

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Caribbean Regional Program
Program Title:	Global Competitiveness and Open Trade
Pillar:	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Strategic Objective:	538-x10
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$0
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:	\$4,362,000 DA; \$3,500,000 ESF
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 2005
Year of Final Obligation:	FY 2009

Summary: USAID's trade capacity building program is currently under development. It is expected to help the region rise to the challenge of succeeding in an open trade environment by becoming globally competitive. This effort requires making adjustments necessary to participate in the various trade regimes, and reducing constraints to business while leveraging market opportunities. In support of this initiative, the USAID program will assist in the development of the region's legal infrastructure to facilitate open trade as well as ensuring the development of environmental management measures which will enhance the trade environment.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

No activities will be carried out in FY 2004. This program will begin in FY 2005.

FY 2005 Program:

Regional legal infrastructure enhanced to facilitate open trade (\$1,000,000 ESF). USAID's program will focus on building a solid legal regional infrastructure to serve as the foundation for open trade and competitiveness. USAID continues support to the Caribbean Community Secretariat's (CARICOM) Regional Legislative Drafting Facility, in preparing and revising laws relating to the Caribbean Single Market and Economy, open trade, and security issues. USAID will assist enacting and promoting the trade laws through policy dialogue and public education, and by working directly with the region's attorneys general and parliamentarians to generate consensus and buy-in. Training and information dissemination for implementing the new laws will complete the process. USAID's new program will also focus on strengthening the adjudication process of the newly created Caribbean Court of Justice through targeted training in trade and commercial legislation and regulations. Potential contractors, grantees, and partners will include the Caribbean Community's Regional Legislative Drafting Facility, the Caribbean Court of Justice, and others.

Participation in open trade enhanced (\$2,500,000 ESF). This activity will focus on creating an enabling legislative and regulatory environment to support free trade. Technical assistance will be provided to help bring the region under a single economic space and policy dialogue and public education initiatives will be conducted to promote acceptance and active participation in the various trade regimes, in particular the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) and World Trade Organization. One area of particular focus will be support to the region to address trade-related gaps identified under the FTAA's Hemispheric Cooperation trade strategy process. Assistance will be provided to support further strengthening of the region's ability to meet its international requirements in the area of food, animal and plant related legislation, regulations, and implementing mechanisms. In addition, the program will support regional training opportunities in trade and competitiveness. Potential contractors, grantees, and partners will include CARICOM, the region's private-sector umbrella organizations, existing regional training institutions, and others.

Business constraints reduced and market opportunities leveraged (\$2,564,000 DA). USAID will help address a key component to the region's success in open trade: its ability to attract and support foreign investment. This will be achieved through initiatives to reduce constraints to business, improve productivity, ensure the adoption of market-based standards, and provide support to business infrastructure, such as increased availability and use of international communications technologies. In addition, USAID will leverage other opportunities to support regional economic growth, including the development of targeted industries or competitive clusters of firms, and could include the use of the Development Credit Authority loan guarantee mechanism. Potential contractors, grantees, and partners include CARICOM, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Secretariat, and others who have not yet been identified.

Environmental and disaster frameworks for economic growth strengthened (\$1,798,000 DA). With tourism being the Caribbean region's largest export, USAID's initiative will promote sustainable development policies and incentives that will protect the region's fragile natural assets in order to ensure continued sustainable economic growth. Areas of USAID-financed assistance may include market-based incentives, the promotion of environmentally friendly technologies for tourism enterprises, and public education efforts focusing on the linkages between the environment and a more open trade atmosphere. In addition, USAID will work to strengthen the region's disaster mitigation policies and processes and ensure that compliance measures are put in place. Potential contractors, grantees, and partners have not yet been identified.

Performance and Results: The program will be designed strategically to ensure the maximum use of the resources to prepare and position the region for open trade. It will primarily work through regional initiatives in order to ensure optimal use of resources over the strategy period. Laws and legal practices will be updated to support global trade. The capacity of national governments will be improved through up to date legislation and regulations supporting open trade. In addition, gaps identified in country strategies will be addressed. Constraints to doing business will be reduced or eliminated, thereby supporting the attractiveness of the region for direct investments. Appropriate legislation and regulation supporting sound environmental practices will be promoted, environmental management systems will be increasingly adopted by the private sector, and disaster mitigation procedures will be developed.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Caribbean Regional Program

	DA	ESF
538-x10 Global Competitiveness and Open Trade		
Through September 30, 2002		
Obligations	0	0
Expenditures	0	0
Unliquidated	0	0
Fiscal Year 2003		
Obligations	0	0
Expenditures	0	0
Through September 30, 2003		
Obligations	0	0
Expenditures	0	0
Unliquidated	0	0
Prior Year Unobligated Funds		
Obligations	0	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2004 NOA		
Obligations	0	0
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2004		
Obligations	0	0
Proposed Fiscal Year 2005 NOA		
Obligations	4,362	3,500
Future Obligations	17,620	48,380
Est. Total Cost	21,982	51,880