

## Guyana

**The Development Challenge:** Guyana's development continues to be impeded by ethnic and political polarization. This polarization negatively affects almost every sphere of national life and periodically leads to government paralysis as it did during the minority party's boycott of parliament from February 2002 to May 2003. While the two dominant parties have since agreed on a broad range of constitutional reforms that could have a positive influence in democratization and restoration of the economy, the government has moved slowly to implement these reforms. Guyana currently faces a declining economy, a high level of debt, rising crime, social malaise, continued out-migration of skilled workers, narcotics trafficking, and a generalized HIV/AIDS epidemic. In 2002, Guyana's external debt was \$1.2 billion. It is one of the Hemisphere's poorest countries, with a per capita gross domestic product (GDP) of \$797 in 2002. Roughly 35 percent of the population lives below the poverty level. Guyana also has one of the lowest indicators of health status among Caribbean countries. Maternal mortality is 190 per 100,000 live births; infant mortality is 54 per 1000. The United States has several foreign policy interests in Guyana, given Guyana's geographic proximity to the United States, its participation in the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the Third Border Initiative, and the large expatriate Guyanese community living in the United States. The United States has a vested interest in democracy and human rights, regional stability and economic growth, stemming the flow of narcotics and illegal immigrants into the U.S, as well as a humanitarian and strategic concern for Guyana's HIV/AIDS epidemic.

**The USAID Program:** The Data Sheets provided below cover the three objectives for which USAID is requesting FY 2004 and FY 2005 funds. In FY 2004, USAID will begin implementing a new five-year Country Strategic Plan (FY 2004 - FY 2008). This strategic plan builds upon past program accomplishments. USAID's development program addresses Guyana's most pressing development challenges and concentrate on institutional changes that reduce the threat of HIV/AIDS, foster continued democratic reform, and create economic prosperity. FY 2004 funds will be used to implement programs of HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment, conflict resolution, anti-corruption and transparency, civil society and citizen participation, trade related policy reform, private sector export development. Guyana is a HIV/AIDS focus country under the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief; it is anticipated that additional funds will be available to expand the HIV/AIDS program, especially treatment and care support services.

**Other Program Elements:** USAID's Housing and Urban Development Office, under the Making Cities Work Program, conducts a visitor exchange program between Guyana's second largest city, New Amsterdam and Huntsville, Texas. Management and technical teams from Huntsville provide Guyanese officials with invaluable insights on management and administration issues as well as citizens' involvement in municipal affairs. USAID, through the Partners of the Americas' program, supports a Guyana Dairy Development Program which provides technical assistance and training to strengthen Guyana's dairy industry and increase the nutritional level of children in Guyana. Additionally, the local Partners of the Americas chapter is engaged in a "Farmer to Farmer" program under which fruit and vegetable husbandry and aquaculture projects are being implemented. The USAID centrally-funded Environment Program supports the creation of Guyana's first protected area in the Kanuku Mountain region. USAID centrally-funded program also funds the Microenterprise Training Services Market Initiative. This pilot project will test and demonstrate the feasibility of establishing a sustainable market for training services to microenterprises.

**Other Donors:** Donor coordination is exemplary. As one of the major donors in Guyana, USAID participates regularly in donor fora and provides leadership and policy input on democratic, economic, and social reforms. USAID's implementing partners work closely with other agencies in coordinating project activities. The United States, the United Kingdom, and Canada are Guyana's largest bilateral partners, respectively, and work in the same sectors as USAID. Other bilateral donors include Germany (environment) and Japan (HIV/AIDS and assistance to NGOs). Multilateral donors include the Inter-American Development Bank (public sector reform), the European Union (infrastructure, micro-projects and civil society capacity building), the World Bank (accountability in the public sector), and the United Nations Development Program (governance and conflict resolution, and the environment).

