
Front Lines

U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

FEBRUARY 1997

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THIS ISSUE

2

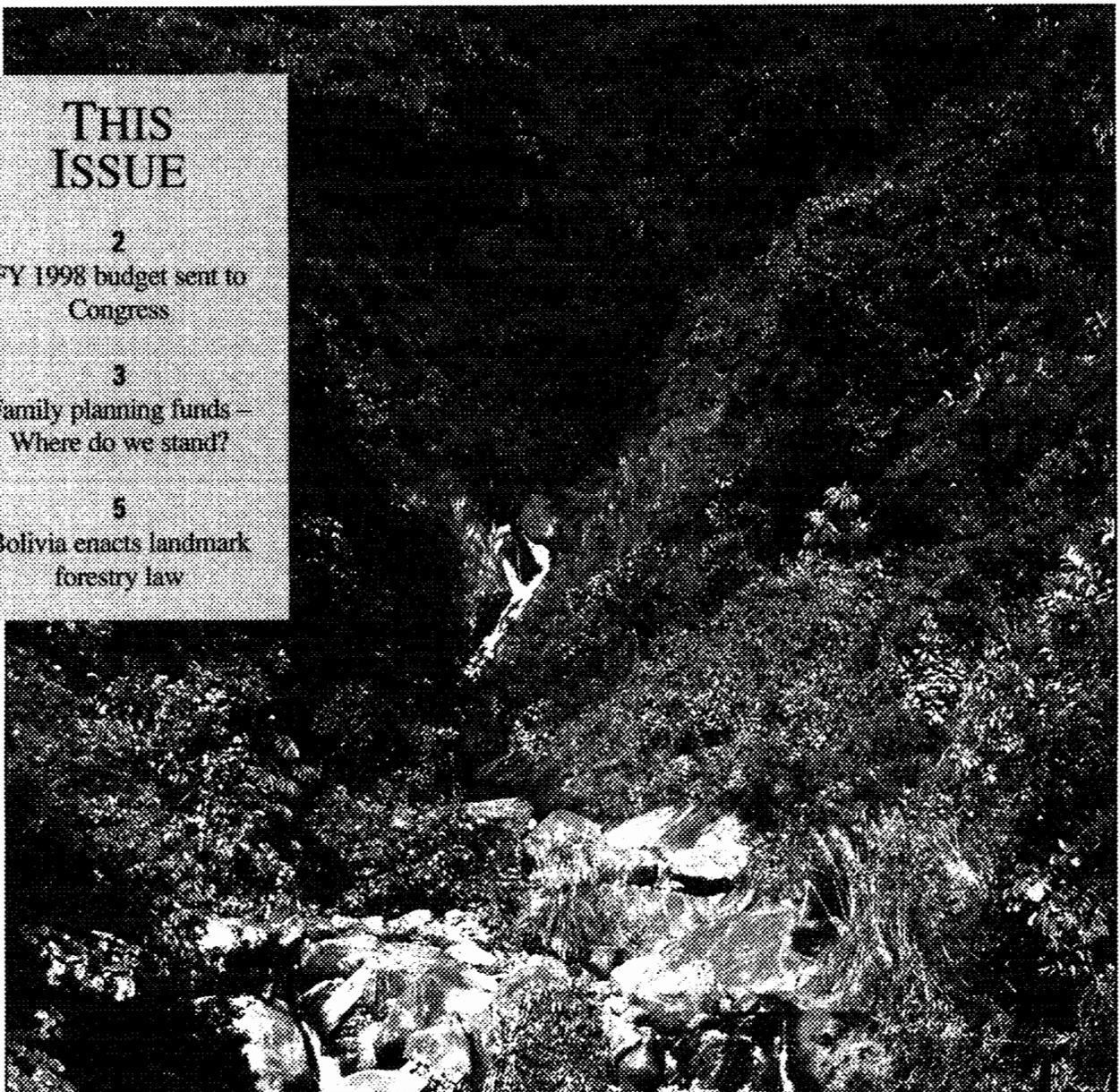
FY 1998 budget sent to
Congress

3

Family planning funds –
Where do we stand?

