Burundi

The Development Challenge: While the National Transitional Government has made progress in restoring security in many parts of the country, sporadic fighting, population movements and economic stagnation continue to sap morale and erode vital support for the transition process. The majority of Burundi's 6.8 million people suffer from insufficient access to food, basic social services and economic opportunities. Quality of life has continued to deteriorate as the conflict destroyed infrastructure, limited access to basic services, and reduced agricultural output. Social and economic indicators have regressed to levels of 30 years ago. Life expectancy, which averaged 54 in 1992, has fallen to 41 years. The infant mortality rate is 114 per 1,000, under-five mortality rate is 190 per 1,000 births, maternal mortality is 800-1,300 per 100,000, immunization coverage rate is 48%, and the illiteracy rate is 52% with school attendance at 48%. The HIV/AIDS prevalence rate is approximately 8.3%, and there are an estimated 230,000 AIDS orphans. Over 390,000 people are internally displaced and another 840,000 Burundians live as refugees in Tanzania. There are also 27,000 refugees in Burundi, mostly from the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

The economy is mainly agricultural with roughly 90% of the population dependent on subsistence agriculture. The proportion of the population living under the poverty threshold is 58% in the rural areas and 66% in the urban zones.

Ever since the outbreak of the crisis in 1993, the country has been racked with violence and serious human rights violations. These violations resulted in the imprisonment of over 8,000 people including 160 children. Approximately 90% of these people are still awaiting trial.

President Buyoya's eighteen month presidential mandate ended on May 1, 2003, with the peaceful transfer of power to former vice-president, Domitien Ndayizeye, for the second eighteen-month phase. This was followed on November 2, 2003 by the signing of a political and military power-sharing protocol with the CNDD-FDD rebel group which includes a reshuffle of the Cabinet to integrate the CNDD-FDD into institutions, a "forces technical" agreement, transformation of the FDD into a political party, provisional immunity, and a schedule for implementation of the agreement. This signing raises further hopes for the peace process. However, the PALIPEHUTU- National Front for Liberation (FNL) has remained outside the current peace process and continues fighting against both the government and the FDD forces causing population displacements, systematic pillaging and exacting of informal tax by armed groups.

The World Bank estimates that Burundi's per capita gross domestic product in 2002 was less than \$84. Burundi's external debt at the end of 2002 was \$1.1 billion, with internal and external debt servicing absorbing 41% of the Government of Burundi's 2004 budget revenue. The debt is owed primarily to multilateral institutions. Burundi has not been approved for debt relief under the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Country Initiative (HIPC), but the IMF Board will meet early in 2004 to approve a Poverty Reduction Growth Facility (PRGF), an important first step in the process to qualify for HIPC.

The U.S. foremost priority in Burundi is clear: To break the cycle of civil wars and massive killings, and reduce the threat of genocide, by supporting the Burundian peace process, democratization, and protection of human rights. Broad U.S. goals are to combat HIV/AIDS, promote trade and investment, foster the rule of law, support human capacity development, and encourage policy reform needed to underpin social and economic development.

The USAID Program: Where security permits, USAID works in rural areas allowing better access to the regions where the conditions are most severe. USAID provides technical expertise and training to strengthen the capacity of civil society organizations to promote dialogue and reconciliation and improve the justice system. Radio programs and other unbiased media are used to provide early conflict warnings and to educate the population on reconciliation and transition processes. USAID aims to enhance food security through increased economic and agricultural opportunities. USAID integrates P.L. 480 Title II Food Assistance with Development Assistance to address emergency health needs as well as the longer-

term issues related to food security. In the health sector, USAID is working to expand the range and quality of basic health services including child and maternal health services, immunizations, malaria prevention, and HIV/AIDS care and prevention. USAID also provides humanitarian assistance that addresses critical nutrition needs and water and sanitation activities for vulnerable populations, including internally displaced persons.

