Data Sheet

USAID Mission:

Program Title:

Democratic Republic of the Congo
Livelihoods

Pillar: Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade

Strategic Objective: 660-004
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation: \$3,222,000 DA
Prior Year Unobligated: \$603,000 DA
Proposed FY 2005 Obligation: \$3,648,000 DA

Year of Initial Obligation: FY 2004
Year of Final Obligation: FY 2008

Summary: USAID's program to improve livelihoods in targeted areas includes increasing agricultural productivity, improving access to markets along selected corridors, improving access to financial services, and addressing the critical needs of vulnerable populations. The aim of this program is to help create a favorable enabling environment for small-scale private sector-led growth in urban, peri-urban, and rural targeted areas. It also includes activities that will support enhancing the role of women in all aspects of agriculture production, marketing, and rural entrepreneurial activities.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

Livelihoods improved (\$2,222,000 DA; \$603,000 prior year DA). Late in FY 2003 the Mission obligated \$7.4 million for two new activities: the Market Approaches to Livelihood Improvement (MALI) project and the Congo Livelihoods Improvement and Food Security (CLIFS) project. Both activities will rehabilitate marketing systems by reopening rural feeder roads, producing and distributing planting materials, and providing improved and appropriate new technologies in the production, marketing, and processing of crops. Principal prime contractors or grantees: PACT and Innovative Resources Management (IRM).

Agricultural productivity increased (\$1,000,000 DA). USAID will expand efforts to rehabilitate cassava production by expanding activities to three regions previously inaccessible due to conflict. An evaluation of the activity will be done in Spring 2004 to identify complementary actions needed to support cassava production and logical next steps. Principal contractor or grantee: South East Consortium for International Development (SECID) (prime).

The Mission will continue to assist the implementation of the centrally-funded Foundation for International Community Assistance (FINCA) and World Relief Micro-finance Practitioners projects. Opportunities for expansion of micro-finance in the DRC improved this year with the issuance of a Central Bank regulation for micro-finance institutions. The Mission will be implementing an activity to ameliorate the closure of Unilever palm oil operations in northeastern DRC. This activity will assist residents in transitioning to new agriculture and forest products livelihoods. Principal contractors or grantees: FINCA, World Relief, and Conservation International (all prime).

USAID supports activities that target an estimated 15,000 victims of Gender Based Violence (GBV) including health and psychosocial care, legal services, protection, and the provision of economic opportunities for victims. Prime contractors are International Rescue Committee and Cooperazione Internationale-COOPI.

The Mission will conduct a food aid assessment in February 2004 to examine how food aid complemented with DA resources might be used to address the needs of vulnerable groups and communities. A new activity may be designed to combine Title II and limited DA resources to facilitate the safe reintegration of vulnerable groups such as IDPs and ex-combatants, and to make their communities

less vulnerable by opening feeder roads and rehabilitating essential infrastructure such as health facilities and primary schools.

FY 2005 Program:

Rehabilitation of cassava production (\$1,000,000 DA). Cassava cutting distribution will be expanded to three regions which recently reopened with the cessation of hostilities.

Livelihoods Improved (\$2,648,000 DA). CLIFS and MALI are designed to end in late FY 2005. If the methodology of these activities is proven sound in implementation, the Mission may expand coverage to additional areas with similarly designed activities. CI will complete its activity to assist the transition to sustainable agricultural and forest-related activities by former Unilever employees in northeastern DRC. Programs for separated and abandoned children will continue through FY 2005, and activities for victims of GBV will be assessed. Should conditions warrant, OFDA will continue to support agricultural initiatives, including seed and tool distribution and rehabilitation of key access roads. Should the transition in the DRC continue to solidify, FFP will shift its focus from providing emergency relief to development/relief assistance.

Performance and Results: The Rehabilitation of Cassava Production activity gained widespread recognition as a provider of quality planning material and agricultural technology. The FINCA project successfully mobilized savings and micro-lending in Kinshasa. The issuance of a regulation to promote micro-credit by the Central Bank of Congo improved prospects for expansion of micro-credit. P.L. 480 resources proved effective in assisting vulnerable groups in the eastern DRC and in rehabilitating basic transportation infrastructure. Successful completion of this SO will assist the DRC in rebuilding its economy from its basic units of civil society, villages, NGOs, and community business organizations.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Democratic Republic of the Congo

	Domocratic Republic of the conge
660-004 Livelihoods	DA
Through September 30, 2002	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	0
Fiscal Year 2003	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Through September 30, 2003	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	0
Prior Year Unobligated Funds	
Obligations	603
Planned Fiscal Year 2004 NOA	
Obligations	3,222
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2004	
Obligations	3,825
Proposed Fiscal Year 2005 NOA	
Obligations	3,648
Future Obligations	30,000
Est. Total Cost	37,473