5

Bolivia enacts landmark
forestry law





FEBRUARY 1997

U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

VOLUME 37, No. 1

Administrator: J. Brian Atwood
**Assistant Administrator for
Legislative and Public Affairs:**
Jill Buckley
Chief of Multimedia Communications:
Suzanne Chase
Editor: Betty Sneed
Staff Assistant: Mary Feider

Correspondents:

AFR: Rama Russell
ANE: Linda LeDuc
BHR: Mike Mahdavian
ENE: Timothy Dabel
EOP: David Grim
GC: Carl Sosebee
G: Carla Barbiero
LAC: Phyllis Church
M: Peggy Thome
OSDBU: Betty Briscoe

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Albright meets with USAID senior staff

Secretary of State Madeleine Albright met with Administrator Brian Atwood and USAID assistant administrators on Jan. 30.

The meeting, held in the administrator's office, provided a welcome opportunity for a wide-ranging discussion of the relevance of international development to U.S. foreign policy objectives.

In addition to knowing Administrator Atwood from previous jobs, Secretary Albright renewed her acquaintance with other USAID staff with whom she has worked in the past, including Chief of Staff Dick McCall, AA/ENI Thomas Dine, AA/LAC Mark Schneider, AA/G Sally Shelton-Colby and AA/LPA Jill Buckley.

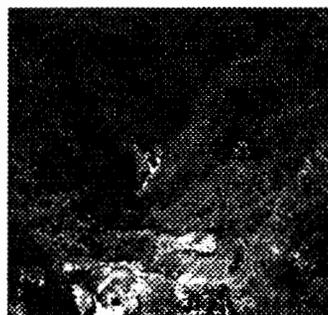


Photo credits: Cover, Kristine Heine; page 3, USAID/Nepal; page 5, Policarpio Jose Lerauce; page 6, Roumiana Raicheva; page 7, USAID/Honduras.

Cover: The forests in Bolivia will be much better protected with the new landmark forestry law. See page 5.

Front Lines

NEWS & FEATURES

THE FRONT LINES OF A LONG TWILIGHT STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM — *John F. Kennedy*

2 Fiscal year 1998 budget request sent to Congress

3 Family planning funds — where do we stand?

4 Conference charts course for the 21st century

5 USAID plays major role in Bolivia's landmark new forestry law

6 USAID sponsors local government conference in Bulgaria

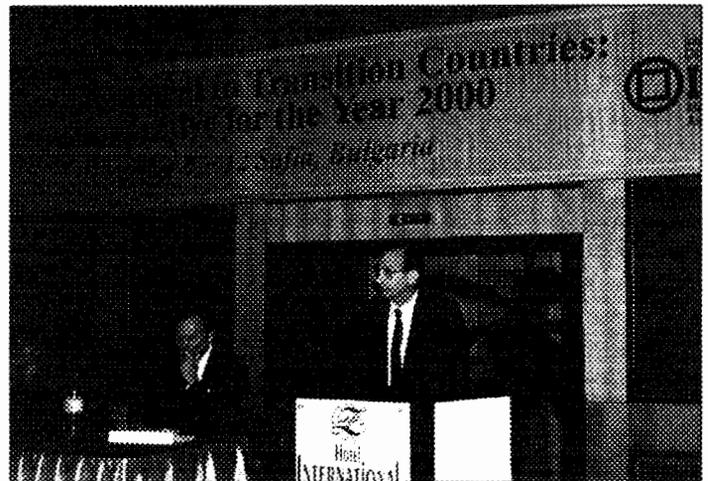
7 Endless opportunities for a better future — A USAID/Honduras success story

8 Investigations Office cracks fraud abuses

9 Where in the World?
Obituaries



page 3



page 6

Fiscal year 1998 budget request sent to Congress

On Feb. 6, President Clinton sent his budget request for FY 1998 to Congress. In announcing the budget, which would eliminate the deficit by 2002, the president stated that his plan "advances our interests as the world's indispensable nation, reversing the downward spiral in international affairs spending, strengthening our ability to promote peace, and fighting global problems like drug trafficking, terrorism and nuclear proliferation."