Other Program Elements: With demobilization and return of ex-combatants, refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) to their communities anticipated, the Office of Transition Initiatives (OTI) is refocusing its program on the community level in four program areas: 1) community-level peace education for official and unofficial community leaders; 2) community-level vocational skills training for returning ex-combatants, IDPs, refugees, and vulnerable members of the population who remained in their communities; 3) small grants, including construction and repair of small-scale, community based infrastructure and other priorities identified within the peace education component; and 4) media outreach. In FY 2003, the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) provided more that \$10 million responding to needs in nutrition, emergency health, food security, water and sanitation, and non-food items. The Office of Food for Peace (FFP) provided food aid to an average of 584,000 beneficiaries per month in 2003, through WFP's Great Lakes Regional Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO), as the major contributor. In addition to relief feeding, WFP provided food to nutritional feeding centers, refugees and returnees, and vulnerable people in social centers, including those affected by HIV/AIDS. In 2003 FFP contribution totaled 41,660 Metric Tons, valued at \$24 million. The Office of Private and Voluntary Cooperation supports activities to increase the use of key health and nutrition services as well as to enhance the managerial and advocacy capacity of organizations working in the areas of HIV/AIDS, human rights and conflict mitigation.

Other Donors: Multilateral and bilateral donors are providing funding to United Nations agencies and, in some cases, direct support for government activities. Only a small percentage of funds pledged since the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement (APRA) have been disbursed because many of the pledges were conditional on a cease-fire. The United States is the largest bilateral donor to Burundi. USAID's partners include UN agencies in agriculture and health, and U.S. non-governmental organizations who are working to strengthen local groups. USAID's partners in the HIV/AIDS program include Great Britain and France who supply condoms and laboratory support, respectively. Germany, the second largest donor, supports debt relief, justice, infrastructure, and humanitarian relief. Belgium, the third largest multilateral donor, and USAID (OFDA) share funding for the UN World Food Program aircraft for humanitarian workers.

Data Sheet

USAID Mission: Program Title: Pillar: Strategic Objective: Proposed FY 2004 Obligation: Prior Year Unobligated: Proposed FY 2005 Obligation: Year of Initial Obligation: Year of Final Obligation: Burundi Democracy and Governance Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance 695-006 \$3,479,000 ESF \$200,000 DA; \$100,000 ESF \$793,000 DA; \$3,250,000 ESF FY 2003 FY 2005

Summary: USAID/Burundi's primary objective is to support the peace process and democratic governance, including the protection of human rights. Through this program, USAID will strengthen transitional institutions and the peace process, and promote effective governance through partnerships between transitional institutions and an active and expanding civil society.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

Transition institutions and peace process strengthened (\$1,740,000 ESF; \$100,000 prior year DA; \$100,000 prior year ESF). USAID plans to redesign the program in 2004 to respond to advances in the peace process. USAID activities will: provide technical assistance to facilitate coordinated planning for the implementation of the Arusha Peace Accords (APRA); reinforce the idea that peace brings tangible improvements (i.e., small grant resettlement packages, vocational skills training, rehabilitation of schools or other incentives), demobilization, and refugee repatriation; and assist reintegration of displaced persons and other affected communities through quick-impact community development activities. Through NGO partners, USAID will furnish assistance to community organizations to promote dialogue and reconciliation between divided communities; provide legal training and advocacy workshops to enhance access to justice for Burundians; encourage youth to avoid political manipulation; and educate the population on peace and reconciliation processes. Efforts will focus on youth and women's groups and, where appropriate, religious organizations to promote tolerance, and build a foundation for grass-roots level truth and reconciliation efforts. Prime contractors and grantees will be determined.

Civil society participation increased (\$1,739,000 ESF; \$100,000 prior year DA). USAID activities will strengthen and expand the capacity of civil society organizations to facilitate community access to local authorities and will continue to strengthen independent radio and other media while expanding programming to provide an environment for formal and informal exchanges between government officials and civic groups. An independent radio station will provide early conflict warnings and all USAID elements will involve civil society and government officials as much as possible in activity design. Through these activities, USAID will reach a larger audience with peace radio programs and, will increase participation by Burundians (particularly women) in civil society organizations. Prime contractors and grantees will be determined.