## Guyana PROGRAM SUMMARY

(in thousands of dollars)

Accounts	FY 2002 Actual	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Current	FY 2005 Request
Child Survival and Health Programs Fund	1,000	4,200	1,700	1,700
Development Assistance	3,100	2,180	2,750	4,957
<b>Total Program Funds</b>	<b>4,100</b>	<b>6,380</b>	<b>4,450</b>	<b>6,657</b>

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE SUMMARY				
504-001 Economic Growth and Opportunity				
DA	1,600	836	0	0
504-003 Prevent the Spread of HIV/AIDS Among Youth				
CSH	1,000	4,200	0	0
504-004 Governance and Rule of Law				
DA	1,500	1,344	0	0
504-005 Reduced Impact of HIV/AIDS				
CSH	0	0	1,700	1,700
504-006 Democratic Governance Consolidated				
DA	0	0	1,750	1,957
504-007 Environment for Sustained Growth of Exports				
DA	0	0	1,000	3,000

Mission Director,  
Michael Sarhan

## Data Sheet

<b>USAID Mission:</b>	Guyana
<b>Program Title:</b>	Reduced Impact of HIV/AIDS
<b>Pillar:</b>	Global Health
<b>Strategic Objective:</b>	504-005
<b>Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:</b>	\$4,200,000 CSH
<b>Prior Year Unobligated:</b>	\$0
<b>Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:</b>	\$0
<b>Year of Initial Obligation:</b>	FY 2004
<b>Year of Final Obligation:</b>	FY 2008

**Summary:** USAID's HIV/AIDS objective focuses on reducing the transmission of HIV and mitigating the impact of AIDS. Guyana's response to HIV/AIDS suffers from deficiencies in policy, planning, coordination, and management. These deficiencies include an unreliable data collection system that is inadequate for planning a targeted response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic, ineffective program design and monitoring systems, and poor coordination between government ministries and between the public and the private sectors. USAID will fund HIV/AIDS policy coordination and management, prevention and treatment services which include mother to child transmission, voluntary counseling and testing, training vulnerable populations in risk-reduction practices, and developing community-based care and support services. As a focus country, under the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS relief, it is anticipated that Guyana will receive additional funds for activities under this program.

### Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

#### FY 2004 Program:

Policy coordination and management (\$800,000 CSH). USAID will provide advisory services to the Government of Guyana (GOG) to implement a national behavioral surveillance survey of high risk groups. USAID will also provide technical assistance to the Ministry of Health to devolve authority and responsibility for the HIV/AIDS response to the regional and local organizations. In addition, local organizations will be strengthened in their abilities to plan and coordinate their programs to ensure greatest efficiency by integrating programs and reducing overlap. USAID's other programs in economic growth and democratic governance will contribute to local capacity building as well. Implementing agencies: To be determined.

Risk reduction practices by most vulnerable populations (\$700,000 CSH). USAID continues to provide technical assistance to strengthen NGO institutional capacity to deliver HIV/AIDS programs. USAID-funded NGOs will increase their HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infection (STI) education through media, drama, and peer education. USAID's implementers will implement broad-based behavior change programs and campaigns at the national, regional and community levels. USAID will expand its reach to other organizations with a particular focus on faith-based organizations. USAID will develop and implement a social marketing program that encompasses behavior change communications to support abstinence or delay of initial sexual activities, partner reduction, and condom social marketing. Reduction of stigma and discrimination will be another substantive USAID effort. The current anti-stigma and discrimination mass media campaign will be reviewed and modified. Additionally, technical assistance will be provided to the Ministry of Health for the creation of an adolescent health unit to develop youth friendly-health services. Implementing agencies: To be determined.

Prevention and treatment services (\$2,500,000 CSH). USAID will support the Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT) Plus program. USAID will focus on the prevention of HIV infection in young women, the prevention of unwanted pregnancies in HIV-positive women, the provision of antiretroviral therapy and treatment for opportunistic infections to all HIV-positive pregnant women to reduce mother-to-child transmission, infant feeding counseling, maternal and child health services, long-term care and

support to families, especially mothers and young children. USAID will expand the voluntary counseling and testing services and provide training for health care providers to improve the quality and availability of VCT. Technical assistance will also be provided to USAID-funded NGOs to support voluntary testing and counseling services. USAID will provide technical assistance to the Ministry of Health in the form of logistical technical support to the Guyana Pharmacy Bond which is responsible for the distribution of all medical supplies. Implementing agencies: To be determined.

