

**USAID Development
Information Services**

**Scope of DG Programs in Countries with Labor Programs
(Response to an Information Request)**

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All information below was compiled from Congressional Budget Justifications, Performance Monitoring Plans, Annual Reports, and Strategic Frameworks.

AFRICA

Kenya

The strategic objective (SO) of DG programs in Kenya is: “Sustainable Reforms and Accountable Governance Strengthened to Improve the Balance of Power among the Institutions of Governance.” USAID programs to promote democracy and good governance in Kenya began in 1996. From 1997 through 2001 SO of the mission was “Creating Effective Demand for Sustainable Political, Constitutional and Legal Reform Created.” The current SO was adopted in 2002.

Under the current SO, USAID provides support in the following three strategic areas (2002-2006):

- **Civil Society Advocacy for National Level Reforms:** Programs to strengthen technical and internal management skills and improve ability to prevent and resolve conflict are provided to CSOs that: lobby for national level democratic changes; provide the GoK with accurate political and economic information; and promote peace-building. In addition, activities are also directed towards building linkages between government institutions and CSOs. Two key areas for civil society intervention are anti-corruption and peace building and conflict prevention.
- **Increased Independence of Select Government Institutions:** Support is provided to select Government of Kenya (GOK) institutions in an effort to increase institutional independence and improve the system of checks and balances, while increasing transparency and accountability to the people. Since 2002 support has focused on the Parliament. Specifically, on strengthening the parliamentary committee system and the Parliamentary Service Commission and strengthening the capacity of MPs.
- **More Transparent and Competitive Elections:** Activities are focused on improving the electoral enabling environment, electoral administration, and election monitoring. A large part of the programming is directed towards increasing the capacity of the Electoral Commission of Kenya.

In addition to the three on-going strategic areas outlined above, in 2005 the program expanded to more fully include efforts to promote and support anti-corruption reforms. These efforts include the following: supporting the institutionalization, capacity building, and training for GOK anti-corruption agencies; strengthening a Public Complaints Unit; conducting a baseline survey for the National Anti-Corruption Campaign; and establishing an Asset Recovery Program.

Nigeria

The strategic objective outlined in the 2004-2009 Strategic Plan for Nigeria is: “Strengthened Foundations for Democratic Governance.” The programs are aimed at strengthening civil society and selected government institutions in an effort to improve the environment for accountable governance and conflict management. Prior to 2004, beginning in 1999 with the

transition from military to democratic rule and continuing through 2003, USAID focused their efforts on reaching the SO of: “Transition to Democratic Civilian Governance Sustained.” Towards this end, past programming was focused on: Capacity building for legislators and other elected officials; Establishing transparent and accountable electoral processes; Increasing efficiency of selected courts; and strengthening capacity of civil society to demand greater accountability.

Programming under the current SO targets the following five strategic areas (2004-2006):

- Strengthen Civil Society: Participating CSOs receive management, accounting, effective advocacy, and anti-corruption training in an effort to increase their capacity to hold public officials accountable for their actions, actively engage in oversight of government, and to advocate for key reforms.
- Strengthen Democratic National Governance Institutions: Assistance is provided to the National Assembly (NA) and targeted State Legislatures in an effort to strengthen their oversight and accountability functions and encourage constructive engagement between the NA and CSOs.
- Promote and Support Free and Fair Elections: Support is currently focused on political party development, electoral reform issues, elections administration, voter and civic education, domestic election monitoring, and increased participation by civil society (with a focus on women and children). In preparation for the 2007 elections, programming in 2006 will expand to include voter education, development of training activities for election monitors and election officials, sensitization for local officials, elections administration support, and support for international election observation.
- Improve Community-Based Reconciliation Efforts: Programming is aimed at strengthening the capacity of selected civil society organizations and government institutions to predict and prevent conflict and reduce its impact.
- Reduce Trafficking in Persons: Assistance to reintegrate and rehabilitate victims of trafficking was part of civil society strengthening programs during 2004. However, in 2005, as part of the Presidential Anti-Trafficking in Persons Initiative, programming expanded to include policy dialogue, information dissemination and public awareness. Direct support to victims of trafficking continues and USAID plans to begin training police to appropriately handle and process victims of trafficking.

