



**USAID**  
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# USAID LIBRARY

## USAID Activities: Guide to Historical Research

“On September 4, 1961, the Congress passed the Foreign Assistance Act, which reorganized the U.S. foreign assistance programs including separating military and non-military aid. The Act mandated the creation of an agency to administer economic assistance programs, and on November 3, 1961, President John F. Kennedy established the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).” [USAID Website]

The following is a general guide to resources useful in conducting research on past USAID activities. For a short background on USAID, see:  
[http://www.usaid.gov/about\\_usaid/usaidhist.html](http://www.usaid.gov/about_usaid/usaidhist.html)

Most of the documents and databases listed here are available at the Development Experience Clearinghouse website (<http://dec.usaid.gov>). When using the suggested search phrases, do not include the quotes when performing the actual search.

### Overall USAID Activities

*Congressional Budget Justification* (2001-2006) Alternate titles used from 1961 to 2000:  
*Congressional Presentation, Presentation to the Congress, Submission to the Congress.*  
Uniform title: *Budget Justification to the Congress.*

Description: Each fiscal year the Agency submits its budget justification to the Congress for appropriation. The Congressional Budget Justification (CBJ) reflects the Administration's proposed program and budget request for bilateral foreign economic assistance appropriations. The Agency's Annual Performance Overview is an important companion document by providing the broader policy context for specific Agency goals, indicators and funding levels.

Location: DEC; <http://dec.usaid.gov/> ('Quick Search')  
Enter Phrase: "Budget Justification to the Congress"

To limit by year, add: "and yyyy"  
To limit by decade, add: "and yyy\*"

*Annual Budget Submission* (years vary by country, published until 1994)

Description: These documents contain proposed funding and supporting narrative for specific field projects. Note: Due to the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993, USAID switched to a results-based reporting system. Subsequently, the Results Review Resource

Request (R4) was used for project planning and budgeting until 2003. Today, USAID creates strategy statements and reports yearly progress through an annual reporting process.

Location: DEC; <http://dec.usaid.gov/> ('Quick Search')  
Enter Phrase: "Annual Budget Submission"

To limit by country, add: "and countryname"

#### *Country Development Strategy Statements (years vary by country)*

Description: These strategic planning documents were prepared annually by field missions. They were used for planning purposes in the field and Washington.

Location: DEC; <http://dec.usaid.gov/> ('Quick Search')  
Enter Phrase: "Country Development Statement"

To limit by year, add: "and yyyy"  
To limit by decade, add: "and yyy\*"

## **Project Information**

The Development Experience Clearinghouse (DEC) provides access to USAID's development experience as recorded in the project, program, policy and research documents which are produced or sponsored by USAID. Their primary database is web accessible at <http://dec.usaid.gov/>. The DEC also has other document and project-related databases that can assist researchers.

#### *'Projects' Database*

Description: Contains descriptions of USAID projects based on two primary sources information: computer data maintained by the USAID's Office of Information Resources Management (IRM) and project design documentation. Few new records have been added since the Agency's migration to the New Management System (NMS) in the mid-1990s. This database contains records from the 1960's through 1994.

Location: DEC; <http://dec.usaid.gov/> ('Past Projects Search')

## **People**

#### *USAID Staffing Patterns*

Description: Staffing patterns reflect USAID organization through staffing assignments to USAID/W and Missions overseas. The Library holds the staffing patterns from 1954 – 2000. Many of the staffing patterns are in paper format; however, 1974-2000 is only available in microfiche.

Location: USAID Library/Learning Resources Center

### *USAID Telephone Directories*

Description: Printed telephone directories are available in electronic format for USAID and several of its predecessor agencies (1948 – 1999).

Location: DEC; <http://dec.usaid.gov/> ('Quick Search')

Enter Phrase: telephone directory

To limit by year, add: "and yyyy"

To limit by decade, add: "and yyy\*"

### **Oral Histories**

#### *USAID Foreign Affairs Oral History Collection*

Description: Contains interviews with USAID employees as part of the United States Foreign Assistance Oral History Program. Interviews were conducted by the Association for Diplomatic Studies and Training (Arlington, Virginia).

Location: DEC; <http://dec.usaid.gov/> ('Search by Fields')

Search by Field: Series Title

Using Terms: Foreign Affairs Oral History Collection

Foreign Affairs Oral History Program, Association for Diplomatic Studies and Training.

