

## Data Sheet

<b>USAID Mission:</b>	Guatemala
<b>Program Title:</b>	Democracy
<b>Pillar:</b>	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
<b>Strategic Objective:</b>	520-001
<b>Status:</b>	Continuing
<b>Proposed FY 2003 Obligation:</b>	\$2,200,000 DA
<b>Prior Year Unobligated:</b>	\$0
<b>Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:</b>	\$0
<b>Year of Initial Obligation:</b>	FY 1997
<b>Estimated Completion Date:</b>	FY 2004

**Summary:** USAID's democracy program in Guatemala advances the peace process and deepens democracy by promoting increased efficiency and transparency in justice sector institutions and local government; encouraging broader, more effective civil society participation in the policy process and in oversight of public institutions; and fostering increased awareness and respect for human rights. Technical assistance is focused on key policy and administrative reforms as well as improving the capabilities of selected government institutions and civil society organizations to achieve concrete results. Several justice activities (related to access to justice and mediation centers) and all human rights activities are reported on under the peace special objective (520-006).

### **Inputs, Outputs, Activities:**

#### **FY 2003 Program:**

Broader, more effective civil society participation in the policy process and oversight of public institutions (\$1,100,000 DA). Grants to eight civil society coalitions were provided to help them combat ethnic discrimination, promote transparency and anticorruption efforts, address public security issues, and exercise congressional oversight. Technical assistance, operational support, and grants will also be provided to civil society organizations to allow them to advocate for inclusion of key issues on political party platforms during this electoral year. The principal grantee is Creative Associates International.

Increased Citizen Participation in Strengthened Local Governments (\$1,100,000 DA). Technical assistance and small grants will help to improve the administration, efficiency, and transparency of targeted local governments; increase their local revenue generation and overall funding; and step up the degree of citizen participation in decision-making. Technical assistance will also focus on advancing the implementation of recent legislation that addresses key national policy issues. The principal contractor is Research Triangle Institute.

#### **FY 2004 Program:**

As FY 2003 is the last funding year for the current strategy, USAID does not plan to request FY 2004 resources for this Strategic Objective. Design of a new democracy Strategic Objective for 2004-2008 is underway.

**Performance and Results:** The year 2002 was a difficult one for the strengthening of governance in Guatemala. The current administration has come under heavy national and international criticism for lack of cooperation on counternarcotics efforts, serious and widespread corruption, human rights abuses, failure to protect human rights workers, and transfers within the national budget to support the military in direct violation of the Peace Accords. This highly volatile situation was not propitious to political and democratic development during the past year. Yet, despite this environment, USAID was able to achieve some significant results that are reported below.

In terms of anticorruption, USAID sponsored an official Guatemalan delegation, including high-level Government of Guatemala (GOG) officials (executive, legislative and judicial branches), private sector,

civil society, and members of the press to attend the Transparency International Conference in Prague in October 2001. As a direct result of this effort, USAID was able to support this group of prominent individuals as they negotiated with the World Bank and the GOG to establish a National Anticorruption Program in February 2002. This program, still under development, has provided a high profile platform from which to sponsor a national discussion on corruption as a structural problem requiring a long-term strategy to address. Eight civil society coalitions focusing on combating ethnic discrimination, transparency and anticorruption, public security, and congressional oversight have successfully capitalized on the strengths of multisector actors to achieve concrete results. One coalition, for example, supported the transparent election of the National Comptroller, developing a professional profile and a technical test that was accepted and used by the National Selection Committee and completed by all candidates. The elected Comptroller was the only candidate who fulfilled the "ideal" candidate profile and passed the technical test.

The Guatemalan Congress passed three major decentralization laws that reflect significant USAID input, particularly on citizen participation and municipal financial administration, which is based on direct USAID field experience. These laws are expected to have a major impact on the process of decentralization and citizen participation at the local level. Twenty municipal planning offices were established and are helping to develop effective investment and municipal development plans in targeted municipalities. Accountability sessions through which municipal officials report to constituents on the use of municipal resources are now being held in 33 municipalities, citizen agendas that feed directly into budget and planning processes are being used in 40 municipalities, citizen oversight committees were created in 24 municipalities, and 19 communities are implementing participatory budget processes. Women's civil society groups, working to advance nonviolence against women, drafted new legislation to address domestic violence and promoted awareness and implementation of current applicable legislation. Thirty-four self-help groups for women who are victims of violence are functioning in three targeted departments.

By program completion, Guatemalans will have improved access to judicial services that are more efficient and transparent; will have greater ability to affect public policy and oversee public institutions through civil society organizations and engagement with strengthened local governments; and will benefit from increased respect for human rights and progress towards reconciliation.

## US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Guatemala

	DA	ESF
520-001 Democracy		
<b>Through September 30, 2001</b>		
Obligations	11,843	0
Expenditures	8,382	0
Unliquidated	3,461	0
<b>Fiscal Year 2002</b>		
Obligations	1,966	1,000
Expenditures	2,275	0
<b>Through September 30, 2002</b>		
Obligations	13,809	1,000
Expenditures	10,657	0
Unliquidated	3,152	1,000
<b>Prior Year Unobligated Funds</b>		
Obligations	0	0
<b>Planned Fiscal Year 2003 NOA</b>		
Obligations	2,200	0
<b>Total Planned Fiscal Year 2003</b>		
Obligations	2,200	0
<b>Proposed Fiscal Year 2004 NOA</b>		
Obligations	0	0
Future Obligations	0	0
Est. Total Cost	16,009	1,000