The administration requests \$19.451 billion for programs in the International Affairs (Function 150) account. USAID will administer \$7.158 billion, or 37.5 percent of the funds. The FY 1998 budget request for USAID-managed programs reverses the downward trend of the past few years. It includes increases over FY 1997 for Development Assistance and the Development Fund for Africa (\$1.698 million FY 1998 request compared to \$1.632 million in FY 1997), Eastern Europe (\$492 million request for FY 1998 compared to \$475 million in FY 1997); the New Independent States of the former Soviet Union (\$900 million FY 1998 request compared to \$625 million in FY 1997); and the Economic Support Fund (\$2,498 million FY 1998 request compared to \$2,363 million in FY 1997).

The request includes a decrease of \$15.3 million in the agency's operating expenses. Funding requests are straight-lined from the FY 1997 levels

for International Disaster Assistance (\$190 million), P.L. 480 Title II (\$837 million), Title III (\$30 million) and Micro and Small Enterprise Development (\$2 million). The budget request for Urban and Environmental Credit (formerly the Housing Guaranty Program) is reduced to \$9 million, down from \$10 million in FY 1997.

Several new initiatives are proposed in the budget request for FY 1998, including:

- \$30 million for economic growth activities aimed at improving food security in

Africa to help feed the hungry and support for agricultural research through the Global Bureau;

- Up to \$10 million in Development Assistance funds for an Enhanced Credit Authority to expand the use of market rate loans and loan guarantees to support USAID's development agenda. It will provide the agency an important tool to leverage its limited resources more effectively.
- \$528 million for a new Partnership for Freedom initiative in the New Independent

States, focused on trade and investment and long-term cooperative activities, beginning in FY 1998. The initiative will build on achievements to date and reorient our assistance program, first to Russia and then to the other NIS countries, toward longer-term and more cooperative activities to spur economic growth and to develop lasting links between our peoples. ■

—Cook is a legislative affairs specialist in LPA.

USAID Budget

(Discretionary Budget Authority—\$ millions)

	FY 1996	FY 1997	FY 1998
Development Assistance (DA)	1,619	1,132	998
Child Survival & Disease Program*	0	500	0
Development Fund for Africa (DFA)	1/	1/	700
International Disaster Assistance	181	190	190
Credit Programs:			
Micro and Small Enterprise Dev.	2	2	2
Urban and Environmental Credit	11	10	9
Operating Expenses—USAID 2/	494	488	473
Operating Expenses—USAID IG	30	30	29
Subtotal — Development Assistance	2,337	2,352	2,401
Economic Support Fund	2,360	2,363	2,498 3/
Eastern Europe-Special Assistance	516	475	492
New Independent States	641	625	900
Subtotal — USAID-Appropriated	5,854	5,815	6,291
PL 480 - Appropriated thru USDA:			
Title II	821	837	837
Title III	50	30	30
TOTAL USAID-ADMINISTERED	6,725	6,682	7,158

* These programs are funded under DA in FY 1996 and DA/DFA in FY 1998.

1/ Africa program funding included in DA in 1996 and 1997.

2/ Operating Expenses (OE) include use of DA funds in 1996 and 1997.

3/ Economic Support Fund includes \$52.5 million requested for the Middle East Development Bank in FY 1998.

Family planning funds — where do we stand?

As Front Lines goes to press, Congress has not yet voted on whether to release by March funds already appropriated for population/family planning services in FY 1997. Congressional legislation restricts the use of the funds until July. A vote to release the funds sooner must be made by Feb. 28.

On Jan. 31, President Clinton officially requested Congress to release the funds.

How did we reach this point? For 30 years, U.S.-funded population assistance has enjoyed strong bipartisan Congressional support. At issue, however, has been the so-called "Mexico City" policy imposed on the program during the Reagan-Bush administration,

which prohibited U.S. government funds from going to private groups unless they certify that they will not perform or promote abortions abroad as a method of family planning. This policy was removed by the Clinton administration; nevertheless, as a matter of law and policy, USAID has not and does not fund or promote abortions.

In 1996, Congress cut funding for international population assistance by 35 percent, delayed the release of funds until July, and restricted the disbursement to small monthly allotments (metering). In the debate over FY 1997 appropriations, the House sought to reintroduce "Mexico City" restrictions on family planning

"In the balance are the lives and well-being of many thousands of women and children and American credibility as the leader in family planning programs around the world..."

services. A compromise was reached between Congress and the administration removing restrictive language from the bill but not releasing the appropriated \$385 million for international family planning until July 1, 1997. However, it was agreed that if the administration found this delay was harming family planning programs, it had until Feb. 1 to report the hardship to Congress and request release of the funds.