South Africa

The strategic objective of USAID in South Africa has been and continues to be: “Democratic Consolidation Advanced.” Current programming to further this objective includes:

- Improve Justice Sector and Legal Framework: USAID programs are aimed at developing a more effective criminal justice system. To this end, support continues to be provided to the South African Department of Justice and the association entitled Business Against Crime. Additionally, USAID is helping to improve administrative procedures in an effort to assist provinces in handling court cases more efficiently, training female and black legal practitioners in the skills needed to receive appointments as judges, training investigators and prosecutors in the successful prosecution of sexual assault and rape cases, and supporting programs that provide assistance to women and children who are victims of sexual and violent crimes.

- Promote and Support Anti-Corruption Reforms: USAID is training investigators and prosecutors in the skills need to secure conviction in corruption cases and assisting municipal councils to institute transparent hiring, procurement, and complaint resolution systems. Additionally, USAID programming supports forensic audits of trust accounts and the establishment of three additional courts that specialize in financial crimes and corruption. Finally, watchdog capabilities are being strengthened by training media practitioners in investigative journalism and funding programs of a network of national organizations serving as anti-corruption watchdogs.
- Support Democratic Local Government and Decentralization: Programs are aimed at providing support, training, and assistance at the municipal level so public officials can deliver municipal services more effectively.
- Strengthen Civil Society: USAID is currently providing support to community-based organizations by providing training to strengthen their capabilities in both management and fundraising so they can increase their own sustainability and continue to deliver services and help alleviate poverty. Particular attention is paid to supporting COBs that focus on gender, disability, and families affected by HIV.

Zimbabwe (Buy-in)

SATULA

Botswana; South Africa; Malawi; Mauritius; Namibia; Mozambique; Swaziland; Tanzania; Zambia; Zimbabwe

ICFTU-AFR:

Ethiopia; Kenya; Tanzania; Uganda

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ASIA

India

DG programming in India falls under two strategic objectives outlined in the 2003-2007 strategic plan; “Increased Transparency and Efficiency in the Allocation and Mobilization of Resources in Selected States” and “Enhanced Opportunities for Vulnerable People”. The mission strategy also includes governance as one of five cross-cutting themes, recognizing that more effective governance is a tool for ensuring the intended achievements of various strategic objectives and intermediate results.

Through the two SO’s identified above USAID/India focuses on the following three key areas of DG related programming:

- **Improve Economic Policy and Governance:** Technical assistance and training is provided to increase competence of selected state governments in financial analysis and state treasury operations.
- **Improve Justice Sector/Legal Framework:** Support is provided to expand legal literacy training and to strengthen the provision of legal services for community-based organizations that work with vulnerable groups. Research is conducted on the efficiency of alternative systems, such as ADR, and on developing reform agendas and enforcement mechanisms for key laws aimed at the protection of women and children.
- **Protect Human Rights and Equal Access to Justice:** Legal aid/counseling centers for women in Rajasthan are supported. USAID implements a Muslim Women’s Program that promotes more liberal interpretations of women’s rights under Islamic law.

Philippines

The 2005-2009 strategic plan for USAID/Philippines incorporates DG initiatives into economic growth strategic objectives. Two SO’s, “Economic Governance” and “Conflict Resolution in Mindanao and Other Areas” incorporate DG programming efforts. The following key areas of DG related assistance are encompassed in the two SOs stated above and represent continuing and expanding activities that were established under the previous strategic plan and incorporated in previous SOs (with the exception of Elections support—new in 2005):

- **Improve Economic Policy and Governance/Make Institutions, Policies, and Practices More Transparent and Accountable:** USAID provides training and technical assistance to civil society organizations and government institutions. Support to government agencies focuses on strengthening tax administration, transport, and telecommunications reforms and anti-corruption agencies. Training is provided to CSOs to develop sectoral expertise and build local ownership for policy reform.
- **Promote and Support Anti-Corruption Reforms:** Support and technical assistance is provided to the Office of the Ombudsman, Anti-Money Laundering Council, Civil Service Commission, Commission on Audit and other organizations. Promotion of anti-corruption reforms are also incorporated into justice sector, DLG and elections programs.
- **Improve Justice Sector/Legal Framework:** USAID programs promote expansion of ADR, computerized case flow management, and strengthened of judicial ethics.

