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BUILDING RECOVERY AND DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE TO ADVANCE AND CONSOLIDATE THE DRC TRANSITION PROGRAM

Quarterly Report (January 1 – March 31, 2008)

Contract No. DFD-I-00-05-00220-00

Eleventh Quarterly Report for Task Order 01

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CONTRACT PERFORMANCE MONITORING REPORT

Information Provided Under Each PMR

I. Contract Management

DAI submitted their close down plan to the CTO on December 17 as the project was scheduled to end on February 15. However, on December 23, DAI received a pre-authorization letter from the Regional Contracts Officer to spend up to \$300,000 utilizing the SAF Direct Assistance budget line item to facilitate the Kivu Peace, Security and Development Conference in Goma. Given the urgency of this activity, DAI was requested to assist the GDRC upon receipt of the letter. This letter also extended the contract until April 1, 2008. A full modification was delivered in the first week of January 2008.

On January 11, 2008, modification #06 was signed by the Contracts Officer. The purpose of this modification was to do the following:

1. Change the completion date of the Task Order from 02/15/2008 to 04/01/2008.
2. Increase the Total Estimated Cost and obligated amount by \$593,610 thereby bringing the TEC and total obligated amount for the task order to \$5,952,904 and revise the budget accordingly.
3. Expand and incorporate the Statement of Work to include assistance to the Kivu Peace, Security and Development Conference in Goma.

Modification # 6 did not take into account the need to increase ODCs and Level of Effort (LOE). On February 29, 2008, DAI requested for and received from the CTO authorization to increase the total LOE for expatriates from 1,558.77 to 1,562.50 and for CCNs from 3,636 to 3,676 days. No labor categories were added and the total dollar amount for labor stayed within the parameters of modification # 6 of the task order. This would allow for BRDG-ACT staff to continue to work through March 31 and STTA and activities for the Kivu Peace Conference follow-up to continue up until the end of April.

Modification #07 was signed on March 6, 2008. The purpose of this modification was to do the following:

1. Change the completion date of this task order from 04/01/2008 to 04/30/2008.
2. Revise the Workdays ordered for this task order.
3. Realign the contract budget to accommodate changes in program activities.

II. Services Provided for Strengthening the Institutional Capacity of the IEC, the PAJ and the ECOFIN

a. Technical Assistance Provided to the Independent Electoral Commission

DAI continued to provide local experts to the IEC. These local experts included a Legal Advisor, a Media Specialist, a Telecommunications Specialist, a Programming Specialist, and a Financial Specialist/Auditor. In preparation for close out their contracts were terminated on February 29.

In addition, STTA Programmer/Analyst, Poincare Marcellus who arrived on August 3, 2006 continued his work at the National Data Base Center (CNT). He completed his first contract on December 31, 2006 and has returned to the US. Following a request for his return and subsequent approval by USAID/Kinshasa, Mr. Marcellus was redeployed to Kinshasa on February 12. His contract came to term again on June 30, 2007, but resulting from two further requests from the CNT, he was extended first through the end of September and again through the end of October. In October, he was extended through the end of January. He returned to the US on January 22, 2008.

b. Direct Assistance to the Political, Administrative and Justice Commission of the National Assembly

Providing Emergency Logistical Assistance to the Political, Administrative and Justice Commission of the National Assembly

Amount: \$36,930

Status: Started in May and completed this period

The Political, Administrative and Justice (PAJ) Office of the National Assembly is assigned the critical task of providing the DRC with the judicial tools which will enable it to facilitate the successful installation and operation of the new democratic institutions. In order to accomplish this formidable undertaking, the PAJ has solicited material and technical support from USAID. BRDG-ACT agrees to provide assistance that will assure that the PAJ will have the capacity to continue to be operational throughout the initial period of installation of democratic institutions. This package included timely material support in the form of office space, equipment, supplies, communications and utilities. This direct assistance initiative ended in December and at the request of the President of the PAJ follow-up direct assistance was furnished.

c. Direct Assistance to the ECOFIN Commission of the National Assembly

Providing Emergency Logistical Assistance to Economy and Finance Commission of the National Assembly

Amount: \$51,500

Status: Started in August and completed this period

At the request of the President of the ECOFIN, BRDG-ACT agreed to provide logistical support to help facilitate the operations of the Economic and Finance Commission's Office of the National Assembly who are responsible for elaborating laws in the financial sector and exercising parliamentary control in the financial and economic domain. To help facilitate these activities, the President of the ECOFIN Committee of the National Assembly has submitted a request to USAID for material and technical support. BRDG-ACT agreed to provide assistance that would assure that the ECOFIN would have the capacity to continue to be operational throughout the early stages of the functioning of the newly elected National Assembly. This package included timely material support in the form of office space, equipment, supplies, communications and utilities covering the period starting the month of August through December 2007.