President Clinton in his letter and report to Congress in January stated that "I hereby find that the July 1, 1997, limitation on obligations...is having a negative impact on the proper functioning of the population planning program.

"It is my determination that a delay will cause serious, irreversible and avoidable harm. In the balance are the lives and well-being of many thousands of women and children and American credibility as the leader in family planning programs around the world....If we delay support for family planning by even four months, denying safe and effective contraception to couples who depend on these programs, we will see a rise in unintended pregnancies and maternal deaths and a tragic recourse to unsafe and unsanitary methods to terminate those pregnancies...a bipartisan group of legislators in the House and the Senate are

hard at work to pass this bill for the timely release of funds...If Congress fails to take this simple action, we risk a cost to humanity that we will bear well into the next century."

The vote originally was scheduled to be a simple up-and-down vote. It now appears that the House Republicans are seeking to tie the release to adding the Mexico City restrictions. Only \$92 million of FY 1997 funds would be available by July 1 if the vote is negative, and no matter how the vote comes out, the funds will still be "metered" at a rate of 8 percent per month.

In support of releasing the funds and the U.S. international family planning program, The Rockefeller Foundation issued a report on Jan. 29, "High Stakes: The United States, Global Population and Our Common Future."

"Since the 1960s, we have been able to maintain a fair, bipartisan and centrist approach to international family planning," said Peter Goldmark, Rockefeller Foundation president. "With this center in danger of crumbling, we at The Rockefeller Foundation believe that the American public needs to understand just what we stand to lose. And when they do, they will reaffirm that family planning is integral to the prosperity and stability of our shared world." ■



Too many children can be a crushing burden in countries where there is a shortage of food and adequate health facilities.

Conference charts course for the 21st century

More than 1,000 development professionals descended on Washington Jan. 13-15 to attend the 1997 International Development Conference (IDC). The participants charted a course for guiding U.S. foreign aid programs into the 21st century.

The audience participated in more than 50 panel presentations. The conference was coordinated by IDC, a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that provides a forum for development professionals committed to social, economic and environmental programs. Founded in 1952, IDC's principal activity revolves around a biennial conference that brings together development professionals from the United States and overseas, as well as professors, students and journalists.

This year's conference, titled "The New Face of Development," focused on new opportunities and methodologies to stimulate and direct development practitioners into the 21st century. Following a period of severe budget cuts in the U.S. foreign aid program, conference organizers wanted to recognize innovative programs and techniques that will motivate development practitioners in their work.

In preparation for the conference, six subcommittees were formed to examine the following issues: new ways of financing; strategic collaboration; breakthrough technologies; alleviating poverty; and U.S.

and global political realities. From these subcommittees, all of the panel presentations were formed.

Aside from the many workshops, three plenary sessions featured senior-level foreign policy experts whose speeches emphasized the importance of development, both to the global community and as a tool in U.S. foreign policy. Among the speakers and chairs for these sessions were: James Wolfensohn, president, the World Bank; Salim Salim, secretary-general, Organization of African Unity; Jessica Mathews, senior fellow, Council on Foreign Relations; Robert Rubin, secretary of the treasury; and James Michel, chairman, Development Assistance Committee, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

On the last day of the conference, USAID Administrator Brian Atwood said in his remarks, "Whatever approaches we devise in the second Clinton administration, whatever policies, initiatives or structures we propose, I can assure you that they will reflect our sense of obligation as much as they reflect our sense of national interest. I can assure you that as we build that bridge to the new millennium, it will include a renewed commitment to the development and humanitarian mission."

The mostly domestic audience also was treated to special luncheon and dinner programs including: a memorial luncheon

for the late UNICEF Executive Director James Grant, which featured Kul Gautam, senior visiting fellow, Harvard University, and Richard Jolly, senior advis-

In his remarks, Sen. Lugar, a senior member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, pondered the question that always seems to follow him—

"Whatever approaches we devise in the second Clinton administration, whatever policies, initiatives or structures we propose, I can assure you that they will reflect our sense of obligation as much as they reflect our sense of national interest. I can assure you that as we build that bridge to the new millennium, it will include a renewed commitment to the development and humanitarian mission."

er, U.N. Development Program (UNDP); a luncheon featuring four women political activists from India, Argentina, Uganda and Norway; and a dinner that focused on the United Nations, with James Gustave Speth, administrator, UNDP; Carol Bellamy, executive director, UNICEF; and Jacques Diouf, director-general, U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization.

