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ANGOLA

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FY 2009 FOREIGN ASSISTANCE GOALS

The United States Government (USG) and the Government of Angola (GoA) share a vision of a peaceful, secure, prosperous, healthy, and democratic Angola. U.S. foreign assistance to Angola seeks to make that vision a reality. In August 2009, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and Angolan Foreign Minister Assunção dos Anjos agreed to create a strategic partnership dialogue, which will deepen bilateral engagement by improving the context for U.S. foreign assistance programs. They also signed a President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) Partnership Framework, which represents a new approach for both governments to work together to fight HIV/AIDS. The health sector is a priority area for U.S. assistance, with a focus on controlling malaria, combating HIV/AIDS, expanding tuberculosis (TB) control programs, strengthening health systems, improving primary health care assistance and family planning services, and supporting polio eradication. In the democracy sector, USG assistance aims to increase the capacity of civil society to organize effectively and enhance citizen participation in a more pluralist Angola. To help increase economic growth, USG assistance supports programs to rebuild the agricultural sector, support food security, and make Angola's business and investment climate more attractive to foreign and domestic investors. Angola is an important partner in promoting regional stability. The USG continues to promote stabilization and security sector assistance to Angola and strengthen bilateral cooperation in the security sphere; the USG supports almost one-quarter of the landmine clearance in the country.

HIGHLIGHTS BY PROGRAM OBJECTIVE

Investing in People

Angola remains near the bottom of the Human Development Index, especially in the area of health. Infant, child, and maternal mortality rates are among the worst in the world; one in four Angolan children will not reach five years of age.¹ Less than one-third of the population has access to improved sanitation and clean water, a circumstance that contributes to infant deaths. In FY 2009,

¹ The State of the World's Children 2008 – Child Survival, UNICEF.

U.S. assistance to Angola focused on combating major infectious diseases such as malaria, TB, HIV/AIDS, polio, and diarrhea; building the capacity of health staff and institutions; and improving access to and the quality of care and prevention of the Angolan health system. In FY 2009, USG assistance:

- Through the President's Malaria Initiative, protected or treated more than three million Angolans against malaria. This was achieved through the purchase of approximately 354,000 bed nets, the free distribution of more than 311,000 nets, and the sale of 109,400 nets through social marketing. Indoor residual spraying of more than 135,600 homes also helped prevent malaria. Procurement of 43 microscopy kits and 600,000 rapid diagnostic tests helped ensure accurate diagnosis. Furthermore, 37 trainers were trained, who in turn scaled up training in their respective provinces with updated training materials, training over 7,100 health workers in malaria treatment and prevention. More than 1,897,000 artemisinin-based combination treatments were distributed.
- Through PEPFAR, helped the GoA maintain a relatively low HIV prevalence rate through strategic information on HIV prevention and health systems strengthening. During FY 2009, the relationship with the National AIDS Institute was further strengthened, which made the Partnership Framework possible between the GoA and the USG.
- Through the Essential Health Services Program, improved the quality of services provided to TB patients in Angola by training almost 2,600 health staff in TB prevention and treatment in the provinces of Luanda, Huambo, and Lunda Norte. In addition, counseling and testing services were integrated into the main TB facilities, which helped raise the proportion of TB patients being tested and receiving results from zero to 27 percent. To help prevent the spread of multi-drug resistant TB, the USG worked with two TB sanatoria and two related facilities to help ensure there were no stock-outs of TB tracer drugs in those centers.

Maternal mortality for women in Angola is one of the highest in the world, with an estimated rate of 1,500 deaths for every 100,000 live births. The total fertility rate of 6.6 births per woman is among the highest in the world, contributing to high infant and child mortality rates. Improving the health status of women and children is one of the critical health challenges confronting Angola. In FY 2009, USG assistance:

- Supported the Ministry of Health (MoH) with polio surveillances, routine immunizations, and nationwide campaigns. With USG support, the World Health Organization trained some 190 health workers in immunization coverage management, data surveillance, micro planning, and routine immunization. Support was given to 3 National Immunization Days, increasing by more than 437,500 the number of children under 12 months of age receiving Polio 3 vaccine. Surveillance improved significantly, featured by an acute flaccid paralysis detection rate of more than 3.5 percent.
- Through the Essential Health Services Program, trained health staff to provide antenatal care, recognize alarm signals, and promote institutional delivery. Approximately 3,700 health professionals, primary care and community health workers, volunteers, and non-health personnel were trained through a cascade system of training in family planning methods. The program also worked with the MoH to assist the decentralization of health services,

program integration in maternal and child health aimed at improving the quality and increasing the access to health care, and improving service delivery at the community level.

