



Abstracts

Technical Information from the Africa Bureau's
Office of Sustainable Development—AFR/SD

Fall 2000

Most of these documents can be downloaded in full-text free of charge at <http://www.dec.org/>. Search for the desired document ID number (DOCID), for example, PN-ACJ-162, in the fielded search option.

Education

Lessons from School-Based Environmental Education Programs in Three African Countries: Mali, Tanzania, and Zambia

Seidel, Renata. Academy for Educational Development, Inc., USAID/AFR/SD, USAID/G/ENV, USAID/G/HCD, USAID/G/WID, Washington, DC. June 2000. 71 p. \$3.00 paper, \$2.00 disk
French edition: PN-ACJ-163
PN-ACJ-162

This document examines successful environmental education (EE) programs for youth in three African countries: Mali (the European Union-funded Training and Information Programme on the Environment); Tanzania (Roots and Shoots, the Wildlife Conservation Society of Tanzania, and the Malihai Clubs of Tanzania), and Zambia (the Chongololo Clubs).

Several factors, such as clarity of objectives, are identified as critical to the success of these programs.

In this issue...

Economics	2
Humanitarian Response	4
Health	5
Agro-Economics	5
Environment	7
Democracy and Governance	7

At the local level, understanding the school system, the community, and the socioeconomic environment is fundamental; adjusting wisely to these realities, more than to any fixed rules, will help bring about results. The report also identified seven specific success factors.

- 1) Connection with elementary schools as a base of operations is a necessity. Related success factors include ownership of the program by the school administration and linkages between schools and other community institutions, especially youth clubs.
- 2) Continuity of contact with students from grade to grade increases program impact many-fold. Linkages across different educational levels—primary, secondary, and teacher training institutes—also greatly increase a program's public profile and improve its chances of sustainability.
- 3) Utilizing complementary channels can extend impact. However, they require additional investments, so it is necessary to weigh expected impacts against costs.
- 4) Collaboration with other organizations was a common success element. Programs with a mandate to work in partnership with national and local groups benefited enormously from this requirement.
- 5) Programs that channeled children's natural enthusiasm in tangible ways benefited youth, their communities, and the cause of conservation the most. Also important was a program's ability to achieve the right balance between a national and local focus.
- 6) An EE program cannot succeed if it overlooks the importance of gender. However, young girls, because of their low enrollment, are hardest to reach through EE.
- 7) A sense of isolation can undermine a program more seriously than anything else. Conversely, the opportunity to share ideas and experiences is a powerful motivator for children and leaders alike.

Besides these seven factors, money and the ability to broker support are essential, as is adequate time to establish linkages in the community, develop a network of committed volunteers who can share

ideas, create awareness among a critical mass of people, and educate a generation of new leaders. The document suggests specific, concrete steps that activists and educators can take to encourage EE programs.

From Information to Action: Tools for Improving Community Participation in Education

Kane, Eileen and Joyce Wolf. Academy for Educational Development, Inc., USAID/AFR/SD, USAID/G/HCD/BELS, Washington, DC. SD Publication Series: Technical Paper No. 110. March 2000. 29 p. \$3.00 paper, \$2.00 disk

Program is included on CD-ROM, available through orders only

PN-ACH-912

This computer program provides, in CD-ROM form, a toolkit that shows how to encourage local involvement in basic education programs in order to obtain, share, and use community information to make programs more relevant. It also explains some basic tools that can be used to carry out these tasks. The toolkit has two major sections. "Tools for Obtaining and Sharing Information" shows a variety of research techniques, such as surveys and focus groups, for obtaining useful information in order to create better education programs and indicates the strengths and weaknesses of each technique. It also provides tips on sampling, combining techniques, theory, and correcting common mistakes that researchers make. "Tools for Sharing Information" provides a number of examples of how sharing information can improve community involvement in education by: informing people about education through institutions and through the media; persuading people to participate through social marketing, social mobilization, and performance, such as drama; and empowering people to participate by building local organizations to develop and strengthen community involvement and by training community members in activities necessary for school participation. The user manual accompanying the CD-ROM provides an overview of its contents as well as technical instructions and system requirements for its use (Windows systems only).

