for girls to stay in school, is currently enabling 9,350 primary school girls to go to school in six towns across the DRC. In addition, the project provides education support for female HIV/AIDS orphans; scholarships to 45 high school girls to receive English language training at the U.S. Embassy's Congo American Language Institute; support to basic education and training in sign language to 61 deaf Congolese children; and 10 computers to a high school in Kinshasa in collaboration with the Dikembe Mutombo Foundation, which also donated 10 computers to the same school. USAID launched a radio-based training program for teachers and opened an internet based Community Learning and Resource Center, which has 17 computers. The 20 teacher trainers already show an increased interest in the creation of culturally appropriate instructional materials for youth and adults based on innovative pedagogy, using appropriate local technologies. With a daily attendance of between 50-70 teachers, students, nurses, and other community members, the center has become central to community life and has significantly increased access to educational information such as the national curriculum. Teachers in the community say that it has tremendously improved their basic educational methodologies (many of them had never seen the national curriculum).

The end-state of this strategic objective is to increase: 1) the quality of education; 2) the number of children enrolled in primary schools affected by USAID activities by 15% for girls and 10% for boys; and 3) the number of children in targeted areas of the DRC completing primary school by 20%. Overall, the objective is to reach between 65,000 to 110,000 children in the schools affected by USAID programs.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Democratic Republic of the Congo

660-005 Basic Education	DA
Through September 30, 2002	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	0
Fiscal Year 2003	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Through September 30, 2003	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	0
Prior Year Unobligated Funds	
Obligations	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2004 NOA	
Obligations	2,880
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2004	
Obligations	2,880
Proposed Fiscal Year 2005 NOA	
Obligations	3,270
Future Obligations	16,450
Est. Total Cost	22,600