Care and support services (\$200,000 CSH). A key ingredient in creating an effective local response to HIV is to provide care and support to mitigate the effects of HIV infection on people living with HIV/AIDS as well as to provide for the needs of orphans and vulnerable children affected by AIDS. USAID will support the increased use of community-based care and support services. Implementing agencies: To be determined.

**FY 2005 Program:**

Policy coordination and management (\$800,000 CSH). USAID will continue to strengthen surveillance systems and policy coordination.

Risk reduction practices by most vulnerable populations (\$700,000 CSH). USAID will continue to implement and strengthen prevention programs targeted at most at risk populations.

Prevention and treatment services (\$2,500,000 CSH). USAID will continue to support the Government of Guyana and other partners to make testing, treatment, and PMTCT services more widely available and accessible.

Care and support services (\$200,000 CSH). USAID will continue to develop programs to provide care and support to people affected by HIV, especially orphans and vulnerable children.

**Performance and Results:** Principal outcomes at the end of the program will be: (1) an increase in the number of HIV-infected persons receiving ARV treatment; (2) increased care and support provided to HIV-infected persons; (3) decrease in HIV seroprevalence among 15-24 year-olds; (4) decrease in seroprevalence of commercial sex workers (ages 15-24); (5) increase in the number of HIV-infected women and babies receiving a complete course of antiretroviral prophylaxis to reduce the risk of mother-to-child transmission; and (6) a reduction in the percent of sexually active population with multiple sex partners.

## US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Guyana

504-005 Reduced Impact of HIV/AIDS	CSH
<b>Through September 30, 2002</b>	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	0
<b>Fiscal Year 2003</b>	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
<b>Through September 30, 2003</b>	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	0
<b>Prior Year Unobligated Funds</b>	
Obligations	0
<b>Planned Fiscal Year 2004 NOA</b>	
Obligations	1,700
<b>Total Planned Fiscal Year 2004</b>	
Obligations	1,700
<b>Proposed Fiscal Year 2005 NOA</b>	
Obligations	1,700
Future Obligations	0
Est. Total Cost	3,400

## Data Sheet

<b>USAID Mission:</b>	Guyana
<b>Program Title:</b>	Democratic Governance Consolidated
<b>Pillar:</b>	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
<b>Strategic Objective:</b>	504-006
<b>Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:</b>	\$1,750,000 DA
<b>Prior Year Unobligated:</b>	\$0
<b>Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:</b>	\$1,957,000 DA
<b>Year of Initial Obligation:</b>	FY 2004
<b>Year of Final Obligation:</b>	FY 2008

**Summary:** USAID's democracy and governance program in Guyana will help to consolidate democratic institutions by promoting citizens' participation in policy making, fostering transparency and accountability in government, and reducing vulnerability to ethnic and political conflict.

### Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

#### FY 2004 Program:

Citizens' participation in policy-making increased (\$900,000 DA). USAID will provide technical assistance, training, and commodity support to roughly five to ten civil society organizations (CSOs) to increase their ability to influence government policy making at both local and national levels. CSOs representing women and other disadvantaged or marginalized groups will receive special consideration in program activities. USAID plans to work on the "supply" side of the policy-making equation by building the capacity of local government. Institutional strengthening of the Guyana Elections Commission (GECOM) continues in the areas of electoral reform, improvement in elections administration. General training on organizational and operational issues will be provided for technical staff. Additionally, commodity and technical support will be provided to assist GECOM prepare for the long overdue local elections scheduled for 2005. Implementing agencies: To be determined.