Economics

Leadership Factors in African Policy Reform and Growth

Gray, Clive and Malcolm McPherson. Harvard University, Harvard Institute for International Development, Boston; BHM International, Inc.; USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. African Economic Policy Discussion Paper No. 29. January 2000. 37 p. \$3.00 paper, \$2.00 disk

PN-ACH-149

This paper examines the new generation of leaders that has emerged in Africa. The paper begins by tracing the evolution of African chief executives over the past two decades. Examination of 10 countries, with a focus on Kenya and Zambia, raises the question why, after these incumbents had presided over economic catastrophes, were sociopolitical structures unable to replace them with more effective leaders? A review of leading treatments of the politics of economic reform highlights the dichotomy between interest-group analysis and studies that accord a major role to the unpredictable advent of reform-minded individuals who help launch their countries onto paths of rapid growth. Given the multitude of problems facing most African countries, even leaders of extraordinary ability and vision would find it difficult to guide these countries rapidly through the required reforms. However, a few concrete steps on the part of leadership to raise agricultural production and promote export of labor-intensive manufactures would greatly increase the prospects for accelerated growth. The paper challenges other social scientists to examine more deeply how African social structures can create power bases for visionary individuals. It also asks if donors and other outsiders can help nurture visionary leaders who will promote rather than hinder growth and development. Apart from withholding support from, and even actively opposing, corrupt incumbents, many options exist for encouraging reform.



Restarting and Sustaining Growth and Development in Africa

Duesenberry, James; Arthur A. Goldsmith; and Malcolm McPherson. Harvard University, Harvard Institute for International Development, Boston; BHM International, Inc., USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. African Economic Policy Discussion Paper No. 28. January 2000. 22 p. \$3.00 paper, \$2.00 disk
PN-ACH-148

Despite massive foreign assistance, most African governments have not made the changes that will sustain growth and development. This paper develops a framework for considering how economic growth and development can be restarted and sustained in Africa. This framework has three themes—politics and institutions, macroeconomic management, and enhancing productivity. According to the study, African governments can begin to overcome regression and decline on a sustained basis by emphasizing five issues: public sector restraint, increased public sector savings, improved institutions, measures by which African countries can gain from globalization, and proactive steps to end aid dependence. Focusing on these matters will help African governments simplify their development agendas and constructively engage the public sector in the task of promoting growth and development.

Small Econometric Model of the Zambian Economy

McPherson, Malcolm F., and Tzvetana S. Rakovski. Harvard University. Harvard Institute for International Development, Boston; BHM International, Inc., USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. African Economic Policy Discussion Paper No. 34. January 2000. 33 p. \$3.00 paper, \$2.00 disk
PN-ACH-151

This paper estimates a small macro-econometric model of the Zambian economy based on annual data from 1967 to 1997 and provides projections for 1998 and 1999. The estimates are derived using the three stage least squares (3SLS) method for simultaneous equations systems. Despite the fact that some of the estimated relations yield coefficients that are contrary to the theoretical expectations and the data include a long period in which key macroeconomic variables were manipulated by government, the results provide some useful insights regarding the operation of the Zambian economy and its future prospects.

First, the model correctly measures the key dimensions of the economic retrogression that has occurred in Zambia. Large budget deficits led to rapid growth of money supply. Inflation accelerated and, because of the fixed exchange rate, debt accumulated rapidly. Second, the full-information estimation method provides a coherent approach for understanding the various interactions among the principal macroeconomic variables. Third, the projection results suggest useful directions for future policy reform, including revival of the mining sector and the promotion of agriculture. Fourth, the overall results point to a highly negative impact of government intervention in the economy. Future policies should carefully weigh potential benefits against adverse effects. Finally, the model clearly illustrates the complementary dimensions of policy reform. Monetary, fiscal, exchange rate, and debt management policies have to be modified together in ways that promote growth and development. The annexes contain extensive data series and other technical details. Includes references.

