

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Cambodia
Program Title:	Democracy and Human Rights
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	442-010
Status:	Continuing
Planned FY 2005 Obligation:	\$3,450,000 DA; \$16,864,000 ESF
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2006 Obligation:	\$950,000 DA; \$15,000,000 ESF
Year of Initial Obligation:	2002
Estimated Year of Final Obligation:	2006

Summary: USAID's Democracy and Governance program in Cambodia seeks to promote equitable treatment for Cambodian citizens by creating political processes and strengthening political parties; increasing accountability on key economic and political issues; fostering increased accountability and transparency of the Government; enforcing human rights norms through focused monitoring, investigation, and defense; engaging local officials on key development issues; and increasing the capacity of Cambodian future leaders in and out of government to develop policies and affect change.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2005 Program: Strengthen Civil Society (\$12,000,000 ESF). USAID will continue to support Cambodia's democratic development including enhancing the capabilities of Cambodia's civil society and media, and increasing commune council governance to participate meaningfully and equitably in Cambodian political processes. Critical work continues in developing a professional party organization, expanding youth and women's participation in politics, and improving local governance in conjunction with promotion of active citizen participation in local affairs through collaboration with 24 local non-governmental organizations(NGOs). A new program will be designed that focuses on communal governance and representative democracy at the local level. Cambodia's full membership in the World Trade Organization, an increasingly unified donor concern about corruption, and the admission of the impact of corruption on the economy by Cambodian senior leaders have provided USAID an excellent entry to promote transparency and accountability in Cambodia. Principal grantees include the Asia Foundation, the International Republican Institute, the National Democratic Institute, and Planning and Development Collaborative International (PADCO).

Strengthen Democratic Political Parties (\$4,000,000 ESF). USAID will continue to support Cambodia's democratic development by continuing to enhance the capabilities of Cambodia's political parties. The support to political parties will concentrate on internal reforms and organizational structures consistent with international standards. Principal grantees include the Asia Foundation, the International Republican Institute, and the National Democratic Institute.

Protect Human Rights and Equal Access to Justice (\$864,000 ESF, \$2,250,000 DA). USAID will continue to promote the improvement of human rights by helping local NGOs take on precedent setting human rights cases that have the potential to influence government policy and opinions. Expatriate technical advisors will continue to strengthen the skills of organizations in monitoring, investigation, and follow-up of human rights cases. Assistance will include legal capacity training in human rights cases, such as land encroachment, trafficking in persons, and corruption cases. Legal aid organizations focusing on producing tangible results of underserved and disadvantaged groups will receive assistance as well. USAID will design a new rule of law program that will work to build the capacity of the judicial system to process cases, possibly in human trafficking and corruption. USAID will continue to support labor union and movement development. In addition, USAID provides assistance to the International Labor Organization (ILO) Labor Compliance Monitoring Unit - both key factors in retaining garment manufacturing in Cambodia. Principal grantees include East West Management Institute, American Center for International Labor Solidarity, the ILO, and the Documentation Center of Cambodia.

For its human rights program, USAID will continue to assist the reintegration of Cambodian returnees into a wider Cambodian society. Assistance to Cambodians deported from the United States are quickly

integrated by providing them with basic support services such as harm reduction counseling, literacy, employment, housing, referral services, and drop-in centers. Also, USAID will support an endowment designed to provide sustained rehabilitation for persons suffering from physical disabilities. Principal grantees include the Center for Social Development Returnee Assistance Project and Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation.

Improve Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and Biodiversity Conservation (\$1,200,000 DA). International and local NGOs working to protect Cambodian forests and preserve wildlife and protected areas will also receive assistance. Principal grantees include Community Forest International, Global Witness, and WildAid.

FY 2006 Program: Strengthen Civil Society (\$8,000,000 ESF). USAID will support activities of local NGOs and commune councils to enhance public participation at both national and local level and to hold the government and political parties more accountable. USAID activities to combat corruption in FY 2006 will be even more critical as the program grows in strength and sophistication. Assuming that an Anti-Corruption law meeting international standards is passed in 2005, the program will utilize legal mechanism to test cases in the court. Depending on U.S. Government appropriations language, USAID may support implementation of the law, by training or support to an independent anti-corruption unit or other mechanisms that may be established under the law.

Strengthen Democratic Political Parties (\$4,000,000 ESF). USAID will help political parties to consolidate internally democratic procedures and to enhance their organizational and citizens' outreach capabilities through leadership strengthening and message development, including party platforms. This new area of intervention is important as political parties prepare to compete in the local elections in early 2007.

Protect Human Rights and Equal Access to Justice (\$3,000,000 ESF, \$950,000 DA). USAID will continue to focus on the protection of human rights by supporting legal aid organizations, lawyers, judges, prosecutors, unions, and communities through the legal clinic, high profile cases, targeted assistance to judges and prosecutors, advocacy assistance, legal training, grant-making, and technical assistance.

Performance and Results: USAID's investment in the democracy and human rights has produced gradual improvements by supporting the efforts of citizens, partners, and NGOs to make government more transparent, responsive, and respectful of the rule of law. Despite the lack of a government for most of FY 2004, the work to improve the political process continued. USAID provided training to over 860 party representatives and 59 commune councils elected in 2002. USAID also promoted civil and political rights through 76 public forums attended by approximately 30,000 people and impacting several hundred thousand of Cambodians who were reached using broadcast media (e.g. Voice of Democracy Radio Program).

As part of its efforts to increase equal access to justice, a "legal clinic" and training center for new lawyers was established. High profile "class action" cases are being developed. One case involving 350 citizens in Phnom Penh threatened with the destruction of their homes was resolved peacefully and in the interest of the citizens. In preparation for the Khmer Rouge Tribunal, the Documentation Center of Cambodia (DCC) continued to collect documentation, identify and map nearly 20,000 mass graves and prisons, as well as develop procedures for accessing and preserving its documents. The DCC also opened a public information room and conducted two six-week legal training courses designed to prepare experts to conduct work related to the tribunal.

USAID made important contributions to the enforcement of anti-corruption laws in areas of illegal logging and trade in wildlife. USAID helped create and implement forest and wildlife protection programs and a new Community Forestry Law that involves the use of rangers (national and international), zoning and demarcation of protected areas, new community livelihood programs, and monitoring and reporting. Within the first year, forest fires were reduced from 35 to 40 per day to one to four per week and land encroachment cases dropped from 401 to 137 per year.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Cambodia

442-010 Democracy and Human Rights	CSH	DA	ESF
Through September 30, 2003			
Obligations	0	0	21,791
Expenditures	0	0	9,312
Unliquidated	0	0	12,479
Fiscal Year 2004			
Obligations	2,661	750	18,371
Expenditures	0	0	9,390
Through September 30, 2004			
Obligations	2,661	750	40,162
Expenditures	0	0	18,702
Unliquidated	2,661	750	21,460
Prior Year Unobligated Funds			
Obligations	0	0	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2005 NOA			
Obligations	0	3,450	16,864
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2005			
Obligations	0	3,450	16,864
Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 NOA			
Obligations	0	950	15,000
Future Obligations	0	0	0
Est. Total Cost	2,661	5,150	72,026