

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Regional Center for Southern Africa
Program Title:	Improved Electoral Competition in Southern Africa
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	690-016
Status:	New in FY 2004
Planned FY 2005 Obligation:	\$2,456,000 DA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$750,000 ESF
Proposed FY 2006 Obligation:	\$2,428,000 DA
Year of Initial Obligation:	2004
Estimated Year of Final Obligation:	2010

Summary: USAID's regional program to improve electoral processes and political competition in southern Africa includes technical assistance and training to (a) increase demand for transparency and accountability in electoral processes; (b) promote adoption, application and incorporation of regional elections norms and standards into electoral law; and (c) build capacity of selected regional organizations in the prevention and mitigation of election-related conflict and human rights violations.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2005 Program: Promote and Support Anti-corruption Reforms (\$605,000 DA): USAID is developing the oversight capacity of civil society networks, expanding the investigative journalism training to include more countries, and supporting the development of approaches to combating corruption in different USAID programs. Through the support of data collection and analysis activities, USAID is strengthening the research and analytical skills of regional partners. Prime grantees: Transparency International-Zimbabwe and the Institute for Democracy in South Africa (both prime).

Promote and Support Free and Fair Elections (\$1,101,000 DA; \$750,000 prior year ESF): USAID is building upon previous investments to promote the adoption and application of elections norms and standards by national parliaments, with the ultimate aim of influencing electoral reform in the various southern African countries. In addition, USAID will support election observation in the seven countries holding elections in 2005-2006. Principal grantee: The SADC Parliamentary Forum (SADC-PF prime).

Improve Early Warning and Response Mechanisms (\$750,000 DA): USAID is building the capacity of selected regional organizations to prevent and mitigate election-related conflict. A regional conflict vulnerability assessment identified political competition and power struggle as critical sources of conflict in Southern Africa. Prime contractor: Development Alternatives, Inc. (prime), The African Center for the Constructive Resolutions of Disputes (sub).

FY 2006 Program: Promote and Support Anti-Corruption Reforms (\$605,000 DA). USAID will continue implementing earlier activities, including strengthening the oversight capacity of civil society networks, training journalists, and developing cross-sectoral approaches to fighting corruption. In addition, USAID will also support public outreach activities aimed at disseminating findings of research conducted in the previous year, thereby promoting evidence-based advocacy and policy reform. USAID will also support increased citizen oversight and involvement in the political process to increase transparency and accountability in public office. Principal grantees: Transparency International-Zimbabwe and the Institute for Democracy in South Africa (IDASA) (both prime).

Promote and support free and fair elections (\$1,823,000 DA). USAID will continue to support election observation. During 2006, there will be three national elections. In addition to election observation, USAID support will focus on interventions that promote the adoption and application of elections norms and standards by national parliaments. Principal grantee: SADC-PF (prime).

Performance and Results: Program implementation has just begun under the new strategy. Therefore, there are no substantive results to report on at this time. USAID expects that by the end of the strategy,

most of the SADC countries will have adopted the electoral norms and standards, and reformed their electoral processes accordingly. A number of national elections will have been assessed against these norms and standards, and the standards will be accepted by a broad constituency in the region. More than two-thirds of SADC citizens, when asked, will express increased trust and confidence in their electoral institutions. The level of corruption will have decreased, and the record on civil liberties and political rights for ordinary citizens will have improved. Civil society networks and other regional coalitions will be actively promoting fair elections, the protection of human rights and increased transparency of political and government processes.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Regional Center for Southern Africa

690-016 Improved Electoral Competition in Southern Africa	DA	ESF
Through September 30, 2003		
Obligations	0	0
Expenditures	0	0
Unliquidated	0	0
Fiscal Year 2004		
Obligations	4,639	0
Expenditures	1	0
Through September 30, 2004		
Obligations	4,639	0
Expenditures	1	0
Unliquidated	4,638	0
Prior Year Unobligated Funds		
Obligations	0	750
Planned Fiscal Year 2005 NOA		
Obligations	2,456	0
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2005		
Obligations	2,456	750
Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 NOA		
Obligations	2,428	0
Future Obligations	12,525	0
Est. Total Cost	22,048	750