Sen. Richard Lugar (R-Ind.) and Charles William Maynes, recently retired editor of Foreign Policy magazine, delivered keynote addresses at the closing luncheon. They reflected on the impact of the 1996 U.S. election on foreign assistance programs and reassured the audience of the importance of development.

"Which is more important: domestic or international affairs?" After drawing the link between the agricultural community in America and the growing trading potential for U.S. agricultural products overseas, Lugar arrived at his answer: "U.S. foreign aid is the leverage in foreign policy," he said, concluding by stressing the vital role that foreign assistance plays in the growth and stability of the American economy. ■

—King is a public affairs specialist in LPA.

USAID plays major role in Bolivia's landmark new forestry law

After three years of legislative logjam, Bolivia now has a landmark new forestry law. USAID/Bolivia's Sustainable Forestry Management (BOLFOR) Project made the difference by encouraging participation, solving conflict resolution issues and providing sound technical assistance.

"BOLFOR recognized early on that a new forestry law would never pass without support from a broad cross-section of stakeholders," reported John Nittler, BOLFOR chief of party. Participation became the operating principle for BOLFOR. The project held a series of workshops with key stakeholders, customers and partners over 18 months in close collaboration with Bolivian Sen. Antonio Sánchez de Lozada. Participating were a federation of 26 indigenous communities, more than 20 nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), local universities,

logging associations, businessmen and members of the Bolivian Congress. Their views were heard, and they helped shape the law.

Participation peaked during a three-day field trip when BOLFOR brought senior members of Congress to the Chiquitanos indigenous peoples' ecocertified forestry enterprise.

"This visit enabled the members to see what a managed forest really looks like," said Nittler, "and it helped them to understand the likely impact of different legislation on forests and their biological diversity."

The visit also gave the Chiquitanos an unprecedented opportunity to share their experiences and concerns with some of Bolivia's most important decision-makers on their own turf. A further and unexpected benefit of the trip was the strong sense of teamwork that developed while in the forest between the visiting senators and

representatives (many from competing political parties). That spirit of collaboration was later to prove invaluable during the often difficult debates in Congress.

the most important law passed during my administration" — no small feat in a government widely recognized for much landmark legislation. The forestry law, he said,

... [the new law] should pay high dividends in helping to protect some of the world's richest biological resources.

Hammering out a compromise between such a diverse group of stakeholders took great patience and skill. Bolivian President Gonzalo Sánchez de Lozada participated actively in many meetings with BOLFOR.

The new law focuses squarely on sustainable forest management and provides both incentives and sanctions to help move Bolivia's forestry sector toward more responsible forest management.

Key features of the new legislation include: 1) independent audits (publically available) to verify that concessionaires are complying with the principles of sustainable forest management, in order to maintain their concessions; 2) provisions to allow private citizens or groups (e.g., NGOs) to call for such audits and to file legal actions against any parties in violation of the law; 3) zero taxes on areas within concessions that have been set aside for conservation purposes; and 4) dramatically increased taxes on forest lands cleared for agricultural purposes.

President Sánchez de Lozada, in his speech celebrating promulgation of the law, said it "may be

is "a pride for the country and an example for the continent," and noted that BOLFOR's role was decisive. According to USAID Mission Director Frank Almaguer, "The new forestry law will give a big push to USAID's Environment Strategic Objective by laying the legal foundations to reduce forest degradation and support biodiversity conservation." At the same time, he noted that the law itself is just a beginning and that Bolivia will face real challenges in successfully implementing this ambitious legislation. However, there is no doubt that BOLFOR's steady support for participation, consultation and consensus will facilitate this process, and USAID/Bolivia's Environment Strategic Objective Team is committed to holding this course.

With more forest in Bolivia than in the states of California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana combined, this should pay high dividends in helping to protect some of the world's richest biological resources. ■

—Yates is the natural resources officer at USAID/Bolivia and chairs the mission's Environment Strategic Objective Team.