FY 2005 Program:

Transition institutions and peace process strengthened (\$1,625,000 ESF, \$396,000 DA). USAID activities will continue to support peace and reconciliation, justice reform, and efforts to strengthen civil society through technical assistance and training to independent radio, legal case studies, legal assistance, targeted youth activities and other fora. Activities will assist displaced people and demobilized militia to earn a livelihood and have access to basic social services. Implementing partners likely to be same as those of FY 2004.

Civil society participation increased (\$1,625,000 ESF, \$397,000 DA). Civil society will be assisted through capacity building, structured participation in the national dialogue on critical peace process issues, and increased understanding of democracy and the necessity of reducing violence against women. These activities are essential for a successful peace process and will create a foundation for larger and more effective community-based initiatives and advocacy. Implementing partners likely to be same as those of FY 2004.

Performance and Results: Transition institutions and peace process strengthened. The 2003 activities were a continuation of activities begun under the Special Objective, Foundation for a peaceful transition in Burundi established, which produced positive results. USAID has supported civic advocacy, which contributed to the National Assembly adopting four key laws called for by the APRA, dealing with genocide and war crimes, the establishment of a truth and reconciliation commission, the reorganization of the criminal court jurisdiction, and governance of the media. Access to community legal services was increased by training 90 local leaders; 40 cases were heard in the mobile clinics; and the second Case-law edition was published on the subject of protection of children under family law. Volunteers who have been trained in conflict resolution have resolved 531 community disputes, 78 legal activists have been trained, and the release of 26 female prisoners was achieved.

Civil society participation increased. With the support of USAID, civil society groups put a spotlight on problems in Burundi's justice system, human rights standards, and the fight against impunity. USAIDsupported Studio Ijambo (a state of the art media programming studio established by the NGO, Search for Common Ground) provided training to 206 media specialists, produced 27 hours per week of unbiased news and peace and reconciliation programs for broadcast on seven stations, including 200 "Heroes" programs which recount stories of courage and of lives saved across ethnic boundaries. Journalists made 100 fact finding trips to capture the rural viewpoint. They gave voice to marginalized groups such as, child soldiers, refugees and displaced people, and women and children. Ninety-two percent of youth surveyed in Bujumbura Rurale identify with the peace and reconciliation programs. USAID-supported Radio Isanganiro increased its programming to 105 hours per week in Kirundi and French, and now has 90% coverage of the territory of Burundi, and reaches audiences in Rwanda, DRC and the refugee camps in Tanzania. In response to listeners' preference for drama programs, Radio Isanganiro produced 15 segments of a new soap opera which includes child soldier characters. USAID strengthened the capacity of local groups and trained human rights monitors on UN principles of treatment for displaced people, whose findings were presented to the UN. An awareness campaign on victims of torture reached 2,500 people, and a network of 100 mental health professionals was set up to provide referrals. As light has been thrown on this problem, reported incidents of torture of prisoners have declined, from 70% to 40%.

Data Sheet

USAID Mission: Program Title: Pillar: Strategic Objective: Proposed FY 2004 Obligation: Prior Year Unobligated: Proposed FY 2005 Obligation: Year of Initial Obligation: Year of Final Obligation: Burundi Food Security Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade 695-007 \$1,782,000 DA \$244,000 DA \$750,000 DA FY 2003 FY 2005

Summary: USAID/Burundi promotes the three elements of food security -- availability, access and utilization -- through efforts to: address the basic nutritional requirements of Burundians; establish a basis for productive livelihoods, primarily in agriculture; and invest in the viability of the productive base by addressing environmental land degradation. Humanitarian assistance will provide grants to regional and international organizations to support an integrated response to addressing nutrition, food security, and emergency health needs. Through a collaborative use of P.L. 480 Title II food assistance and Development Assistance (DA), USAID will target interventions (mostly agriculture) that demonstrate the benefits of peace and help prepare communities to accommodate returnees. This will include improved seeds, technology, infrastructure, improved environmental interventions, and training.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

Increased Opportunities Provided for Productive Livelihoods: (\$1,082,000 DA; \$244,000 prior year DA). USAID will combine DA and Title II food resources to establish community-based development activities, primarily in agriculture, which will provide a basis for productive livelihoods. The introduction of improved technologies and practices into communities will focus on the areas expected to receive the greatest number of internally-displaced people and returning refugees. Planned activities include technical assistance in: multiplication and distribution of improved seeds; small-scale infrastructure rehabilitation; livestock restocking; strengthening private animal health service-delivery; formation of group farming and cooperative projects among women's rural associations; and expanding farmer and community associations to include women. Principal implementers: CARE, World Vision, Africare, CRS.