III. Providing Direct Assistance to the Provincial Government of North Kivu

Amount: \$61,560

Status: Started in November 2007 and ongoing

At the request of the Governor of the Province of North Kivu, BRDG-ACT agreed to provide logistical support to help facilitate the operations of the Provincial Government of North Kivu, which

is charged with governing and providing services in this vulnerable province at a time when the allocation of financial resources from the national government to the provinces has yet to be determined. BRDG-ACT provided assistance that assured that the Provincial Government could have the capacity to continue to be operational throughout the early stages of decentralization in the Democratic Republic of Congo. This package includes timely material support in the form of office equipment, furniture and supplies.

IV. Providing Emergency Logistical Assistance to the Provincial Assemblies of Bandundu, Province Oriental and North Kivu

Total Amount: \$174,104

Status: Started this period and ongoing

Responding to requests from the Presidents of the Provincial Assemblies of Bandundu, Oriental Province, and North Kivu, BRDG-ACT agreed to provide logistical support to help facilitate the operations of the Provincial Assemblies of these three provinces, which are responsible for provincial legislative activities at a time when the allocation of financial resources from the national government to the provinces has yet to be determined.

The Presidents of these three Provincial Assemblies have solicited the material and technical support of USAID. BRDG-ACT has agreed to provide assistance, which will assure that the Provincial Assemblies, will have the capacity to be operational throughout the early stages of decentralization in the Democratic Republic of Congo. This package includes timely material support in the form of office furniture and equipment and services.

V. Providing Emergency Assistance to the Kivu Peace, Security and Development Conference

Amount: \$300,000

Status: Started this period and completed

Resolution of the on-going armed conflict in the Kivus is both crucial to the DRC's democratic transition and a GDRC priority. The GDRC has convoked a conference of parliamentarians, civil society representatives, and political representatives of belligerent entities on achieving peace and the implementation of a global plan for pacifying, securing, and developing North and South Kivu from January 7, 2008 through January 21, 2008. In support of this effort, DAI is providing direct financial and technical assistance to the GDRC related to the conference.

At the request of the Chairman of the Kivu Peace, Security and Development Conference, DAI has agreed to provide material support to the conference. This will offset the cost of logistical support to the conference, in terms of transportation, expendable supplies, and office equipment. For it to be ultimately effective, it is essential that the conference initiative be followed up by the agreed upon action steps, and dissemination of information about the conference to the public and civil society. DAI is to provide follow up technical assistance related to the conference to the GDRC through senior consultants.

VI. Providing Supplementary Direct Assistance to Help Facilitate the Conference on Peace Security and Development in the Kivus

Amount: \$50,000

Status: Approved this period and ongoing

At the request of the Chairman of the Conference on Peace, Security and Development in the Kivus, BRDG-ACT is providing material support to the Conference Secretariat. Resolution of the on-going armed conflict in the Kivus is both crucial to the DRC's democratic transition and a GDRD priority. The GDRD convoked this conference of parliamentarians, civil society representatives, and the political representatives of the belligerent entities with the objective of achieving peace and the implementation of a global plan for pacifying, securing and developing the Kivus from January 6, 2008 through January 24, 2008. DAI will also provide direct assistance to follow-up activities associated with the conference.

Support to the Conference Secretariat

BRDG-ACT direct assistance to the GDRD was used to provide material support to the conference Secretariat. This offset the cost of logistical support to the conference, both in terms of expendable supplies and in terms of equipment such as printers and computers, and in terms of media coverage of the conference and transport for the participants.

Conference Follow-Up Assistance

For it to ultimately be effective, it is essential that the conference initiative be followed up by the agreed upon actions steps and dissemination of information about the conference to the public and civil society. BRDG-ACT will also contribute direct assistance towards these efforts.

Conference Global Budget: \$3,941,256, USAID/DAI Contribution: \$300,000; German Embassy/DAI Contribution: \$200,000. **This intervention provides for a supplementary \$50,000 contribution to pay an additional charter flight to return delegates to Kinshasa and additional office equipment and supplies to assist dissemination of information about the conference to the public and civil society.**

VII. Grants issued to local and international NGOs

VIII. Workshops and Other Activities

- a. **In Collaboration with the Solidarity Center: Trade Unions & Civil Society and Decentralization – Kinshasa and Lubumbashi**

Amount: \$50,000 and DAI is providing an Expert Facilitator

Status: Approved this period

Through its civic education programs, the Solidarity Center DRC office has supported trade union participation in governance and civic advocacy since 2002. The organization has collaborated with national and provincial trade union representatives to disseminate conference documents to members and civil society partners across the country and build awareness about workers issues. Civic education and advocacy programs supported by the Solidarity Center have assisted partners to build and strengthen civil society and worker organizations partnerships to transform and expand civic advocacy and popular participation in the process of governance.

