

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Nicaragua
Program Title:	Investing in People
Pillar:	Global Health
Strategic Objective:	524-023
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$7,805,000 CSH; \$5,300,000 DA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:	\$6,913,000 CSH; \$3,010,000 DA; \$4,753,000 PL 480
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 2003
Year of Final Obligation:	FY 2008

Summary: This strategic objective will help sustain and expand significant but fragile gains in basic education, primary health care, child nutrition, family planning, reproductive health care, and HIV/AIDS prevention and care. USAID will concentrate its development assistance on efforts to: improve government capacity to plan, budget and manage equitable health and education investments; increase access to quality basic education; and improve health status at the household and community levels. All family planning assistance agreements will incorporate clauses that implement the President's directive restoring the Mexico City policy.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

Social sector investment and transparency (\$3,855,000 CSH, \$1,300,000 DA). USAID will fund technical assistance and training to improve the Government of Nicaragua's capacity to plan and manage health and education investments and to decentralize these services for greater impact and participation. USAID will work with the Ministries of Health and Education to identify, replicate, and institutionalize successful models for providing high-quality health and education services in municipalities. Commodity procurement for the Ministry of Health will provide a social safety net for contraceptive services while the Government of Nicaragua develops a contraceptive security plan and allocates adequate resources. USAID will also fund technical assistance to strengthen the capacity of health and education institutions at the municipal and departmental levels. USAID will work with the Nicaraguan Social Security Institute to improve the accreditation, quality control, certification and financing of the growing market of private health sector providers. A loan guarantee initiative under a Development Credit Authority mechanism will leverage private sector banks to support commercial health development projects. Principal contractors, grantees, or agencies will be selected through a competitive process.

Access to quality education (\$4,000,000 DA). USAID will work with the Government of Nicaragua and other donors to implement the national education plan and the World Bank's Education for All-Fast Track Initiative, particularly in replicating and expanding USAID's successful model school program nationwide. USAID's technical assistance will ensure that high-quality teaching, curricula standards, active and participatory learning, and community involvement are adapted into the Government of Nicaragua's proposal for "Centers for Learning and Progress". The principal contractor in FY 2004 is the Academy for Educational Development. For the remainder of the strategy, principal contractors, grantees, or agencies to implement these activities will be selected through a competitive process.

Maternal and child health (\$3,950,000 CSH). Working in coordination with the Ministry of Health and a national NGO federation, USAID will fund technical assistance and training to help improve household health behaviors and practices, including timely care-seeking. A central focus will be on scaling up these initiatives nationally. USAID will help prevent transmission of HIV/AIDS, targeting high-risk behavior groups and strengthening the country coordinating mechanism of the Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. USAID plans to utilize previously competed Bureau for Global Health field support mechanisms. Principal contractors, grantees, or agencies will be selected through a competitive process.

Food security. With P.L. 480 Title II resources, USAID will target high-risk, food-insecure communities to improve child feeding practices with growth monitoring and nutrition counseling. In addition, USAID will integrate activities funded with monetized resources to improve access and outreach of public sector health clinics by linking health staff with volunteer health workers and families in rural communities and by expanding integrated management of childhood illnesses and the comprehensive Integrated Child Care model to reduce chronic childhood malnutrition in food-insecure rural communities.

FY 2005 Program:

Social sector investment and transparency (\$3,550,000 CSH, \$300,000 DA). USAID plans to further facilitate the national program of decentralization of social sector service delivery; strengthen leadership and management capacity within the social sector ministries; support policy dialogue and advocacy for reforms; and build into the national budget process explicit equity and performance concerns for budgetary and resource planning decisions. USAID will provide continued commodity support, with technical assistance to improve commodity distribution. The same implementers as those selected in FY 2004 are expected.

Access to quality education (\$2,710,000 DA). USAID plans to continue its donor-coordinated support to implement the Government of Nicaragua's national education plan and the Education for All-Fast Track Initiative, as described above. The same implementers as those selected in FY 2004 are expected.

Maternal and child health (\$3,363,000 CSH). USAID plans to strengthen and consolidate the national scale-up of household and community health program interventions described above, in coordination with the Ministry of Health and a national NGO federation. These resources may help further focus and target public health services to the most under-served communities in rural Nicaragua. The same implementers as those selected in FY 2004 are expected.

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Performance and Results: This new strategic objective began in late FY 2003 under the Central America and Mexico Regional Strategy. Activities in support of this objective will help further reduce Nicaragua's infant mortality rate and chronic malnutrition among young children. Adolescents and young adults will increase their health knowledge, awareness, and exercise of such practices as abstinence, postponed sexual debut, fidelity, or modern barrier methods and contraceptives, with concomitant declines in teenage pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases. Existing inequities in health will be reduced by focusing the subsidized delivery of government services exclusively toward the poor and extremely poor. More Nicaraguans under the social security system will have access to high-quality, private health services. The quality of Nicaraguan primary schools will increase, as well as the number of students completing a high-quality primary and post-primary education.

By program completion, the Nicaraguan health and education systems, and social sector as a whole, will be more efficient, with more capable, standardized, accountable, decentralized administration. The Government of Nicaragua will have improved social sector policies, accountability, transparency, and governance.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Nicaragua

524-023 Investing in People	CSH	DA
Through September 30, 2002		
Obligations	0	0
Expenditures	0	0
Unliquidated	0	0
Fiscal Year 2003		
Obligations	7,480	4,367
Expenditures	4,997	786
Through September 30, 2003		
Obligations	7,480	4,367
Expenditures	4,997	786
Unliquidated	2,483	3,581
Prior Year Unobligated Funds		
Obligations	0	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2004 NOA		
Obligations	7,805	5,300
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2004		
Obligations	7,805	5,300
Proposed Fiscal Year 2005 NOA		
Obligations	6,913	3,010
Future Obligations	22,165	10,033
Est. Total Cost	44,363	22,710