Sustainable Natural Resources Management Practices Adopted: (\$700,000 DA). USAID will invest in the longer-term viability of the country's productive base by addressing environmental land degradation, which affects the sustainability of the land to produce. Integrated community-based agro-forestry and soil and water conservation investments will help reverse environmental degradation caused by over-population and unsustainable land use practices. Efforts to improve crop yields through sustainable intensification will be a key strategy to reduce the pressure to move to uncultivated land and to stem the degradation of soil resources and vegetative cover. Principal implementers: To be determined.

Vulnerable Groups Receive Effectively Targeted Assistance: P.L. 480 emergency food aid is provided to communities suffering from conflict and drought through the World Food Program which will provide food to nutritional feeding centers, refugees, returnees and vulnerable people in social centers, including those affected by HIV/AIDS. As demobilization of rebels proceeds, it will be necessary to feed the former combatants during the process of reintegration.

Non-food humanitarian assistance will maintain capacity to respond rapidly to needs in nutrition, emergency health, food security, water and sanitation, and non-food items. The early warning and crisis management structures will be strengthened. Principal implementers include World Vision, UNICEF,

International Medical Corps, International Rescue Committee, Catholic Relief Service, Gruppo di Volontariato Civile (an Italian NGO), and Medecins Sans Frontieres-Belgium.

FY 2005 Program:

Increased Opportunities for Productive Livelihoods: (\$500,000 DA). Through use of all funding sources, USAID will support interventions that demonstrate the benefits of peace in stable areas and reduce vulnerabilities in conflict and transitional areas, while accommodating returnees of all types in the context of their communities. The USAID program will expand opportunities for productive livelihoods for rural Burundians who have inadequate access to enterprise skills, inputs, credit and technologies. The geographic focus will continue to be on areas where large numbers of people are resettling, and agriculture will continue to be the programmatic focus. Programs will prepare communities for IDP and refugee returns by supporting food security, health, water and sanitation, income-generation, and small infrastructure repair and rehabilitation. Development relief activities will support the rehabilitation of the agriculture sector. Several types of public works activities will utilize food as payment for labor. In the mid to longer term, as the peace process moves forward, it is expected that this program will transition from relief activities to those which are more sustainable and development oriented. Principal Implementers: CARE, World Vision, Africare and CRS.

Sustainable Natural Resources Management Practices Adopted: (\$250,000 DA). USAID's program will continue to provide infrastructure investments that promote long-term sustainability of land production. Implementing partners likely to be the same as those in FY 2004.

Humanitarian assistance: P.L. 480 Title II emergency food aid will be provided to communities suffering from conflict and drought through the WFP. Reintegrating demobilized combatants, refugees, and displaced people may require continuous food aid. WFP will continue to provide food to nutritional feeding centers, HIV/AIDS victims, and vulnerable people in social centers.

Communities in need of nutrition, emergency health, food security, water and sanitation, and non-food items will continue to receive non-food humanitarian assistance, with a focus on areas where people are returning. The early warning system will help to respond rapidly to identified needs.

Performance and Results: Security and lack of access to land remain the largest challenges to implementing the program. Land tenure of returning refugees, displaced people and ex-combatants will be a major issue. Past USAID agricultural activities targeting 16,000 households and 180 pilot farmers, have produced 285 hectares of improved crops with an input of 12 tons of fertilizers and some pesticides; 50 hectares of hillside planted with 500,000 forestry and agro-forestry plants along with training in anti-erosion techniques; rotating credit; seed multiplication techniques improved; and 30 agricultural associations formed.