As part of this process, partners recognized that changes in the legal framework, especially decentralization, could fundamentally change the manner in which the government interacts with its people. Increased awareness about the decentralization bill has increased demand from civil society groups for information about the principles of decentralization and the contents of the bill, and its potential impact on citizens. In November 2007 with technical assistance from DAI, the Solidarity Center conducted a workshop for trainers and educators of civil society partners on decentralization. While the five-day program was well received by participants, it highlighted the need for simple popular materials that could be used to help inform the Solidarity Centers' members and other

community based groups. In collaboration with participants from the workshop, a DAI expert and civil society partners in Kinshasa, the Solidarity Center developed and tested a **popular guide** to decentralization, which is accompanied, by an **animators' guide** and a *boite d'images*. The next step in the process is to make these materials available to partners and other community based groups and provides them with the means to educate their members and neighbors about decentralization and its importance to their daily lives and the vital role they can play in this process.

To this end, the Solidarity Center is conducting a series of workshops with the objective of training trainers. This activity will support and reinforce the decentralization process in Kinshasa and Lubumbashi through the dissemination of basic information. Working with the Solidarity Center staff, the Facilitator will, through a series of workshops provide collaborating civil society and union partners with the tools and knowledge to train community animators and educators. The training materials will promote increased understanding about decentralization, enhance local capacity to contribute to the process and enable groups and individuals to disseminate information to others about the law prior to and after its final passage.

Scope of Work

The objective of the position is to provide technical expertise to the BRDG-ACT program by facilitating two 5-day workshops on decentralization, one in Kinshasa and a second in Lubumbashi. Participants in these workshops will be chosen from among the Solidarity Center's partners, which include the following groups:

- Union members;
- Religious Leaders;
- Development NGOs;
- Human Rights NGOs;

Activities

Workshops in Kinshasa and Lubumbashi (5 days each):

- In collaboration with the Solidarity Center's partners; the objective of these workshops is to examine the previously developed **popular guide**, **animators guide** and the *boite d'images* and develop simplified training techniques on the basic elements of decentralization which will provide the participants with a fundamental understanding of the process in general and improve their capacity to further disseminate this information at the grass roots level:
- The workshops will proceed in the following manner:
 - examination of the main points the draft Decentralization Law, the **popular guide** **the animator's guide** and the *boite d'images* developed by Solidarity Center in collaboration with the DAI expert;
 - followed by a session in which participants will break up into groups to analyze the different training materials and work on developing their training techniques;
 - followed by a presentation by representatives of each participative group on their subject of analysis;
 - Followed by a general session where all of the participants will assist in a discussion of the improved training methodology.

IX. V. Management STTA

STTA Programmer/Analyst, Poincare Marcellus who arrived on August 3, 2006 continued his work at the National Data Base Center (CNT). He completed his first contract on December 31, 2006 and has returned to the US. Following a request for his return and subsequent approval by USAID/Kinshasa, Mr. Marcellus was redeployed to Kinshasa on February 12, 2007. His contract came to term again on

June 30, 2007, but resulting from two further requests from the CNT, he was extended first through the end of September and again through the end of October 2007 and once more through January 2008.

Zoe So, Grants Manager, arrived on May 12, 2007 for an initial STTA. She left for the US on June 6 and returned on June 25. She will now remain until the end of the contract.

Willet Weeks arrived in Kinshasa on January 28 and shortly thereafter proceeded to Goma where he is providing guidance to the technical commissions created by the Goma Conference.

Below is a brief description of the status of each CRD.

All rental leases for the Democracy Resource Centers (CRDs) were due to come to term on December 31, 2007. In order to seek out a solution for this pending dilemma, DAI sent a letter to the Regional Contracting Officer on December 6, requesting authorization to incur and receive reimbursement for the cost of one year leases of the CRDs beginning January 1, 2008. The Contracting Officer responded to this request on December 20 stating that USAID had decided on the following:

1. Kinshasa and Bandundu centers were not operational and the CRD equipment should remain in storage until further direction from USAID/DRC. – Instructions have been implemented; the Bandundu equipment is in storage in a rented warehouse in Kikwit and the Kinshasa equipment is in the DAI Kinshasa warehouse.
2. Lubumbashi – DAI was requested to find temporary local storage for the equipment until further direction from USAID/DRC. – Instructions have been implemented; the Lubumbashi equipment is in storage in the Lubumbashi Solidarity Center office.
3. Mbuji-Mayi – DAI was requested to find temporary local storage for the equipment until further direction from USAID/DRC.
4. Kisangani – DAI was requested to find temporary local storage for the equipment until further direction from USAID/DRC. – Instructions have been implemented, the CRD has been closed and the equipment has been packed and is being stored in the old CRD site.
5. Goma – DAI is requested to sign a one (1) year lease in Goma (preferably at a site closer to town). – Instructions have been implemented; DAI has located a new office site closer to town, signed a one-year lease with the property owner and has moved the CRD into the new site.