- Through the Extending Service Delivery project, complemented and enhanced the MoH's existing family planning and reproductive health programs by introducing innovative methods of family planning. The project focused on building capacity for providers in the public sector to better integrate family planning at every entry point. More than 205 family planning providers were trained in some of Luanda's municipalities.

Although Angola is endowed with abundant water resources, more than two-thirds of its population does not have access to safe water supply and sanitation services. Approximately 18 percent of the deaths of Angolan children less than 5 years of age are attributable to water and sanitation-related diseases such as cholera, diarrhea, and typhoid. A 2007 UNICEF study revealed that national sanitation coverage is 28 percent, leaving more than 10 million people routinely practicing unsafe means of excreta disposal. Access to water is particularly important for women and children, specifically girls who have the responsibility of providing water for the entire family and may devote hours to the daily collection of water. In FY 2009, USG assistance:

- Supported the Certeza program with UNICEF's support. Certeza is a locally manufactured, safe, point-of-use water purification treatment. In FY 2009, more than 218,000 bottles of the solution reached the homes of Angolans.
- Helped more than 13,000 people get access to improved drinking water supply. Provision of water and sanitation facilities helped benefit four schools and improve community water points along with laundry facilities in the flood-ridden province of Cunene.

Governing Justly and Democratically

U.S. support has played a vital role in improving governance in Angola as the nation struggles to build a democracy. In FY 2009, USG assistance:

- Assisted in improving the quality of engagement between communities and municipal government, and increased the number of interactions to 94. USG resources also facilitated the delivery of basic services to over 200 communities in which more than 2,000 individuals were trained in management skills and fiscal management to strengthen local government.
- Trained 29 executive personnel of the state-owned electricity service provider in 2 of Luanda's peri-urban municipalities
- Strengthened Angola's governance through better planning, budgeting, and implementation. The GoA appropriated over \$8.5 million to implement community initiatives by supporting community-driven micro-projects through the USG-funded Integrated Development Funds in five municipalities.

The USG continued to support post-election Angola by strengthening the capacity within the election management body, the National Electoral Commission (CNE); improving citizen knowledge of electoral democratic issues; and increasing political party participation. This technical support included a self-assessment of CNE performance in the September 2008 legislative elections. In FY 2009, USG assistance:

- Assisted the CNE to implement up to 60 percent of the recommendations of the final assessment report. These recommendations aimed to improve systems and procedures in order to run credible elections, and helped to train 34 elections officials.
- Supported a post-election assessment of civil society participation and lessons learned. This report was distributed nationwide. A brochure was also developed that was designed to inform citizens about the roles and responsibilities of the new National Assembly and its elected members. A series of national public debates addressed civil society's input into the constitutional and electoral law revision process.
- Supported a public opinion poll to assess the trends and mood of the electorate on important subjects in the post-election period, such as the format for presidential and local elections, policy issues, development priorities, women and youth participation, and perceptions of corruption. More than 450 political activists from 14 of Angola's largest political organizations received training in platform articulation and policy agenda.

