

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Madagascar
Program Title:	Governance in Targeted Areas Improved
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	687-004
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$750,000 DA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:	\$1,112,000 DA
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 2003
Year of Final Obligation:	2008

Summary: USAID's new democracy and governance program will work across all of the Mission's sectors -- health, population and nutrition, environment and rural development, agriculture and trade -- to improve Madagascar's governance. It will help to deepen and strengthen civil society, increase the flow of information to citizens and local leaders, and strengthen the government's ability to respond to citizens' needs. Particular attention will be paid throughout the program to strengthening anti-corruption efforts and supporting decentralization as it unfolds in Madagascar. Activities will be conducted under several initiatives, including: the Anti-Corruption Initiative, Women's Legal Rights Initiative, and the second phase of the Leland Information Technology Initiative.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

A major cooperative agreement will be awarded in early calendar year 2004 to begin full implementation of the new program.

Deepen and strengthen civil society (\$250,000 DA). USAID will: provide training and support to teach civil society organizations, across all of the Mission's sectors, how to advocate effectively; provide technical assistance to national federations and associations to improve the skills of their rural partners; and provide training and mentoring in financing and managing to create more sustainable civil society organizations. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) addressing women's legal rights will be given special priority through a Washington-based initiative in WID/EGAT (Women in Development/Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade). Principal contractors and grantees: to be determined.

Increase flow of information (\$250,000 DA). USAID will provide technical assistance to the government to improve its regulatory framework for information and communication technologies; work with NGOs to increase the reach of these technologies into rural areas for citizens, civil society, and government; and provide financial, organizational, management, and journalism training to improve the skills of the independent print and broadcast media. A cross-sectoral information service will be established to provide information for advocacy and decision-makers, and to reinforce the contribution of USAID's other programs. Principal contractors and grantees: to be determined.

Increase government responsiveness (\$250,000 DA). USAID will support mechanisms (town hall meetings, public hearings, workshops, etc.) that increase communication between civil society and government authorities. Technical assistance, training, and limited commodities will be provided to specific government entities at the communal, regional and national levels to improve the financial management and development planning skills of key officials, and to enable increased responsiveness to NGO and citizen demands. Special emphasis will be placed on support to the government's new National Anti-Corruption Commission and on consolidating a new civic education program. Principal contractors and grantees: Pact, and others to be determined.

FY 2005 Program:

Deepen and strengthen civil society (\$300,000 DA). USAID plans to continue assisting key civil society organizations to advocate effectively by improving their ability to analyze, articulate, and present their issues. USAID will also work with selected national associations to help them improve the competencies of their provincial and rural partners. Training and mentoring will be provided in budgeting, planning, and managing to create more sustainable civil society organizations. Principal contractors and grantees: to be identified.

Increase flow of information (\$412,000 DA). USAID plans to continue assisting the Government of Madagascar (GOM) in improving its regulatory framework for information and communication technologies; working with selected NGOs to increase the reach of these technologies into rural areas; and providing training in planning, budgeting and management to independent print and broadcast media outlets in targeted areas. The cross-sectoral information service will strengthen linkages with provincial information centers. Principal contractors and grantees: to be identified.

Increase government responsiveness (\$400,000 DA). USAID plans to increase communication and collaboration between civil society and government reformers by increasing the information flow between the two partners and increasing the capacity of government to respond to civil society demands. The government's new Anti-Corruption National Plan of Action will be completed and support will be provided to begin its implementation. Principal contractors and grantees: to be identified.

Performance and Results: This is a new strategic objective, building on the success of USAID's previous program, "Improving the Environment for Private Initiative" (687-001). That program achieved significant results in FY 2003 despite the uncertainty in the aftermath of Madagascar's political crisis in 2002, which continues to limit government effectiveness and dampen the business investment climate. The "Madagascar Media and Message" civic education activity produced impressive results. Through the in-school component, more than 12,000 students (of whom 50 percent were females), 130 teachers, and 20 trainers from 50 junior high schools benefited from a pilot project based on interactive and student-centered teaching used to address key public issues at the communal level. The pilot program culminated in the organization of three mass civic events focusing on student presentations to key regional government officials on such issues as election fraud, potable water, and sanitation. Under USAID's program to promote public participation in government decision-making, issues concerning the management of lake and inter-communal forest governance were addressed through public dialogue in the province of Fianarantsoa, and a public land use issue was discussed in a public forum in the province of Mahajunga. Coalitions were built to observe municipal and legislative elections, and voter education was reinforced. Civil society organizations and government officials have since established permanent associations in these areas to continue with information sharing and public dialogue platforms. Five new "Networking Academies" were established through a partnership with Cisco Systems, as part of continuing Internet-related development in Madagascar that is largely attributable to financial and technical support from USAID's Leland Initiative. Madagascar's rank and score on Transparency International's "Corruption Perception Index" improved, though the effort to combat corruption is just beginning.

At the completion of this new program, more citizens will be capable of effectively expressing their views about their government and society and acting in a collaborative and cooperative manner; access to information among the population will expand dramatically as media structures and technologies are improved and appropriate legal frameworks are established; and there will be measurable progress in the reduction of corruption and an increase in economic freedom. While some activities, such as anti-corruption efforts, will have nationwide impact, others, such as civil society strengthening and support to local governments, will primarily benefit populations in selected communities or regions.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Madagascar

687-004 Governance in Targeted Areas Improved	DA	ESF
Through September 30, 2002		
Obligations	0	0
Expenditures	0	0
Unliquidated	0	0
Fiscal Year 2003		
Obligations	1,685	250
Expenditures	0	0
Through September 30, 2003		
Obligations	1,685	250
Expenditures	0	0
Unliquidated	1,685	250
Prior Year Unobligated Funds		
Obligations	0	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2004 NOA		
Obligations	750	0
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2004		
Obligations	750	0
Proposed Fiscal Year 2005 NOA		
Obligations	1,112	0
Future Obligations	2,189	0
Est. Total Cost	5,736	250