Bolivian President Gonzalo Sánchez de Lozada (left) presented a special award to Michael Yates, USAID/Bolivia, and others for their help in developing Bolivia's new forestry law.

USAID sponsors local government conference in Bulgaria

More than 160 senior officials from 19 countries in Central Europe and the former Soviet Union recently affirmed their commitment to democratic local government at a USAID-sponsored conference in Sofia, Bulgaria.

At the conclusion of the meeting, participants adopted a Declaration on Local Government, which called for decentralizing economic and political authority to the local level, asserted the importance of guaranteeing local government authority in national constitutions and laws and underlined the importance of citizen participation in the local decision-making process.

The conference, "Local Government in Transition Countries: A Perspective for the Year 2000," was the first region-wide meeting to focus exclusively on local government and to feature key players in local government reform efforts in the formerly communist countries of Central Europe and the Soviet

Union. National delegations were composed of local officials, including mayors and senior technical staff; central government officials, including ministers and deputy ministers; leaders of associations of towns and cities; presidents of nongovernmental organizations; and private sector representatives. The conference was sponsored by ENI/EEUD, in collaboration with ENI/DG and RHUDO/Poland. As host, USAID/Bulgaria provided invaluable support.

Strengthening democratic local governments is a strategic objective of USAID's assistance to the region. In his keynote speech to the conference, AA/ENI Thomas Dine emphasized, "A major purpose of the United States is to help reinvigorate and strengthen local governments... We want to help open up the process of governing to all citizens."

Budapest's mayor, Gabor Demszky, stressed that "one of the greatest achievements of the new political system is the

empowerment of local governments. Local politicians and also 'ordinary' residents recognize that it is now possible to influence the future of their communities."

Strengthening democratic local governments is a strategic objective of USAID's assistance to the [ENI] region.

The first two conference topics, "Fiscal Decentralization and Municipal Finance" and "Urban Service Delivery," went to the heart of effective local government and its interface with citizens. With democratization, citizens have begun to articulate community needs through open, participatory processes. However, cities cannot provide the level of services requested by the community without adequate financial resources. Lacking improvements in service delivery, citizens may rapidly become disillusioned with democracy.

Boris Ivanenko, president of the Khvyliya Company in Ukraine, urged public-private cooperation in the delivery of urban services. Since taking management responsibility for water supply and waste water treatment in Gorlivka, Khvyliya has increased water service from the eight hours daily previously provided by the public company to a full 24 hours a day. At the same time, some 20,000 local residents have been provided with a stake in the system as shareholders in

this private company.

The third topic, "The Role of Municipal Associations," examined the experiences of professional organizations formed to advance the interests of towns and cities in the national political arena. Discussions centered on case studies of innovative local government reforms presented by participants from 10 countries.

The conference was the first time many local and central government officials had met officially to discuss the role of local governments and the problems they face in the transition period.

Peter Kimm, associate assistant administrator in the Global Bureau's Environment Center, noted that USAID's more than 30 years in supporting urban development and local government can be very useful to ENI countries as a vehicle for encouraging local partnerships and information sharing.

In closing the conference, Olgierd Dziekonski, president of the Municipal Development Agency in Poland, emphasized that the countries of the region may be at different stages of reform, but the goal of each should remain the same — the creation of capable, effective and democratic local governments, which can provide the necessary services to their citizens with the cooperation of the central government, the private sector and the local population. Regional cooperation and information sharing will continue to support this transition. ■

—Whitehouse is an international development associate in ENI/EEUD/UDH.



AA/ENI Thomas Dine stresses the importance of effective local government and citizen participation to the democratic and economic transition.

Endless opportunities for a better future— A USAID/Honduras success story

The program helped me understand that my future is in my hands," said Maria Irma Gutierrez, a former USAID/Honduras Peace Scholar (HOPS), in explaining the reason of her success.

Gutierrez divides her life story in two parts. The first part is life before HOPS. The second is life after HOPS. HOPS is the USAID-financed program that provides custom-designed training, targeting primarily rural, lower-income young people with leadership potential.

In a nutshell, the first part of her life was similar to that of many rural women in Honduras. Gutierrez lives in Guacamaya, a rural agricultural community 1,350 meters above sea level and approximately an hour and a half away from Tegucigalpa, the capital. With only a primary education, married and taking care of her family, she was busy toiling her husband's small plot of land and being an active community member. She says, half jokingly, that her husband was a modern man, allowing her to work with him. However, when it came to money matters, he handled them all.