By the end of the SO period, at least five USAID supported provinces will show reduced signs of malnutrition among the most vulnerable populations and will no longer need emergency assistance. The adoption of improved technologies and planting materials will have led to an increase in the area planted, improved crops, and increases in diversity and quantity of crops sold. Traffic on rehabilitated roads will have increased, and exports to national and regional markets from the assisted provinces will have increased. Finally, improvements will be evident in the landscape surface area as a result of integrated land improvement measures such as agro-forestry.

Data Sheet

USAID Mission: Program Title: Pillar: Strategic Objective: Proposed FY 2004 Obligation: Prior Year Unobligated: Proposed FY 2005 Obligation: Year of Initial Obligation: Year of Final Obligation: Burundi Health Global Health 695-008 \$880,000 CSH \$0 \$1,731,000 CSH FY 2003 FY 2005

Summary: This objective focuses on expanding and enhancing services and systems in health, water and sanitation. A phased and targeted approach will lead to the expansion of activities into more provinces and will also ensure gender-sensitive approaches to programming.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

Increased Availability of Client-Oriented Health Services: (\$880,000 CSH). The USAID program which is training traditional birth attendants and strengthening polio elimination efforts as part of the global effort, will continue in 2004. Security and lack of infrastructure are challenges to improving health services in Burundi. Rebuilding the service structure will be a challenge for all donors as well as the government of Burundi. USAID will design a new program to continue to expand the availability of basic services in the health sector by focusing on Maternal Child Health and child survival interventions proven to reduce morbidity and mortality. Emphasis will continue on expanding routine immunizations, prevention and control of malaria through use of an appropriate anti-malarial drug, the increased use of insecticide treated bed-nets, use of intermittent preventive treatment in malaria during pregnancy, control of diarrheal diseases and acute respiratory infections. Funds will support training of health workers in new malaria treatment protocols, supervision, and sentinel surveillance for epidemic malaria. Due to continued conflict, population displacements, and epidemics of malaria, measles, cholera, and meningitis, there is the need to strengthen integrated disease surveillance and response, and to develop Burundian capacity to identify and respond to disease outbreaks. Efforts will be made to reduce maternal deaths associated with pregnancy and delivery by the training of traditional birth attendants and provision of traditional birth attendant kits. Selected sites may be upgraded to provide emergency obstetric care. Standard operating procedures established and service guidelines put into place will improve approaches to care. Quality assurance systems, to include supervision and appropriate service referrals, will improve the quality of care.

Humanitarian assistance efforts will continue to improve access to safe water and sanitation to complement the expansion of access to key health services by reducing vulnerability to disease linked to environmental causes.

Principal contractors and grantees: United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF); Population Services International; CARE; Africare; and World Relief. New principal implementers may be determined during the design phase of the health program in FY2004.

HIV/AIDS and Infectious Disease Prevention, Care, and Support Programs Expanded: (funds provided through the regional program based in Nairobi). The program, which is already in all provinces in Burundi, will expand the number of points of sale of condoms, reaching groups at high risk of infection and increasing awareness and influencing behavior change in these groups. Training of peer educators in the most vulnerable groups, such as prostitutes, truck drivers and young people will be expanded. Education of the public through radio, workshops, music concerts, and posters will be increased in an effort to reach

all parts of the country which have been inaccessible during the conflict. Voluntary testing and counseling services and referrals for care will be expanded, strengthened and standardized. Community-based care and support programs will be established to enable communities and families to care for HIV/AIDS-infected individuals and mitigate the impact of HIV/AIDS on orphans and families. Principal implementers will be Population Services International and Family Health International.

