

USAID/Guinea
Operational Plan

FY 2006

June 2, 2006

Please Note:

The attached RESULTS INFORMATION is from the FY 2006 Operational Plan and was assembled and analyzed by the country or USAID operating unit identified on the cover page.

The Operational Plan is a "pre-decisional" USAID document and does not reflect results stemming from formal USAID review(s) of this document.

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Program Performance Summary FY 2005: Under USAID/Guinea's current Country Strategic Plan (FY 1998 - 2006), results have been achieved in the sectors of health, education, natural resources management and democracy and good governance. Selected social indicators in USAID-funded regions are higher than national levels. Progress has been made in capacity building, economic opportunities and diversification, protecting the environment and improving community participation in the delivery and quality of social services. Civil society organizations are beginning to influence dialogue on key political, social, and economic issues of national importance. Yet despite these successes, Guinea suffers today from the woes of living under 47 years of authoritarian rule: dire economic, political and social conditions. In the past decade key national indicators have stagnated or declined. Poverty has increased by 10% since 1994/95. Guinea has been experiencing double digit inflation for several years. In 2004 the inflation rate was about 27% and it did not slow down in 2005. Guinea is ranked 160 out of 177 on the UNDP Human Development index.

The political and economic situation in Guinea has deteriorated over the last seven years, stagnating and in some cases reversing advances made in the years following the fall of the Sekou Touré regime. Following the rebel incursions in 2000/2001, the Government of Guinea (GOG) began investing heavily in arms and increasing its defense budget to secure its borders and protect its territorial integrity. As a result of these real and perceived threats, the ruling party became increasingly centralized and exclusionary in its decision-making, and corruption and impunity rose accordingly. Due to the GOG's inability to service its debt and its increasingly poor governance record, critical donor assistance from the IMF, World Bank, and the EU among others was suspended, which exacerbated economic decline.

With the suspension of donor support, relative peace in the sub-region, and in an effort to redress the stagnant economic and political situation, in December 2004 President Lansana Conté appointed a new Prime Minister to preside over a series of economic and political reforms. Although there are questions as to how far the current regime will go, significant reform efforts were made in FY 2005, including: implementing a rigorous economic reform agenda under a Staff Monitored Program with the IMF; joining the Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative; announcing local elections characterized by freedom of movement and media time for opposition candidates and the creation of an Autonomous National Electoral Commission; opening radio and television media to private ownership; and creating a new Ministry of Economic and Financial Control, under which is housed the revitalized National Anti-Corruption Agency. A major indicator of the GOG's willingness to continue its reform agenda will be holding more transparent local elections in December 2005.

Noteworthy to Guinea's future was the signing in 2005 of agreements with Global Alumina and Alcoa/Alcan for the building of two alumina refineries in Guinea. Combined these agreements total over \$4 billion USD and represent the largest private investment in sub-Saharan Africa since the Chad-Cameroon oil pipeline.

Foreign assistance to Guinea from multilateral and bilateral donors represented on average 85% of Guinea's investment budget during the periods 1990 - 2003. Donor funded programs are linked to achieving the three objectives under Guinea's Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP): (1) boosting economic growth; (2) developing basic services and equitable distribution to such services; and (3) improving governance and institutional and human capacity-building. A second generation PRSP will be developed in 2006 that will give greater priority to governance issues and more rational and realistic allocation of funds for social sectors and other expenditures. Overall, there is good donor coordination at the sectoral levels, as evident through the HIV/AIDS working group, the Education for All committee, and the donor group for the local elections. In 2005, with the support of USAID and other donors, the GOG has taken steps to improve upon donor coordination and effectiveness in Guinea.

The primary U.S. foreign policy objectives in Guinea are to maintain regional stability and promote democracy and good governance. USAID's 2005 programs were focused on strengthening Guinea's education system and community participation in education, improving health status in Upper Guinea and increasing access to HIV and family planning information and services nationwide, promoting natural resource management and more efficient agricultural production, improving democratic local governance in targeted regions, and strengthening civil society nationwide.

Challenges: Due to internal and external factors, Guinea is identified as a country vulnerable to crisis. While USAID and the donor community expectantly monitor and support what appears to be a reform era, Guinean citizens continue to suffer terribly from dire conditions. Turning Guinea around is an immense challenge that requires further bold measures in restoring macroeconomic stability and combating rampant corruption and poor governance. Remaining on track under its Staff Monitored Program with the IMF is vital if Guinea is to qualify for a Poverty Reduction and Growth Facility, which would provide access to much needed foreign currency and possible substantial debt relief. Continued reform will be challenging as day-to-day operations are still very much guided by habit formed under 47 years of authoritarian rule, and there exists a decisive split amongst reformers and spoilers. Civil unrest or the sudden departure of the President, who is in ill health, also threatens the reform process. Poor infrastructure, policies and human and institutional capacity continue to be obstacles.