The second part of her life began in 1988, when things changed dramatically for the better. Because of her proven leadership skills, she was selected by HOPS to go to Vermont and participate in a monthlong training program on growing high-altitude fruit. During her stay she learned the technical intricacies of producing and marketing fruit such as apples and strawberries. Growing fruit, and nontraditional fruit at that, was a

far cry from the subsistence farming of the staples, beans and corn Gutierrez had been producing.

Most importantly, she also learned about the endless opportunities within her reach. She discovered that despite her very limited education and poverty, she could pave the way to a more prosperous future for herself and her family. All her life, Gutierrez had performed as was expected of her, limiting herself to traditional female roles. Her training experience helped her to discover that her dreams were within reach. For Gutierrez, it was as if a blindfold had been removed from her eyes.

With this new positive outlook, Gutierrez returned to her family in Guacamaya. She knew some things would change, beginning with taking control of the family's financial future. In a few years, Gutierrez had saved 4,000 lempiras (about \$400) and bought a piece of land. This purchase was another groundbreaking event for Gutierrez since, until very recently, few Honduran women were landowners.

Gutierrez cleaned her new plot and, with her children, began planting apple trees, strawberries, carrots, corn and beans. She thought that in six years, she would have paid off her investment and profits would serve to provide a better future for her four children.

Gutierrez has long finished paying for her farm. Last year she expanded and planted over 4,000 coffee shrubs. She expects that in two years' time they will produce some 75,000 lempiras worth of coffee.



Irma Gutierrez picks strawberries, one of the fruits she has planted that contributes to her success as an entrepreneur.

Despite having a considerably higher income, Gutierrez hasn't changed much. She continues to be an active participant in community activities. She says that lending a helping hand to her neighbors is one of the perks in her life. Currently, she teaches the local schoolchildren about environmental protection and is involved with the furnishing of the just completed local Catholic church.

Gutierrez considers herself a successful woman. She has crossed over from a subsistence farmer to a growing entrepreneur.

She is able to provide for her family and is putting her children through school, all of whom plan to attend college after completing their secondary education. She is highly regarded by her neighbors because of her drive, her willingness to share her knowledge with others and the contributions she has made to the well-being of her community.

"Thanks to HOPS, there is nothing more to ask for in life," she concludes. ■

—Montes is a communication specialist with USAID/Honduras.

Investigations Office cracks fraud abuses

The OIG Office of Investigations recently completed two investigations that may have relevance to the agency's contracting activities.

In one investigation, an individual pled guilty to one count of violating Title 18, United States Code 1001, for submitting false statements to the U.S. government. The subject, a USAID contractor employee, submitted a biographic data sheet that exaggerated his education and grossly inflated his salary history. The effect of these false statements was not small. The subject was paid \$130,000 per year when, in actuality, he was entitled to less than \$30,000 per annum, based upon his previous salary history. The assistant U.S. attorney who prosecuted this case accepted the matter for prosecution because it met the following guidelines:

- 1) The false submission was made to the U.S. government (i.e., USAID);
- 2) The act of submitting the biographic data sheet with false information was intentional; and,
- 3) There was a significant monetary loss to the U.S. government.

In the second investigation, a former USAID contractor, without admitting guilt, settled a pending civil suit by reimbursing \$245,000 to the U.S. government. The suit was filed because the

company front-loaded a USAID-financed engineering contract. Front-loading occurs when a company submits inflated vouchers overstating actual expenses in the initial stages of its contract in order to receive larger payments

U.S. government.

Front-loading is usually hidden in projected contract costs set forth in a potential contractor's bid. Careful examination of the bid may reveal a shifting of contract costs from the middle and end

contract was a fixed-price contract, USAID lost money because it reimbursed the company for the project equipment based upon the inflated voucher claims early in the project — money that could have earned interest for months and years before it would normally have been paid out.

In both instances, the defense used by both the contractor employee and the company was the same: "Everybody does it." We suspect that this claim, no matter how flawed the reasoning may be, is probably at least partially true. Exaggerated salary histories on biographic data sheets and front-loaded contracts appear to be all-too-common practices in the contracting world.