- Promote and Support Free and Fair Elections: Assistance is provided to the Commission on Elections to reform the management and administration of elections.
- Support Democratic Local Government and Decentralization: Support is provided to the ARMM regional governments, as part of the conflict resolution program, to become more professional, effective, transparent, and autonomous. Focus is given to improving service delivery and improving peaceful dispute resolutions.

Sri Lanka

In 2003, USAID/Sri Lanka began working towards a new strategic objective in light of the February 2002 peace agreement. The current SO is “Strong Democratic Institutions Help Strengthen Peace.” Prior to that, the strategic objective, as outlined in the 2001-2005 Strategic Plan for Sri Lanka, was “Citizen’s Rights Better Protected in Law and Practice.” Under the previous SO, USAID provided support for the following: investigation into mass graves and other human rights abuses; election reform and the problem of election violence; civic education; and the Government of Sri Lanka’s efforts to peacefully resolve the ethnic conflict.

Under the current SO, in the post-peace agreement era, USAID/Sri Lanka focuses its efforts in the two key areas: support for the peace process and responsive political institutions. Programming to protect and empower vulnerable groups was supported in 2003 and 2004, but rolled in to the local governance program in 2005.

- Peace Support: Support is provided for multi-stakeholder political dialogues on the peace process. Community-based forums, established with USAID support, recommend programs for peace-building and conflict mapping, which are then funded through a small grant program. Television programs on human costs of conflict are developed and national surveys have been conducted on public knowledge, attitudes and perceptions of the peace process.
- Responsive Political Institutions/Democratic Local Governance (DLG): Technical assistance is provided to consolidate constitutional political reform at the national level. Decentralization is supported by implementing activities that provide more transparent, participatory, and professional resource allocation and public service delivery in select localities. Multi-party training is provided to strengthen the national and provincial legislatures. Civic education activities are supported to promote citizen participation in local government. In 2005, the DLG program was expanded to include: capacity building of political parties and elected officials to engage in grassroots organizational supporting the establishment of a community mediation board; and training paralegals to empower vulnerable groups to assert their rights. USAID also began providing support to the Ministry of Justice to develop mediation trainers and to provincial NGOs to establish paralegal training programs for community leaders.

ALNI

Indonesia

The strategic objective of USAID/Indonesia, as outlined in the 2004-2008 Strategic Plan, is “Effective Democratic Decentralized Governance.” The strategy, as well the previous strategy, has a strong focus on local level government while still working at the national level to advance reform agendas. To that end, the three primary goals of the program are: 1) to expand participatory, effective and accountable local governance; 2) to consolidate the political reform

agenda; and 3) to address the roots of conflict while encouraging pluralism. Activities to advance these goals are focused on the following six key areas:

- **Support Democratic Local Government and Decentralization:** Technical assistance and training is provided in local economic development and governance to strengthen checks and balances between local legislative and executive bodies. Training is also provided to civil society organizations and the media to increase citizen's ability to participate in governance and demand accountability and improved services.
- **Strengthen Democratic National Governance Institutions:** Support is provided to groups and institutions critically involved in consolidating and safeguarding democratic reforms, such as the Constitutional Court, the General Elections Committee, and Civil Society and Media.
- **Improve Justice Sector/Legal Framework:** The Supreme Court, Anti-Corruption Commission, and the Attorney General's Office receive support to strengthen and implement legal and institutional reforms.
- **Strengthen Democratic Political Parties:** Targeted support is provided to enhance the representative function of national and local parliaments and to support reform-minded coalitions.
- **Address Conflict Transitional Issues:** The rapid response grant is used to fund programs aimed at mitigating serious conflict and supporting sustainable approaches to peace-building and conflict resolution.
- **Strengthen Civil Society:** CSOs advocating for pluralism, tolerance and democracy are supported to carry out the following activities: civic education programs in Islamic schools; strengthening media to promote tolerance; advocacy centers addressing gender issues; and advocacy campaigns for human rights, gender equality, and democratization.