Key Achievements

In its eighth year of implementation, USAID's current strategy in Guinea continues to make progress under each of its strategic objectives. Overall, the Guinean technical ministries are very cooperative and supportive of USAID programs.

Natural Resource Management (NRM): USAID's principle implementing partner closed out a six-year long cooperative agreement in 2005 so NRM activities under this strategic objective were reduced. Nevertheless, the co-management model promoted by this activity was written into the national forestry code (not yet ratified) in 2005 and the amount of land under sustainable management by 2005 was 124,609 hectares. Over 80% of the village savings and loans set up by this project graduated and are now operating autonomously. In 2005, a new program promoting agricultural marketing got started. This activity identified four Guinean agricultural products and the producers, processors, and exporters involved. In 2006 it will strengthen each link along the value chains for these products with the ultimate objective of increasing incomes without increasing pressure on natural resources. During the year, P.L. 480 programs had an important impact on reducing post harvest losses and the number of food insecure months in their impact zones. USAID's activities in cashew production were boosted this year when a sector-based chamber of commerce was developed. This will increase communication within the sector which will improve production practices and reduce costs.

Health: According to Guinea's 2005 Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) key health indicators have stagnated and/or declined since 1999, despite the efforts of USAID and other donors. Maternal mortality which was 528 in 1999 has jumped to 847 per 100,000 live births. This is largely attributable to the failure of the health system to provide adequate prenatal and emergency obstetrical care, coupled with poor nutritional status of women in their reproductive years. Nevertheless, improvements are reflected for selected indicators in USAID's geographical zones. These include increases in the number of pre-natal visits, higher contraceptive prevalence rates and DPT3 coverage, and measurable improvements in the quality of services provided by health centers. P.L. 480 partners reduced severe malnutrition in their target zones. Through USAID's micronutrient initiative, vitamin A distribution reached 100% of the targeted populations. The fortification of bread flour was successfully piloted and legislation put in place to operationalize the program permanently. One hundred percent of eligible infants and children were reached by the USAID-supported national polio immunization campaign. While HIV prevalence among the general population is relatively low, groups such as miners, transport workers, commercial sex workers and pregnant woman in urban areas experience significantly higher rates. In 2005 USAID supported the opening of four urban voluntary counseling and testing centers for HIV/AIDS and continued national "Abstinence, Be Faithful and Use Condoms" (ABC) programs.

Basic Education: USAID remains one of the largest bilateral contributors to Guinea's Education for All program, taking a lead technical role in promoting quality in basic education. USAID/Guinea's longstanding investment in Parent Associations (PTAs) has paid off at the policy level. In FY 2005 the GOG issued an official announcement validating and reinforcing the powers of PTAs with regard to school management. In 2005, USAID strengthened and trained over one thousand individual PTA and regional PTA federations. Also, with USAID's support, the Ministry of Education began developing a

policy and action plan for HIV/AIDS in the education sector. USAID continued to strengthen the educational system by training over 26,000 primary school teachers, over 800 education authorities, and 208 school principals. For the first time in Guinea, educational services at the prefectural and regional levels were able to generate their own statistical data in 2005 as a direct result of USAID's support in this area. Over 8,600 girls' scholarships (Africa Education Initiative plus others) were distributed in 2005.

Democracy and Governance: In 2005 USAID's primary local governance implementer closed out and the civil society implementer scaled back its activities due to funding shortfalls. By the end of its cooperative agreement, USAID's local governance partner had strengthened 576 community based organizations' capacity to engage with their local authorities. In addition, this US PVO left in its wake a capable and registered local non-governmental organization (NGO). Ten civil society organizations, strengthened by USAID, carried out a civic education campaign which reached 174,114 people. USAID's interventions led to the creation of a national association of professional organizations which committed itself to reviewing and revising the laws regulating professional organizations and successfully advocated for the release of an arrested lawyer. USAID/Guinea's democracy and governance activities in 2005 helped pave the way for civil society participation in local elections to take place in December 2006 by generating interest, informing citizens of their voting rights, and equipping civil society organizations to act as formal election monitors.

Cross cutting issues: Literacy training continues to be an important cross cutting issue in Guinea. In three of four strategic objectives literacy is an essential tool for helping local community members participate more meaningfully in USAID's programs. In FY 2005, USAID provided literacy training to 11,172 persons, of whom 56% were women. In our education programs, where the bulk of literacy training took place, the pass rate on the final exam was 73%. HIV/AIDS prevention education is also a cross cutting activity carried out in all USAID/Guinea's strategic objectives. In 2005 more than an estimated 420,000 persons heard an HIV prevention message delivered by USAID partners. USAID's health activities work extensively on HIV but there are also important HIV activities under the education program which helped the GOG draft, budget, and plan for an HIV policy in the education sector. Another important cross cutting topic is the strengthening of civil society organizations. All of our strategic objectives work with and strengthen local organizations. In 2005 over 2,788 grassroots community based organizations were trained and strengthened by USAID/Guinea. In addition, USAID worked with 68 regional or national level civil society organizations and NGOs. Many of these groups helped implement USAID programs and their increased capacity has been acknowledged by other donors and the GOG.