Regional Integration and Cooperation in Sub-Saharan Africa: Are Formal Trade Agreements the Right Strategy?

Radelet, Steven. BHM International, Inc.; USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. African Economic Policy Discussion Paper No. 20. July 1999. 22 p. \$3.00 paper, \$2.00 disk
PN-ACG-368

This paper examines the potential for success for trade-focused regional integration agreements in sub-Saharan Africa, with particular focus on southern Africa. The paper surveys the existing literature on regional integration, and distills the most relevant successes and failures for the current integration initiatives in the region. It finds that there is little reason to expect significant economic gains from formal trade agreements at this time. By themselves, such agreements are unlikely to yield appreciable benefits unless preceded by decisions within member countries to follow more general open trade strategies. Indeed, they could be detrimental to the economies involved, either because they might encourage import substitution on a regional basis or simply because they absorb scarce administrative and financial resources. More open trade policies, coupled with more disciplined fiscal and monetary policies (and

hence more economic stability), and perhaps augmented by regional cooperation efforts on transportation and communication infrastructure, appear to be a more promising initial strategy.

Does Africa Grow Differently?

Block, Steven A. BHM International, Inc.; Tufts University, Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Boston; USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. African Economic Policy Discussion Paper No. 33. August 1999. 34 p. \$3.00 paper, \$2.00 disk

PN-ACH-150

Generating sustained growth in sub-Saharan Africa is often cited as the most pressing challenge in global development. Yet in the voluminous empirical literature on economic growth, sub-Saharan Africa exists primarily as a dummy variable in a single reduced-form growth regression. This paper seeks to address that problem by examining in greater detail the mechanisms of economic growth, asking in particular whether those mechanisms operate differently in Africa than elsewhere.

According to the paper, if one goes beyond the basic reduced-form growth regression to specify the determinants of the explanatory variables commonly found therein, Africa fails to benefit from several important mechanisms that contribute to growth in a broader cross-section of countries. Similarly, the negative indirect growth effects of several variables are magnified in Africa. At the same time, although institutional reform has a greater impact on deficit reduction in Africa, the growth benefits of deficit reduction are smaller in Africa than elsewhere. These differences can have important implications for policies designed to promote economic growth, and may help to explain the mixed results to date from policy reform efforts in Africa. Includes references.



Humanitarian Response

Targeting of Food Aid in Rural Ethiopia: Chronic Need or Inertia?

Jayne, T. S.; John Strauss; et al. Department of Agricultural Economics, Michigan State University; USAID/Ethiopia; USAID/AFR/SD, USAID/G/EGAD, Washington, DC. MSU International Development Working Paper No. 23, 2000. 108 p. \$14.04 paper, \$2.00 disk

PN-ACH-396

This paper uses data from a 1995-96 food security survey to identify the factors driving the allocations of food aid in Ethiopia. It determines both how food aid is allocated across rural regions, reflecting the targeting criteria of the federal government, and how aid is allocated within regions, reflecting the decisions of local authorities and NGOs.

Major findings are as follows: 1) A large share of Ethiopia's poorest people are not located in the poorest *weredas* (local administrative units), so that targeting only relatively poor *weredas* would miss a large percentage of needy people. 2) At the national level, food aid was only to some extent targeted according to income. Poorer households and poorer *weredas* had higher probabilities of receiving food aid than households or *weredas* with higher per capita incomes. 3) There were very large targeting errors of exclusion. The amount of food aid distributed in 1995-96 was inadequate to meet the needs of households under the 25th per capita income percentile. 4) Distribution of free food was generally more effectively targeted according to household income than was food for work (FFW). However, there were wide variations in targeting across regions. There are difficulties in accommodating the dual objectives of FFW, which include development objectives as well as hunger alleviation. 5) Significant differences existed in the amounts of per capita food aid allocated regionally; these differences were not related to observable household and *wereda* characteristics. 6) The single most important factor associated with who received food aid in the survey year was who received food aid in the past. This was true at both the *wereda* and household levels. Also, the current spatial alloca-

tion of food aid correlated highly with the regions of greatest need during the 1984-85 famine in Ethiopia.