Philippines
(See Above)

Thailand

USAID does not have a country mission in Thailand. Rather, it is the Regional Development Mission-Asia (RDMA). DG programming fall under two SOs of RDMA, "Foreign Policy Interests" and "Improved Governance and Economic Reform." Under the two SOs the following areas address DG related issues:

- **Improved Community-Based Reconciliation Efforts:** Support is provided for primary education, migrant rights issues of Burmese refugees, democracy, and free media.
- **Protect Human Rights and Equal Access to Justice:** Funds are provided to strengthen a legal framework to protect people with disabilities and to help people with disabilities acquire job skills.
- **Improve Economic Policy and Governance:** Programming is aimed at improving public and private sector governance, increasing transparency and accountability, adopting public policy reforms consistent with civil society advocacy, implementing judicial reforms, and advancing democratic processes.

Scope of DG Programs in Cambodia

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Cambodia

The 2002-2005 Strategic Plan for USAID/Cambodia outlines “Increased Competition in Cambodian Political Life” as the Strategic Objective. In working toward this SO, the DG Program in Cambodia seeks to 1) create political processes and strengthen political parties; 2) increase transparency and accountability on key economic and political issues, leading toward democratic reform; 3) enforce human rights norms through monitoring and investigation; 4) engage local officials on key development issues and; 5) increase capacity of future leaders to develop policies and effect change. The following key areas of DG programming are supported by the mission:

- **Strengthen Civil Society:** Support to civil society is aimed at strengthening the capacity of civil society, media, and commune councils to participate meaningfully and equitably in the political process. Work is also done to develop a professional party organization, expand youth and women participation in politics, and improve local governance through active citizen participation.
- **Strengthen Democratic Political Parties:** Assistance is provided to enhance the capabilities of political parties. Currently support is concentrated on implementing internal reforms and strengthening organizational structures.
- **Protect Human Rights and Equal Access to Justice:** Support is provided to local NGO’s to take on precedent setting human rights cases. Technical assistance is provided to strengthen skills of NGOs in monitoring, investigation, and follow-up of human rights cases. Legal training is also provided on human rights issues such as land encroachment, trafficking in persons, and corruption cases. Legal aid organizations focused on serving underserved and disadvantaged groups receive support. Capacity building programs are aimed at improving the judicial system—particularly in regards to human trafficking and corruption. Support is provided to labor unions and labor movement development, as well as to the ILO Labor Compliance Monitoring Unit, in an effort to retain garment manufacturing in Cambodia. The human rights program also supports programs for the reintegration of Cambodian returnees and for persons suffering from physical disabilities.
- **Improve Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and Biodiversity Conservation:** Support is provided to international and local NGOs working to protect Cambodian forests and preserve wildlife and protected areas.

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LATIN AMERICA

Brazil

The USAID Mission in Brazil does not support a strategic objective (SO) in democracy and governance. Since the progress made during the 1990s towards the consolidation of democracy, USAID development assistance has focused on addressing socioeconomic problems. Four, of the five, strategic objectives outlined in the current (2003-2008) Country Strategic Plan build on objectives from the previous Strategic Plan (1998-2002). The fifth objective is aimed at the promotion of free trade, the growth in SMEs and employment, and poverty alleviation. The five current SO's are:

- Protection of Brazil's Environment and Unique Biodiversity;
- Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions Through the Promotion of Alternative Energy and Efficiency;
- Increased Training and Employment Opportunities for Disadvantaged Brazilian Youth and the Elimination of Trafficking in Youth. (USAID and the ILO collaborate in promoting youth training and employment generation, and in tackling trafficking in persons as major violation of human rights);
- HIV/AIDS Prevention and Decreased Tuberculosis and other Communicable Diseases;
- Promotion of Free Trade, Development of SMEs, and Support of the Government of Brazil's Zero Hunger Program.

Central America:

USAID Central America Regional program focuses on economic growth, environment and global health issues. There are no strategic objectives in the area of democracy and governance. The current and long-standing SOs are:

- Increased Trade and Investment through Increased Competitiveness in Global Markets
- Improved Environmental Management
- Increased Diversification of the Rural Economy
- Economic Freedom Increased
- Investing in People: Contain HIV/AIDS
- Meso-American Food Early Warning System Developed

USAID/Guatemala

The strategic objective outlined in the 2004-2008 Guatemala Annex of the Central America and Mexico Strategic Plan is: "More Responsive, Transparent Governance." From 1998 through 2003 the strategic objective was "More Inclusive and Responsive Democracy". Currently, however, the DG objective is "Ruling Justly." This SO was adopted in 2004 and the program focus is aimed at two key areas, the justice system and service delivery. To this end, the 2003-2008 Strategic Plan, and the current CBJ's identify the following two intermediate results and corresponding program activity:

- **Strengthened Rule of Law:** Technical assistance and training is provided to justice center committees, national authorities, and counterparts to improve coordination, efficiency, and responsiveness to community needs through decentralized justice centers. Support is also provided to expand oral judicial proceedings, speed up case processing, improve timeliness and amount of case resolutions, develop alternative dispute resolution, and improve investigation and prosecution of corrupt officials. Additionally, there are active programs to support the Human Rights Ombudsman's office and civil society organizations in an effort to advance legal and operational reforms aimed improving law enforcement, judicial processes, and respect for human rights.
- **Greater Transparency and Accountability:** Technical assistance is provided to improve the administration, efficiency, and transparency of targeted local governments. There is a focus on increased participation of citizens in decision-making and increased local revenue generation. Support is provided to municipalities for the implementation of decentralization policy reforms, including participatory planning and budget accountability and transparency.

Additionally, in FY 2005 specific programs were initiated in the area of security sector reform, specifically to support the development of effective community-policing and continued support for crime prevention, and in the area of anticorruption.

USAID/El Salvador

In FY 2005, the mission completed programming under the "More Inclusive and Effective Democratic Processes" strategic objective outlined in the 1997-2004 strategy. Under the previous SO, programming was focused in four areas: 1) Increased access to justice and improved court case preparation; 2) Strengthened local governments to provide basic services; 3) Increased citizen participation in legislative process; and 4) Encourage active civil society advocacy and promotion of transparency.

In FY 2005, the mission began implementation, under the Central America and Mexico (CAM) Regional Strategy, of a new El Salvador Country Plan. Under this strategy, USAID will implement DG programs under the objective "Ruling Justly," which is consistent with the objectives of the Millennium Challenge Account. The new SO, "Ruling Justly" focuses programming in the following four key areas:

- **Improve Justice Sector/Legal Framework:** The mission works with the Public Defender's Office, selected municipalities, and universities to strengthen existing mediation centers and deepen and institutionalize alternative dispute resolution.
- **Promote and Support Anticorruption Reforms:** Support is provided to CSOs to promote accountability and ethics in government and to government institutions to increase transparency and educate public employees on corruption issues.
- **Strengthen Democratic Political Parties:** Training and technical assistance is provided to party institutes, mid-level party members; and those interested in improving internal democracy of their parties.
- **Support Democratic Local Government and Decentralization:** Presently, USAID facilitates policy dialogue on the topics of devolution of resources and responsibilities to local government and promotes increased transparency and financial responsibility. If reforms are passed, USAID will support implementation.

Dominican Republic

The strategic objective outlined in the 2002-2007 Strategic Plan for the Dominican Republic is: “More Participatory, Representative, and Accountable Democracy Achieved.” This objective builds on earlier strategies, which sought to improve the functioning of democracy, but refines and tailors programs to better reflect current conditions and address new challenges.

Programming under the current SO targets the following five strategic areas:

- **Promote and Support Free and Fair Elections:** In 2005, USAID began providing technical assistance to the Central Election Board and supporting political reform advocacy efforts. Support is also provided for monitoring the preparations for the 2006 congressional elections. USAID continues its long-standing civil society capacity building efforts aimed at NGOs engaged in electoral reform efforts.
- **Strengthen Democratic Political Parties:** This new (in 2005) strategic focus area supports two key areas: activities that target the promotion of democratic values and practices among future political leaders; and transparency around the performance of elected congressional representatives.
- **Promote and Support Anticorruption Reforms:** Beginning in 2005, assistance is being provided to executive institutions in the design and implementation of mechanisms to detect and prevent corruption. New (in 2005) support is also provided for Anti-corruption awareness campaigns and initiatives targeted at decreasing corruption around the deliver of basic services. Previous anti-corruption programming included support for: CSOs involved in monitoring the government’s implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption; training and capacity building of the judiciary; and justice sector institutions and NGOs involved in refining the National Anti-Corruption Strategy and Plan.
- **Protect Human Rights and Equal Access to Justice:** Training and technical assistance is provided to the Public Prosecutor’s Office, Office of the Public Defender, and the court system in an effort to ensure proper implementation of new Criminal Procedures Code. Support for a merit-based selection and training of prosecutors and defenders is provided as is a career system for the justice sector and programs providing legal aid to the indigent. In 2005, USAID began developing a nationwide alternative dispute resolution model, a legal literacy program, and various activities aimed at increasing transparency and ethical behavior in the justice sector.