If you suspect or have information concerning these questionable contracting practices, please contact your nearest IG investigative office or call the IG Hotline at 703-875-4999 or 1-800-230-6539 to report the matter. ■

—Nichols is a security investigation officer, OIG.

If you are aware of any fraud, waste, or abuse involving USAID activities...

**CALL the Inspector General
HOTLINE at
1-800-230-6539
or
703-875-4999**



Write to: USAID/IG/I
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Rosslyn Station
Arlington, Va. 22219

(Caller can be anonymous)

Via AIDNET E-mail at the following address:
IGHOTLINE@IG.I@AIDW
(Confidentiality is assured if requested in your E-mail message)

than the company would normally be entitled to receive. A company sometimes does this to avoid borrowing money for contract start-up costs. When front-loading occurs, as it did in this instance, the USAID contractor, in effect, received an interest-free loan from the

of a project to the beginning. In this recent case, the company shifted its costs by inflating the prices it paid for project equipment purchased early in the project by as much as 300 percent to 400 percent and by passing those inflated costs on to USAID. Even though the

WHERE

In The
World
Are
USAID
Employees?



Moved On

Alexander, Susan Lynne
Claxton, Tracey
Howell, Charles
Lewis, Jeanette Agnes
Respass, Rebecca
Tomaro, John

Promoted

Battle, Tonya
Bolstad, Irma Urzua
Frierson, Shirley
Hoggard, Christopher
Jones, Bonita
Knowles, Richard
Lilly, Spurgeon
Mann, Richard
Owen, Rita
Palmer, Jonathan
Paniccia, Annette
Pollard, Nolita
Solem, Sanna Lee
Stiff, Catherine Nichols
Taylor, Wanda
Walker, Michelle

Reassigned

Deal, J. Michael, Dominican Republic, deputy mission director, to supervisory program officer, LAC/DPB
Goss, James Hampton, RIG/Bangkok, auditor, to IG/A/FA
Healey, Margaret, RSM/EA/EXO, supervisory executive officer, to the Philippines

Johnstone, Thomas, Panama, controller, to Zimbabwe
Malnak, Peter, Egypt, IDI (private enterprise), to project development officer, West Bank/Gaza
Minkley, Paule-Audrey, Philippines, supervisory executive officer, to COMP/FS/REASSGN
Osinski, David, Madagascar, contract officer, to M/OP/A/AOT

Seong, John, REDSO/ESA, financial management officer financial analyst, to private enterprise officer, ENI/PER/NISP
Shapleigh, Alexander, Zimbabwe, supervisory private enterprise officer, to private enterprise officer, ENI/PER/ER
Swallow, John, LAC/RSD, special projects officer, to supervisory general develop-

ment officer, Jamaica
Szepes, Eugene, Bolivia, supervisory program officer, to program officer, LAC/SAM

Retired

Livengood, William
McIntyre, Darell
Royer, Jack
Stafford, Martin Douglas

Obituaries

Cook, Willie Frank "Bill," 66, died Nov. 27, 1996, after a long illness at his home in Tyler, Texas. Cook, an agricultural development officer, joined USAID in 1966 and served in Zambia, Uganda, Swaziland, Indonesia and South Vietnam. He retired in 1987.

Huffman, Michael, 48, died suddenly Nov. 21, 1996, at his residence in Arlington, Va. Huffman joined USAID in 1979 and served in Barbados,

Morocco, Indonesia and Washington. Before his death, he was a private enterprise officer in Indonesia.

Shearer, Richard, 81, died Sept. 23, 1996, in Green Valley, Ariz. Shearer began his career in 1948 with USAID's predecessor agency, the Economic Cooperation Administration, working as a budget and financial director. He served in Turkey, Guatemala, Libya, Korea, Pakistan, South Vietnam and India. He retired from the agency in 1972.

Weeks, Clair, 81, died of cancer Aug. 26, 1996, in Rossmore, Calif. He began his career with a USAID predecessor agency in 1956, serving in India and later went to Nepal to build animation studios for the government. He then returned to India and made a film about the malaria program. Weeks also served in Thailand during the Vietnam War. After his service in Thailand, he left the agency in 1971 to work with the United Nations Development Program.

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