



**USAID**  
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OFFICE OF DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE

## GLOBAL LABOR UNION & NGO STRENGTHENING PROGRAM



### OVERVIEW

USAID's Global Labor Union and NGO Strengthening Program is a Cooperative Agreement, Leader with Associates Award, signed with the Solidarity Center in 2002 and extended through September 2010.

The purpose of the global labor program is to assist the Agency in:

- Strengthening the observance of internationally recognized standards and promoting effective enforcement once adopted;
- Supporting the development and strengthening of free and independent labor unions and other labor related organizations in their efforts to support and enhance democratization, equitable economic development and a democratic political culture through supporting effective citizen participation;
- Developing and strengthening national and local union leadership and programmatic capacity, with particular emphasis on providing leadership opportunities for women;
- Improving and enhancing the institutional and financial capacity of labor unions and labor civil society organizations and helping develop means of financial support, both internal and external, that will result in the reduction and eventual elimination of the need for donor funding.

### CURRENT PROGRAM

In fiscal year 2010 USAID's Office of Democracy and Governance will provide \$7.25 million in support to Solidarity Center programs in 20 countries, including:

Bangladesh, Brazil, Bolivia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Georgia, Guatemala, Honduras, Indonesia, Kenya, Mexico, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, South Africa, Sri Lanka, and Thailand.

### NEW PROGRAM TO BE AWARDED IN 2010

USAID will issue a solicitation for a new Global Labor Program in 2010. This new program will continue the important work of strengthening democratic labor unions and NGOs, and promoting labor rights, access to justice and the rule of law in the labor sector. The scope of this award will be global and will support the development of approaches and methodologies that can be applied to international labor programming in a number of contexts.

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