FY 2005 Program:

Increased Access to Basic Social Services: (\$1,731,000 CSH): If democratic elections are held as scheduled, USAID plans to work with the Ministry of Health to strengthen the national health services, and provide commodities, technical assistance and training to support routine and polio vaccinations, prevention of infectious diseases and integrated disease surveillance and response; expand the availability, range and quality of essential services in rural areas; involve communities in managing basic services responsive to community needs; and improve community health awareness and health-seeking behaviors. Activities will also work to increase the delivery of services in rural areas, strengthen publicprivate sector partnerships in service delivery, and develop mechanisms to increase community knowledge, ownership and management of service programs. Outputs will include trained personnel in health clinics and voluntary counseling and testing centers, expanded peer education, and widely available condoms. More trained providers in provincial and community-level health service facilities will offer maternal and child health services and stock a supply of essential drugs and commodities. An increased number of safe water and sanitation facilities will be accessible. With Displaced Children and Orphan Funds (DCOF), USAID will address the needs of vulnerable children who have been orphaned and traumatized during the conflict, some as recruits in the rebel forces. Principal implementing partners to be determined.

HIV/AIDS and Infectious Disease Prevention, Care, and Support Programs Expanded. With funding provided through the regional program based in Nairobi, the program in condom distribution will incorporate the ABC approach, expand the number of points of sale in all provinces in Burundi, reaching groups at high risk of infection, including male and female adolescents, and increase awareness and influencing behavior change in these groups. Training of peer educators in the most vulnerable groups, such as prostitutes, truck drivers and young people may be expanded. Education of the public through radio, workshops, music concerts, and posters may be increased in an effort to reach all parts of the country which have been inaccessible during the conflict. Voluntary counseling and testing (VCT) services may link up with faith-based organizations and incorporate the ABC approach, and referrals for care may be expanded, strengthened and standardized. Mother to child transmission activities may be incorporated into the VCT centers. Community-based care and support programs may be established to enable communities and families to care for HIV/AIDS-infected individuals and mitigate the impact of HIV/AIDS on orphans and families. This program may establish pilots for Anti-retroviral treatment, for later expansion. Principal implementers will be Population Services International and Family Health International.

Performance and Results: The ongoing regionally-funded HIV/AIDS prevention program has grown despite insecurity in the countryside. HIV/AIDS education was accomplished through several formats where people were recruited and trained to be peer educators who train others; 72 community leaders participated in a workshop on HIV/AIDS awareness; and 10,395 vulnerable people attended HIV/AIDS educational presentations. Four radio spots on the theme "you can't tell by looking," were aired on six stations, as well as six transmissions of AIDS educational programs, while 20,000 posters and stickers were displayed in public areas. UNICEF trained 1043 (99 %) of the targeted number of 1050 traditional birth attendants and supplied them with kits for hygienic deliveries. Preparations were made to launch the Roll Back Malaria Plan, to initiate a Behavior Surveillance Survey, assess voluntary counseling and testing services, and to collaborate on monitoring and evaluation. The groundwork was laid for a Maternal Child Health program which includes malaria prevention through insecticide treated bednets, maternal child nutrition through micronutrient intake, diarrheal disease prevention through improved hygiene, increased practice of Oral Rehydration therapy, and use of Oral Rehydration Solutions, and increased immunization coverage.

By the end of the strategic objective period, essential maternal and child health and HIV/AIDS services will be available at the provincial level both through public and NGO sector health care facilities and through community-based practitioners. More communities will have in place systems to ensure safe water and sanitation to reduce vulnerability to disease. A broad package of basic MCH and HIV/AIDS services that can be accessed on a regular basis will have been developed and established in a number of provinces.

Burundi PROGRAM SUMMARY

Accounts	FY 2002 Actual	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Current	FY 2005	Request
Child Survival and Health Programs Fund	400	750	880		1,731
Development Assistance	4,200	4,400	1,782		1,543
Economic Support Fund	2,000	1,150	3,479		3,250
PL 480 Title II	2,496	23,838	2,448		0
Total Program Funds	9,096	30,138	8,589		6,524

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE SUMMARY							
695-005 Supporting Implementation of the Peace Accord							
CSH	400	0	0	0			
DA	4,200	0	0	0			
ESF	2,000	0	0	0			
695-006 Democracy and Governance			-				
DA	0	900	0	793			
ESF	0	1,150	3,479	3,250			
695-007 Food Security							
DA	0	3,500	1,782	750			
695-008 Health							
CSH	0	750	880	1,731			

Mission Director, Andrew Sisson