The study concludes that there is a degree of inertia in the allocation of food aid geographically over time. This spatial inertia, which may stem from a variety of causes, has so far been ignored in both the theoretical targeting and the policy-related food aid literature. Implications for programming, policy, and research are noted in the conclusion.

Health

Social Marketing for Adolescent Sexual Health (SMASH) Project: Results of Operations Research Projects in Botswana, Cameroon, Guinea, and South Africa

Ashford, Lori. Population Services International, Population Reference Bureau, Inc., USAID/AFR/SD, USAID/G/PHN, Washington, DC. June 2000. 31 p. \$4.03 paper, \$2.00 disk

PN-ACJ-199

SMASH was an innovative project conducted in Botswana, Cameroon, Guinea, and South Africa to test the effectiveness of youth-oriented social marketing techniques in raising youths' awareness of sexual and reproductive health (RH) problems and spurring them to protective action. The project designed interventions for young people aged 13-22 in urban areas in all four countries. This report summarizes evaluations conducted after 8-13 months of project activities.

Overall, the programs were most successful in improving awareness of the benefits of taking protective action, such as using condoms or abstaining from sex, and in reducing barriers to condom use, e.g., shyness about buying and/or using condoms. The programs had less impact on young people's perceptions of their susceptibility to RH problems and on their actual behavior, i.e. sexual activity and condom use. Generally, the programs had much greater effect among young women than among young men.

Lessons learned for designing future adolescent RH programs include: 1) Interventions of less than two to three years are not likely to bring about changes in

adolescent behavior, though they can improve the knowledge and attitudes that lead to behavior change. 2) Youth activities should include a carefully designed mix of mass media and interpersonal communication, based on an assessment of the local situation and the program's behavior change objectives. 3) Mass media is an effective tool for increasing awareness, but face-to-face communication is often needed to address youths' concerns and build confidence. 4) Youth activities are more likely to succeed if they are well integrated with an existing social marketing program. 5) Projects might be more effective if they take into account differences in male and female concerns.

Agro-Economics

Comparative Economic Advantage of Alternative Agricultural Production Activities in Zambia

Saasa, Oliver S.; Dennis Chiwele; et al. University of Zambia; Mitchell Group, Inc., USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC; USAID/Zambia. SD Publication Series: Technical Paper No. 104. December 1999. 136 p. \$3.00 paper, \$2.00 disk

PN-ACG-721

Comparative economic advantage (CEA) evaluates the economic efficiency of alternative productive uses of a country's scarce land, labor, capital, and water resources. The option that generates the highest social gains from the use of domestic resources is considered the most efficient user of those resources, and domestic resource cost (DRC) analysis techniques are currently among the most commonly used tools for measuring CEA. This study, one of seven on countries of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), analyzes agricultural CEA in Zambia.

The paper is divided into two volumes. Volume I (the main report), presents Zambia's macroeconomic environment and agro-ecological zones, farming systems, and production trends. It goes on to describe the study's methodological framework and its results, as well as three types of sensitivity tests conducted during the study to illustrate the degree to which new economic parameters affect Zambia's CEA in agriculture, and finally an overview of the study's main conclusions and recommendations.

In sum, the study found that Zambia has CEA in all crops analyzed, with the exception of rice. Nontraditional export crops are the most profitable and efficient, but logistical and capital constraints have limited production of these crops across all agro-ecological zones and categories of farmers. Small-scale farmers in Zambia were found to be more efficient maize producers, but their advantage disappears when their yields increase. In terms of policy implications, the study's findings recommend efforts to diversify away from maize, produce wheat (due to the high transport costs for imports), expand the production of some export crops such as cotton and tobacco, and rehabilitate roads in order to improve the CEA of remote regions.

