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# FACT SHEET

## DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE ASSESSMENT

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The *USAID Democracy and Governance Assessment Framework for Strategy Development* provides a framework for constructing U.S. government, in particular USAID, democracy and governance strategies. The framework guides a political analysis of the country, leads to program choices, and incorporates what researchers and practitioners have learned from comparative experience.

The strategic assessment framework is designed to help define a country-appropriate program to assist in the transition to and consolidation of democracy. As such, it is useful in developing democracy and governance strategies that address the core democracy and governance problem(s) in a country and are informed by an analysis of the allies and opponents to democratic reforms and the institutions in which those actors operate. It is divided into four steps:

- **Step 1: An analysis of current political, and to a lesser extent economic and social, issues that characterize the country**, leading to the prioritization of problems relating to the transition to or consolidation of democracy;
- **Step 2: An in-depth analysis of important political actors** – their interests, resources, and actions – and of the institutions in which they operate. This step identifies allies and opponents to democratic reform and determines whether key institutions are amenable to reform;
- **Step 3: Consideration of the USG's and USAID's interests and resources.** This step ensures that the strategic and programmatic recommendations developed in step 4 are realistic from a U.S. foreign policy standpoint and informed by the operational and programmatic environment; and
- **Step 4: The development of a democracy and governance strategy** that addresses the most salient obstacles to democratic development and consolidation and targets the areas where DG investments can have the most impact based on opportunities and constraints.

The strategic assessment framework was recently revised to reflect best practices learned over the last decade. Specific highlights include: a sophisticated treatment of governance; annexes to help teams conduct assessments in Conflict/Crisis and Authoritarian environments; and detailed guidance on developing strategic and programmatic recommendations. The revised framework is now being piloted.

DCHA/DG/SAR manages DG assessments. If you are interested in conducting an assessment or have questions, please contact your DCHA/DG Regional Coordinator:

- Mark Billera (Africa), Ashley Quarcoo (Africa)
- David Black (Eurasia)
- Shannon Green (Middle East), Summer Lopez (Middle East and Asia)
- April Hahn (Latin American and the Caribbean)
- Jennifer Ragland (Asia), Summer Lopez (Middle East and Asia)
- **Joshua Kaufman, DCHA/DG/SAR Division Chief**

For more information, contact Josh Kaufman, Strategic Planning and Research Division Chief, Office of Democracy and Governance, USAID, 202-712-4234, [joshuakaufman@usaid.gov](mailto:joshuakaufman@usaid.gov).

## List of DG Assessments Using DCHA/DG Framework

	<u>AFRICA</u>		
Angola	2004, 2010*	Pakistan	2000, 2003, 2008
Benin	2004	Philippines	2006
Burundi	2007	Sri Lanka	2001, 2007
Cote d'Ivoire	2000	Thailand	2008
Djibouti	2006	Yemen	2004
DRC	1999, 2007	Vietnam	2007
Ethiopia	2010*		
Liberia	2004	<u>EUROPE AND EURASIA</u>	
Mali	1998 est., 2001	Albania	2003, 2006
Mozambique	2002, 2008	Armenia	2002
Namibia	2003	Azerbaijan	2002
Nigeria	2003, 2006	Bosnia-Herzegovina	2007
RCSA	2003	Bulgaria	2001
Rwanda	2002	Georgia	2002, 2004
Senegal	1997, 2004	Kosovo	2009
Somalia (Desk)	2008	Macedonia	2003, 2009
Southern Sudan	2003	Moldova	2005, 2010
Tanzania	2003, 2010	Romania	2001
Uganda	2005	Russia	2009
Zambia	1997, 2003	Ukraine	2010*
Zimbabwe	1997, 2008		
	<u>ASIA &amp; NEAR EAST</u>	<u>LATIN AMERICA &amp; THE CARIBBEAN</u>	
Afghanistan	2002 (desk), 2009	Bolivia	1997
Algeria (Desk)	2003	Colombia	2005
Bahrain (Desk)	2003	Cuba (Desk)	2010
Bangladesh	2004, 2009	Dominican Rep.	2007
Cambodia	1999, 2002	Ecuador	2005, 2008
East Timor	2004	Guyana	1999 est., 2002
Egypt	2008	Honduras	2003, 2007
India	2001	Jamaica	2001
Indonesia	2008	Mexico	2001
Jordan	2003	Nicaragua	2003
Lebanon	1997 est.	Panama	2003, 2010
Morocco	1998, 2003	Paraguay	2004, 2009
Nepal	1999, 2005, 2008	Peru	2000, 2007
		Venezuela	2010*

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