Civil society plays a vital role in Angolan society. To strengthen the capacity of Angolan civil society organizations as mediators, negotiators, and communicators between the people and the government, USG assistance in FY 2009:

- Strengthened more than 50 indigenous civil society organizations through mentoring, resource allocation, and coordination. Programs also trained more than 2,500 members of civil society groups and local authorities in management skills and fiscal management.
- Supported more than 200 communities to deliver basic services
- Supported civil society in providing essential services. The USG-funded Civil Society Strengthening Program worked with many local organizations in service delivery and advocacy, including 37 local organizations working in the area of HIV/AIDS, 12 organizations working in education rights, 6 in disabled people's rights, and 4 in civil education and human rights. Through the program's organizational development capacity building, 16 local organizations now have financial systems in place to manage up to \$250,000, and an additional 7 local organizations are capable of managing up to \$500,000 – a remarkable increase in the capacity of these organizations from last year's performance.

Economic Growth

Angola's recent economic growth is impressive, but the nation is far from realizing its full economic potential. Angola is one of the highest performing economies in the region. Its economy grew 27 percent in 2007, due primarily to oil based revenues. With the downturn of oil prices in the international market, Angola's growth in 2008 fell to a still-impressive 15 percent. The 2008 collapse of oil and diamonds revenues drove home to Angolans the importance of economic diversification. In FY 2009, the USG:

- Engaged the Central Bank of Angola to support policy and regulatory reforms, focusing on the infrastructure and supply and demand sides of the financial system to promote broad-based economic development to reduce poverty. The commitment of the Central Bank has been good, as the Bank has provided lodging for USG-funded consultants and organized working groups involving both Bank mid-level management and supervisory staff. The consultants and working groups met regularly to discuss products, reforms, and progress to advance policy dialogue and train Central Bank staff.

- Developed a framework to establish an accounting certification program in Angola to introduce international accounting and auditing standards in Angola, a step that will increase transparency. USG support certifies professionals in accounting and auditing, and establishes a legal and regulatory framework. With USG support, the program will soon compile data on existing in-country accounting and auditing professionals. The program is working with universities to develop a training curriculum that meets international standards.

Agriculture is critical for Angola's sustained economic growth and diversification, as it provides employment for the under-skilled in non-urban areas and reduces Angolan dependence on imported food, thus contributing to national productivity outside the extractive industries sector. The GoA's ongoing efforts to rebuild transportation infrastructure enables a resurgence in the agriculture sector. Reflecting the GoA commitment to revitalizing the agricultural sector, GoA investments in extension services and input supply are increasing. In FY 2009, USG assistance:

- Facilitated access to production inputs, finance, and commercial linkages through its Agriculture Development and Finance Program (ADFP) and Farmer-to-Farmer projects. It also provided improvements in production technologies and management practices that are catalytic within specific market-driven value chains. Additionally, the Development Credit Authority (DCA) guaranteed an envelope of \$2 million in loans to two major private banking institutions providing agricultural credit.
- Provided direct training and assistance for more than 5,600 producers and 200 agriculture-related firms. The USG also improved market and trade capacity in the agriculture sector. Interventions to link buyers with sellers resulted in nearly 230 deals valued at a total of more than \$8.6 million. Through the ADFP, the USG also facilitated improved access to financing for agricultural firms. The USG further supported agricultural firms in accessing finance by guaranteeing a total of just under \$7 million in agribusiness loans through the DCA.

Peace and Security

A legacy of Angola's multi-decade civil war is an estimated two million small arms and light weapons (SA/LW) in civilian hands, as well as massive government stockpiles of SA/LW and excessive munitions. The GoA initiated a voluntary civilian SA/LW recovery program, and undertook efforts to destroy an accumulation of SA/LW and tons of excess munitions. In FY 2009, USG assistance:

- Accounted for 58 percent of the munitions and 62 percent of the weapons that were destroyed by February 2009. More than 32,300 SA/LW were destroyed in FY 2009.
- Helped destroy a total of 105 tons of munitions

The USG views Angola as an important partner in promoting regional stability, and continues to deepen efforts to strengthen bilateral security cooperation. Military-to-military education of the Angolan armed forces improves its professionalism and potential to contribute positively to regional stability. Currently, the Angolan military receives English-language training and HIV/AIDS assistance from the United States. In FY 2009, USG assistance trained some 150 officers on HIV/AIDS prevention in the military. The Angolan military has expressed interest in expanded programs in health and English language training in FY 2010.