Gender: USAID/Guinea continues to recognize the pivotal role that men play in decision making on family planning and reproductive health issue. Health programs target men and male religious leaders for training in these areas. USAID's community based distribution program for family planning commodities is currently dominated by male distributors so USAID is making a special effort to recruit women distributors by creating more incentives for them. USAID also acknowledges the importance of literacy training for women to enable them to participate in USAID-supported community-based organizations. Under two of USAID's strategic objectives, literacy training is offered in sex differentiated classes to allow women to feel more comfortable. Girls' education is a priority for USAID/Guinea, which in addition to awarding girls' scholarships, implemented complementary activities like finding women mentors for girl students and encouraging family members to reduce the domestic chores of girl students so that they can dedicate more time to school attendance. In 2005, the majority of USAID-supported micro-credit clients were women. While women were under-represented in USAID's rural civic education outreach activities their participation was almost equal to that of men in the capital city.

Public-Private Alliances and Presidential Initiatives: In 2005 USAID/Guinea had two active public-private alliances (PPA). In collaboration with the Guinean Chamber of Mines and the National HIV Committee, a study of the impact of HIV on the mining sector was completed. The study will be used to make the case for the introduction of HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment into the employment policies of mining companies. Under the Cashew Public-Private Alliance with Kraft Foods, USAID/Guinea guided the development of a cashew chamber of commerce based in Conakry. In addition, Kraft Foods sent a representative to Guinea to help in the formulation of a mission strategy in the cashew sector. This strategy includes identification of promising cashew varieties, the development of agronomic packages to

increase cashew yields, and linking buyers and sellers. USAID/Guinea benefits from the President's Africa Education Initiative. Under this initiative in 2005, USAID awarded 6000 girls scholarships, provided training to over 26,000 teachers and developed textbooks for third and fourth graders.

For more information on USAID programs in Guinea, please go to USAID/Guinea's website: <http://www.usaid.gov/gn>

FY 2006 Program**SO: 675-006 Inclusive Governance Reform Advanced****Establish & Ensure Media Freedom & Freedom Of Information**

Establish and Ensure Media Freedom and Freedom Of Information (\$650,000 DA, \$375,000 CSH): Following the August 2005 presidential decree liberalizing broadcast media in Guinea, USAID began promoting expansion of sources of information available to Guineans. USAID is helping to advance independent media by training journalists, strengthening the national communication council, providing technical assistance and start-up grants to community radio stations, and developing radio programming that relays messages in priority areas such as HIV/AIDS prevention, education, agriculture, biodiversity and good governance. Principal contractors and grantees: to be determined.

Promote And Support Anti-Corruption Reforms

Promote And Support Anti-Corruption Reforms (\$975,000 DA, \$623,000 CSH): USAID is increasing citizens' knowledge of corruption to stimulate demand for change. The program is strengthening anti-corruption CSOs and the government anti-corruption agency. The program is also addressing priorities such as financial and management accountability and transparency in the education, health and agriculture sectors. Principal contractors and grantees: to be determined.

Reduce Transmission & Impact Of HIV/AIDS

Reduce Transmission and Impact of HIV/AIDS (\$3,900,000 CSH): USAID is working to decrease the incidence and prevalence of HIV/AIDS in high-risk groups through technical assistance and training that focuses on prevention, testing, and treatment. Voluntary Counseling and Testing Centers are being established and HIV/AIDS education is being incorporated into school health, adult literacy and national health education programs. The program also assists in improving the health sector's workforce development and commodity and logistical supply system for family planning and HIV/AIDS services. Principal contractors and grantees: to be determined.

Strengthen Civil Society

Strengthen Civil Society (\$3,009,000 DA, \$503,000 CSH): USAID-funded training, technical assistance and sub grants strengthen the technical capacities and efforts of CSOs to hold public officials and administrators accountable for their actions, to actively engage in oversight of the government, and to advocate for key reforms. CSOs include parent associations, village health committees, and agricultural associations. Participants learn about the importance of behavior change in their subject area at the same time as civic rights and responsibilities so they can demand better accountability from teachers, health worker, extension agents and government authorities. P.L. 480 resources improve village-level food security and nutritional status, while promoting a vibrant civil society made up of informed and educated citizens. Principal contractors and grantees: to be determined.