Mexico

The strategic objective of USAID Mexico is “Just and Democratic Governance: More Responsive, Transparent Governance.” The Country Strategic Plan (2003-2008) specifies that the strategic area of focus is to support Mexican reforms in two key areas: a) greater transparency and accountability of government; and b) strengthened rule of law. To that end, programmatic focus has shifted, under this strategy, away from legislative strengthening, local government capacity building, civil society support, and election observation towards national reform initiatives. Mainly, support is provided to reform the justice sector, and to improve accountability and governance at the three levels of federal government. 2003 and 2004 programming was concentrated in these key areas (see bullets 1-3 below). 2005 and 2006 programming builds on these programs but also includes support to strengthen democratic political parties.

Current (2005-2006) programming under the same SO and strategic areas outlined above includes:

- **Improve Justice Sector and Legal Framework:** Support is provided to state and federal jurisdictions to: develop and pass criminal justice reforms; implement oral, adversarial procedures codes; train judges, prosecutors, and public defenders; and build professional capabilities for investigations and forensic functions.
- **Strengthen Democratic National Governance Institutions:** Support for the implementation of reforms is provided. Current reforms include: legislation to implement a government performance and results act; a competitiveness initiative; a constitutional amendment to permit consecutive re-election of legislators; and increase citizen charters and public commitments by the government to achieve results.
- **Support Democratic Local Government and Decentralization:** Support for fiscal policy reforms is provided, as is support for greater state and municipal access to capital markets, the dissemination of studies on tradition governance in Oaxaca, and a policy dialogue among state legislators of U.S. Mexico border region. Anti-corruption initiatives include assistance to develop model legislation for Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) and to develop a training program for SAIs. Furthermore, support for the implementation and passage of the Freedom of Information Act is provided, along with training for the National Association of FOIA Commissions staff.
- **Strengthen Democratic Political Parties:** Technical assistance is provided to assist political parties in reforming and modernizing party policies.

Southern Cone

The South American Regional program does not have a DG SO. The two SOs are “Andean Trade Capacity Building” and “Amazon Malaria Initiative.”

Argentina

USAID/Argentina Mission was closed-out in 1993

Brazil

(See Above)

Paraguay

The strategic objective outlined in the Paraguay Strategic Plan for FY 2001-2005 is “Key Democratic Governance Practices Instituted.” Programming to this end has, and continues to be, focused on three key areas--supporting democratic local government and decentralization, improving the justice sector and legal framework, and strengthening transparency and accountability. Beginning in 2005, programming expanded to include a specific emphasis on promoting anticorruption reforms (formerly under transparency and accountability programs). The program plans to further expand in FY 2006 to the area of democratic political party development.

- **Support to Democratic Local Government and Decentralization:** USAID provides technical assistance and training to expand local governments’ capacities to implement good governance practices, including the provision of services, revenue collection, and

citizen participation. Support to municipal associations for decentralization advocacy is also provided.

- **Improve Justice Sector/Legal Framework:** Training in alternative dispute resolution was also provided at the municipal level to increase service delivery to citizens. Assistance is also provided to strengthen the Prosecutor's Office, Controller's Office, and the Council of Magistrates to promote transparency.
- **Transparency and Accountability:** Assistance is provided to civil society organizations to increase oversight of public institutions. Technical assistance is also provided to help local governments become more responsive, transparent, and accountable. Training was provided to local governments in the areas of IFMS, fiscal transparency, public hearings, and open procurement processes.
- **Promote and Support Anticorruption Reforms:** USAID supports a national network of watchdog groups to provide oversight of public institutions and expose corruption. Technical assistance is provided to civil society to track and monitor corruption cases.
- **Support Democratic Political Parties:** During FY 06 USAID plans to provide technical assistance and training to political parties to promote public sector accountability and good governance practices.

Uruguay

USAID/Uruguay Mission was closed-out in 1993.