

A MESSAGE FROM THE AGENCY PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT OFFICER



Angelique M. Crumbly

I am pleased to present the United States Agency for International Development's (USAID's) fiscal year (FY) 2008 Annual Performance Report (APR) to the U.S. Congress and the American people. USAID has a proven commitment to managing for results and a long history of assessing its programs annually. All USAID operating units are guided by the Automated Directives System (ADS), which is the official repository for all USAID policies and procedures. The ADS Series 200¹ on planning, achieving, and monitoring and evaluation specifically guides USAID programming. For example, Agency policy, contained in the ADS, requires that all Missions and Offices develop and report annually against a Performance Management Plan on the progress towards their program objectives. Further, it requires that all performance data reported to the American public are assessed on the merits of validity, integrity, precision, reliability, and timeliness. USAID

is committed to program evaluation and is currently focused on re-energizing its central evaluation function with the establishment of a Central Evaluation Unit in the Bureau for Management.

USAID shares a joint strategic plan with the Department of State for FY 2007–2012² which outlines seven strategic goals for diplomacy, development, and humanitarian assistance. USAID contributes directly to five of these goals:

- Achieving Peace and Security
- Governing Justly and Democratically
- Investing in People
- Promoting Economic Growth and Prosperity
- Providing Humanitarian Assistance

Progress toward these goals³ is the basis for this report.

A representative set of 37 indicators illustrates the Agency's contributions to U.S. foreign assistance in FY 2008. These indicators come from a variety of primary and third-party data sources and reflect major U.S. Government funding, initiatives, and foreign policy priorities. Since this is only the second performance report since the foreign assistance reforms in 2006, for many of the indicators there are not enough past data to reflect a trend. Although the scope and complexity of the Agency's programs preclude linking resources to each indicator, the performance measures are grouped into clearly defined strategic priority areas that in turn are linked to budget requests

and higher-level outcomes. This report contains a complete discussion of USAID's strategic goals, performance measures, and results.

Examples of FY 2008 program results include:

- **Improved Health Outcomes.** There is a dramatic increase in the number of people receiving HIV/AIDS treatment, from 1.3 million in FY 2007 to 2.0 million in FY 2008, a result that is shared with other United States Government agencies. Zambia experienced a decrease in malaria parasite prevalence by 54 percent – from 21.8 percent to 10.1 percent – from 2006 to 2008 in children less than five years of age. In addition, severe anemia decreased 68 percent in Zambia – from 13.3 percent to 4.3 percent – in this same age group. These results reflect a major improvement in children's health status with the increase in malaria prevention and treatment interventions.
- **Improved Community Stability.** In Colombia, USAID supported a program that provides social and economic assistance to individuals who are displaced by the drug-fueled violence. A group of these individuals received business skills training and small loans to form a cooperative in their community. The loans proved successful and the business now generates more than 100 direct and indirect jobs.
- **Improved Governance.** USAID continues to be a major force in developing independent technical media around

the world, in places such as Kosovo. Funding from USAID and other donors built 10 towers in Kosovo that now broadcast signals which reach more than 70 percent of the population with television and 90 percent of the population with radio. A USAID-funded program in Tanzania trained 250 journalists on a recently formed public expenditure tracking process, resulting in more than 600 stories in the media on corruption, good governance, and accountability.

- Emergency Relief. USAID responded to more than 80 disasters in 63 different countries by providing more than \$500 million to those in need. These responses include providing more than \$28 million for emergency relief commodities and programs towards mitigating the impact of Cyclone Nargis in Burma and \$29 million worth of humanitarian assistance for Haiti.

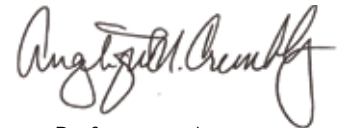
USAID's performance scores on the President's Management Agenda improved significantly this year – Financial Performance, Human Capital Management,

Performance Improvement, and Faith-based and Community Initiatives achieved "green ratings" for status and progress. Improved recruitment strategies resulted in hiring the largest number of Foreign Service officers in more than 15 years, within the shortest timeframe. Better outreach, in-reach, and capacity-building initiatives have resulted in greater opportunities for faith-based and community organizations to establish partnerships with USAID. The Agency also earned an "A+" in information security for the fourth consecutive year. The Partnership for Public Service recognized a USAID employee, Richard Greene, as the Federal Employee of the Year for his work on the President's Malaria Initiative.

The Agency's commitment to performance-based management is also evident in its human capital accountability system. It is this system which holds managers accountable for program improvement and results, and evaluates their performance based on their effective use of financial, material, and human resources to accomplish the goals of the Agency, its Missions, Offices, and programs.

In FY 2008 USAID enhanced the transparency of its reporting and made key performance, budget, and accountability reports more accessible on the Agency's website.⁴ We appreciate the opportunity to report to the American public on the Agency's FY 2008 performance and look forward to receiving feedback on how we can improve our reporting in the future.

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1. <http://www.usaid.gov/policy/ads/200/>

2. http://www.usaid.gov/policy/coordination/stratplan_fy07-12.pdf

3. See page 9 for a table of priority program areas in each strategic goal.

4. <http://www.usaid.gov/policy/budget>