Transparency and accountability in governance increased (\$700,000 DA). USAID will help improve the GOG's system of oversight and controls as well as enhance the oversight capacity of both local and national public institutions. USAID will provide technical and training assistance to members of staff, parliamentary sub-committees, and other relevant bodies. Technical assistance will also be provided to support the formulation of anti-corruption measures. USAID will provide commodities and technical assistance for the development of a website and public education materials that discusses government financial regulations, budgeting, and procurement, as well as post government publications. In the justice sector, USAID will promote the use of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) methodologies in order to reduce the current case backlog. A pilot mediation project is now underway to test this as a useful form of ADR. Implementing agencies: To be determined.

Vulnerability to ethnic/political conflict reduced (\$400,000 DA). To mitigate the ethno-political conflict, USAID anticipates implementing activities that foster national level dialogue on reducing ethnicity in politics; support mediated inter-party dialogue, and create local level conflict resolution mechanisms. Specifically, USAID will finance study tours for members of the newly formed Ethnic Relations Committee to visit South Africa and perhaps other countries to explore reconciliation approaches and benefit from lessons learned from the reconciliation process. Training and technical assistance will be provided to national and regional Ethnic Relations Committee members in strategic planning, public relations, and reconciliation techniques. Implementing agencies: To be determined.

#### FY 2005 Program:

Citizens' participation in policy-making increased (\$900,000 DA). USAID will focus on expanding networking and consensus-building among CSOs which will allow these organizations to participate

effectively in policy dialogue with elected leaders and in public discussion fora. USAID will assist CSOs expand their role in policy-making and political change by forming alliances and networks that cut across sectors as well as geographic boundaries. USAID will also begin a civic education program. USAID will work to improve the management and administrative capacity of local government organizations by providing technical assistance and training in the areas of public administration, community planning, financial management, accounting, and tax and revenue generation. Additionally, USAID will provide commodity and information technology (IT) support for local government offices. Implementing agencies: To be determined.

Transparency and accountability in governance Increased (\$800,000 DA). USAID will continue its work with the parliament and the judiciary to create government transparency and accountability. Additionally, USAID will work with journalists to develop a more responsible and mature news media. Training will be provided to journalists in such areas as research and analysis, investigative reporting, opinion polling, and journalistic ethics. Technical assistance, training, and program support will be provided to create television and radio talk shows, news roundups, debates, and other reporting formats that give the public informed reports on various issues. Implementing agencies: To be determined.

Vulnerability to ethnic/political conflict reduced (\$300,000 DA). USAID will continue its work fostering national level dialogue on reducing ethnicity in politics, supporting mediated inter-party dialogue, and developing local level conflict resolution mechanisms. Implementing agencies: To be determined.

**Performance and Results:** Principal outcomes to be expected at the end of this program will be the formal adoption of an ADR mechanism by the judiciary to accelerate the resolution of civil cases, an efficient and fully equipped elections commission able to register voters accurately and in a timely manner, and conduct free and fair national and local elections; and a somewhat more independent and efficient National Assembly.

## US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Guyana

504-006 Democratic Governance Consolidated	<b>DA</b>
<b>Through September 30, 2002</b>	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	0
<b>Fiscal Year 2003</b>	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
<b>Through September 30, 2003</b>	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	0
<b>Prior Year Unobligated Funds</b>	
Obligations	0
<b>Planned Fiscal Year 2004 NOA</b>	
Obligations	1,750
<b>Total Planned Fiscal Year 2004</b>	
Obligations	1,750
<b>Proposed Fiscal Year 2005 NOA</b>	
Obligations	1,957
Future Obligations	0
Est. Total Cost	3,707



## Data Sheet

<b>USAID Mission:</b>	Guyana
<b>Program Title:</b>	Environment for Sustained Growth of Value-Added Exports
<b>Pillar:</b>	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
<b>Strategic Objective:</b>	504-007
<b>Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:</b>	\$1,000,000 DA
<b>Prior Year Unobligated:</b>	\$0
<b>Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:</b>	\$3,000,000 DA
<b>Year of Initial Obligation:</b>	FY 2004
<b>Year of Final Obligation:</b>	FY 2008

**Summary:** USAID's economic growth program is focused upon strengthening the enabling environment for the sustained growth of value-added exports by supporting trade and investment reforms and the development and marketing of niche export products. USAID will continue its efforts to strengthen the private sector and improve the policy environment for business and investment.

### Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

#### FY 2004 Program:

Key trade and investment policies, standards, and practices implemented consistent with negotiated obligations and international best practices (\$800,000 DA). USAID's economic growth program will focus on export promotion. USAID's key functional areas of assistance include: providing support to public sector regulatory reforms and public-private dialogue to ensure that regulations and policies formulated are consistent with international trade obligations and trade-related best practices and supportive of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), and developing the private sector's capacity, competitiveness and ability to exploit high-value external niche markets. USAID will also support the Government of Guyana in implementing key trade and investment policies to facilitate its effective participation in international trade negotiations of the World Trade Organization (WTO), the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), and the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME). USAID will conduct several trade-related seminars and workshops on such issues as legislative and regulatory policies.

Institutional strengthening activities and technical assistance will be provided to government ministries and quasi-public agencies working in this area, particularly those dealing with trade policy formulation, certification, standards and the promotion of non-traditional exports and FDI. USAID will strengthen the consultative process by promoting private-public dialogue to enhance input from the private sector in the policy formulation process and to garner widespread domestic support on policy, regulatory, and legislative priorities. USAID will provide technical assistance and strengthen and streamlining policies within the tourism industry. Implementing agencies: To be determined.

Firms effectively interacting to increase competitiveness in the export of value-added products and services to high-value niche markets (\$1,200,000 DA). The second major area of USAID's intervention is on developing the "supply" side of private sector competitiveness to facilitate its participation in high-value-export niche markets. USAID will provide training and technical assistance to help the private sector build a competitive advantage to market value-added products and services to high-value niche markets on a sustainable basis. USAID will support training on certification and standards compliance to ensure that Guyana is increasingly able to export value-added products and services of high quality that not only are competitively placed in high-value export niche markets but also meet international standards. USAID will work primarily with the private sector and semi-autonomous agencies in order to increase the availability of informational products and timely dissemination of trade-related information. USAID will support the development of market surveys, preparation of technical bulletins, information technology utilization, export training and competitiveness awareness tours to targeted trade shows and

cities in the United States which have a significant expatriate Guyanese community. Implementing agencies: To be determined.

**FY 2005 Program:**

Key trade and investment policies, standards, and practices implemented consistent with negotiated obligations and international best practices (\$600,000 DA). USAID will continue its focus on export promotion. USAID will also focus on developing secondary legislation, policies, regulations and strategies. USAID will provide technical assistance and training, primarily through external experts working in collaboration with their local counterparts and with local officials of the private and public sectors. Implementing agencies: To be determined

Firms effectively interacting to increase competitiveness in the export of value-added products and services to high-value niche markets (\$1,400,000 DA). USAID will continue to facilitate the participation of the private sector in high-value-export niche markets USAID will identify firms or firm clusters that target export markets and will provide technical assistance and training to facilitate their access to external niche markets.

**Performance and Results:** The economic growth program is expected to have the following outcomes: formulation and implementation of effective trade and investment-related policies; legislation and regulations with a detailed timetable for implementation; diversification of exports (products, services and markets); a 50% increase in value-added in exports; increased certification of Guyana's products under frameworks such as organic certification and International Standards Organization standards; and a 50% increase in the volume of exports.

## US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Guyana

504-007 Environment for Sustained Growth of Exports	DA
<b>Through September 30, 2002</b>	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	0
<b>Fiscal Year 2003</b>	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
<b>Through September 30, 2003</b>	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	0
<b>Prior Year Unobligated Funds</b>	
Obligations	0
<b>Planned Fiscal Year 2004 NOA</b>	
Obligations	1,000
<b>Total Planned Fiscal Year 2004</b>	
Obligations	1,000
<b>Proposed Fiscal Year 2005 NOA</b>	
Obligations	3,000
Future Obligations	0
Est. Total Cost	4,000