Description: "Since 1986, the Foreign Affairs Oral History Program of the Association for Diplomatic Studies and Training (ADST) has recorded more than 1500 interviews with former participants in the U.S. foreign affairs process. About 80 new interviews are added each year. The series also contains some significant oral histories dealing with American diplomacy which were provided by universities and presidential libraries. The oral history collection has become one of the largest in the country on any subject and the most significant on foreign affairs. It is unclassified and available to the public." [ASTD Website]

Location: Association for Diplomatic Studies and Training. See

<http://www.adst.org/> for more information.

### **Budgets and Expenditures**

For a general idea of agency budget expenditures, consult the *Congressional Presentation/Congressional Budget Justifications* (see above). Note that these are proposed budget numbers.

*Contracts and grants and cooperative agreements with universities, firms and non-profit institutions* (AKA Yellow Book), (1960-2001)

Description: This is USAID's comprehensive directory of contracts, grants and cooperative agreements with universities, firms and non-profit institutions. Awards are listed first by region,

then country, and include the award number, contractor/recipient, period of performance and total amount of the award.

Location: DEC; <http://dec.usaid.gov/> ('Quick Search')

Enter Phrase: "Yellow Book"

To limit by year, add: "and yyyy"

To limit by decade, add: "and yyy\*"

*US Overseas Loans and Grants: Obligations and Loan Authorizations*  
(AKA Greenbook), (1960-2003), Also available at <http://www.usaid.gov/policy/budget/>

Description: The Greenbook shows a complete historical record of United States (U.S.) foreign aid to the rest of the world. The Greenbook reports all loans and grants authorized by the U.S. Government for each fiscal year from 1945 to 2003, and reports the assistance by purpose and by country.

Location: USAID Website; <http://gesdb.usaid.gov/gbk/> [From this site, users can create their own tables and reports by selecting recipient countries, years and type of USG assistance.]

Location: DEC; <http://dec.usaid.gov/> ('Quick Search') [This site contains the published version in electronic format.]

Enter Phrase: "Greenbook"

To limit by year, add: "and yyyy"

To limit by decade, add: "and yyy\*"

## **Documents of AID Predecessor Agencies**

*Economic Cooperation Administration: Activity Reports* (1950-1951)

Location: DEC; <http://dec.usaid.gov/> ('Quick Search')

Enter Phrase: "Economic Cooperation Activity"

*Mutual Security Program* (1951-1960)

Location: DEC; <http://dec.usaid.gov/> ('Quick Search')

Enter Phrase: "Mutual Security Program"

*International Cooperation Administration* (1955-1961)

Location: DEC; <http://dec.usaid.gov/> ('Quick Search')

Using Phrase: "International Cooperation Administration"

## Related Finding Aids

*Historical Bibliography of the United States Agency for International Development*. July 2005.  
[http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf\\_docs/PNADD471.pdf](http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PNADD471.pdf)

Description: "This bibliography cites a variety of materials that together provide a comprehensive history of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and its predecessor agencies." [Introduction]

*Selected USAID Historical Documents*. November 2005. Available at USAID Library.

Description: USAID historical documents, formerly kept at the USAID Library, are now available online at the Development Experience Clearinghouse, [dec.usaid.gov](http://dec.usaid.gov). This document, available in both short and annotated formats, instructs users on how to search for these historical documents.

## Suggested Reading on USAID and Foreign Aid

USAID. *A History of Development Assistance*. 2002.  
[http://dec.usaid.gov/pdf\\_docs/PNACPO64.pdf](http://dec.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PNACPO64.pdf)

Hogan, Michael J. *The Marshall Plan: America, Britain and the Reconstruction of Western Europe, 1947-1952*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1987.

Ruttan, Vernon W. *United States Development Assistance Policy: The Domestic Politics of Foreign Economic Aid*. Baltimore, M. D.: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1996.

Butterfield, Samuel Hale. *U.S. Development Aid—An Historic First: Achievements and Failures in the Twentieth Century*. Westport, C.T.: Praeger, 2004.

*USAID Primer: What We Do and How We Do It*.  
Washington, DC, USAID, 2005.  
[http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf\\_docs/PDACD100.pdf](http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PDACD100.pdf)

U.S. Dept. of State, and USAID. *U.S. Foreign Assistance Reference Guide*.  
Washington, D.C.: Dept. of State, 2005.  
[http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf\\_docs/PNADC240.pdf](http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PNADC240.pdf)

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The USAID Library serves as a point of access to the body of knowledge relating to international development. The USAID Library is open to USAID staff, contractors, grantees and other government researchers. Library staff are happy to help visitors use library resources or to guide them to appropriate information sources elsewhere.

The Library is on the mezzanine level of the Ronald Reagan Building and is open from 9:00 to 4:30, Monday through Friday (except federal holidays).

**USAID Library**

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<http://library.info.usaid.gov>