Support Democratic Local Government & Decentralization

Support Democratic Local Government and Decentralization (\$3,221,000 DA, \$1,347,000 CSH): USAID is advancing decentralization efforts by providing training and technical assistance to local and national government institutions to improve technical and management capacity, legal and regulatory frameworks, and two-way interactions with civil society. Under the Africa Education Initiative (AEI), USAID is providing pre-service and in-service training to over 26,000 primary school teachers and administrators, as well as supporting education reform efforts to improve the quality of instruction and the learning environment. USAID provides training and technical assistance to increase GOG capacity in improving its agricultural

marketing, extension services and policies. Principal contractors and grantees: to be determined.

Activities notified under this strategic objective are part of a new strategy statement that is pending approval. Should funding levels or activities in this data sheet change substantially once the strategy statement is approved, a new notification will be submitted prior to the obligation of any funds.

FY 2007 Program

SO: 675-006 Inclusive Governance Reform Advanced

Establish & Ensure Media Freedom & Freedom Of Information

Establish and Ensure Media Freedom and Freedom Of Information: (\$429,000 DA, \$200,000 CSH). USAID will continue to support the liberalization of media by providing technical assistance and training to private community radio stations, investigative journalists, and radio programming in priority areas. Principal contractors and grantees: to be determined.

Promote And Support Anti-Corruption Reforms

Promote And Support Anti-Corruption Reforms: (\$700,000 DA, \$521,000 CSH). USAID will continue to support CSOs, the anti-corruption agency, and line ministries in their reform efforts to combat corruption. Principal contractors and grantees: to be determined.

Reduce Transmission & Impact Of HIV/AIDS

Reduce Transmission and Impact of HIV/AIDS (\$3,700,000 CSH): USAID will continue working to decrease the incidence and prevalence of HIV/AIDS in high-risk groups and improving the commodity and logistical supply systems for family planning and HIV/AIDS services.

Strengthen Civil Society

Strengthen Civil Society: (\$1,660,000 DA, \$200,000 CSH). USAID will continue to strengthen the ability of CSOs to promote governance reform, participate in and monitor the quality of education and health services, and the rational use and public access to natural resources. P.L. 480 resources will continue to improve village-level food security and nutritional status, while promoting a vibrant civil society. Principal contractors and grantees: to be determined.

Support Democratic Local Government & Decentralization

Support Democratic Local Government and Decentralization: (\$1,740,000 DA, \$850,000 CSH). USAID will continue to improve decentralization efforts and the performance of local and national government institutions. USAID will expand its teacher training under the AEI, as well as support to the GOG in the implementation of its Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria (GFATM) program. Principal contractors and grantees: to be determined.

All family planning assistance agreements will incorporate clauses that implement the President's directive restoring the Mexico City Policy.

Results Framework

675-001 Increased use of sustainable natural resource management practices

Program Title: Improved Natural Resource Management

IR 1.1: Natural resource management planning skills acquired and applied by community-based organizations

IR 1.2: Farm productivity increased

IR 1.3: Small and micro enterprise activities increased

IR 1.4: Favorable policy environment established

675-002 Increased use of essential Family Planning, Maternal and Child Health, and STI/HIV/AIDS services, products, and practices

Program Title: Family Planning and Health (FPH)

IR 2.1: Increased access to essential FP, MCH and STI/HIV/AIDS-prevention services and practices

IR 2.2: Improved quality of FP, MCH and STI/AIDS prevention services, products, and practices

IR 2.3: Increased behavior change and demand for FP, MCH and STI/HIV/AIDS preventions services, products, and practices

IR 2.4: Increased effective response among donors, GOG, community organizations, NGOs, and the private sector in addressing critical health systems constraints

675-003 Quality basic education provided to a larger percentage of Guinean children, with emphasis on girls and rural children

Program Title: Basic Education

IR 3.1: Improved sectoral strategic planning, management and decision-making in basic education

IR 3.2: Improved instruction in basic education

IR 3.3: Improved community participation in basic education

IR 3.4: Improved regional and gender equity in basic education

675-004 Improved local and national governance through active citizen participation

Program Title: Democracy and Governance

IR 4.1: Effective citizen participation in local governance

IR 4.2: More responsive political processes

IR 4.3: Increased articulation of citizen interests by target civil society organizations

675-006 Inclusive Governance Reform Advanced

Program Title: Democracy and Good Governance

IR 1: Increased demand for government transparency, accountability, and effectiveness

IR 1.1: Improved civil society participation in governance, health, education, and NRM

IR 1.2: Increased citizen access to information

IR 1.3: More free and fair elections

IR 2: Improved performance of local and national government institutions

IR 2.1: National anti-corruption efforts advanced

IR 2.2: Capacity and systems of targeted GOG institutions improved