Volume II (the appendices) gives the study's yield, transportation, and cost assumptions, and presents the 1995/96 and 1996/97 data tables upon which the study's analysis is based.

Comparative Economic Advantage of Alternative Agricultural Production Options in Swaziland

Magagula, Glenn T. and Hamid H. M. Faki. University of Swaziland, Luyengo; Mitchell Group, Inc., USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC; USAID/Swaziland. SD Publication Series: Technical Paper No. 103. December 1999. 101 p. \$3.00 paper, \$2.00 disk **PN-ACG-720**

This report, one of seven on the impact of applying agricultural CEA in the drive to increase inter-regional trade and food security in SADC countries, examines the case of Swaziland. As in the other studies, DRC analysis was employed to estimate the CEA of crops in Swaziland's major agro-ecological zones, and geographical information systems (GIS) were employed to link geophysical and spatial factors. Swaziland's two land tenure systems—the communal and individual tenure farms—were taken into account when analyzing the sample further. The crops selected for analysis were maize, cotton, sugar cane, pineapple, grapefruit, oranges, and cabbage.

The CEA and sensitivity analysis showed high and fairly stable competitiveness of sugar cane, pineapple, grapefruit, and cotton, however that of vegetables and oranges was restricted due to some variation in crop yields. Looking at the nominal protection coefficients, which depict net policy intervention in

both input and product prices, there was limited intervention in maize (co-efficients close to 1) while cotton was taxed and groundnuts enjoyed net subsidy in this sector. These results call for measures to expand production of crops that enjoy high CEA.

Although maize was not one of the crops enjoying CEA, it is vital for food security. This study found that with improved available technology, maize was substantially competitive. In all cases, enhancement of production according to CEA and relaxation of excessive market interventions will encourage efficient resource use and raise farmers' incomes, thereby improving food security. Expansion of other crops depends on many factors, including competition for domestic resources, variability and risks of yields and prices, opportunities for internal and external markets, and the potential to boost crop yields. Policy interventions for the commercial sector may address manageable factors that reduce risk and encourage a movement from diversification to specialization to enhance efficiency in the use of national resources.

Environment

Environmental Monitoring, Evaluation, and Mitigation Plans: An Assessment of Six Years Experience

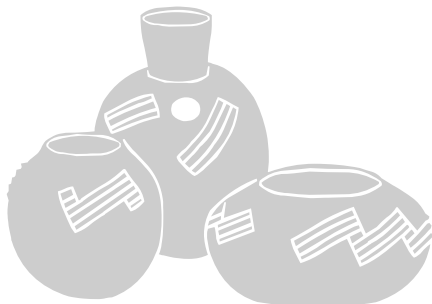
Hecht, Joy E. and Malcolm K. Marks. International Resources Group, Ltd.; Winrock International; Harvard University, Harvard Institute for International Development, Boston; USAID/G/ENV, USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. April 2000. 60 p. \$7.80 paper, \$2.00 disk **PN-ACH-580**

Environmental monitoring, evaluation, and mitigation plans (EMEMPs) were initiated by USAID early in the 1990s to address possible environmental impacts of projects and policy reforms. This study assesses the implementation of EMEMPs in four countries: Madagascar, Malawi, Uganda, and Ghana.

EMEMP implementation in the four countries varied widely. In Madagascar, the EMEMP focused on the environmental impacts of road rehabilitation. In Malawi, by contrast, it involved in-depth research on the water quality and soil erosion implications of

expanded tobacco cultivation; however, the monitoring program proved too difficult to implement, so alternatives, including an effort to link EMEMP to development of an environmental information systems (EIS), were attempted. In Uganda, the concern was the environmental impacts of new export crops and expanded production of traditional crops. The Ghana EMEMP was never implemented, since the government, to which its implementation was entrusted, never fulfilled its responsibility.

The case studies yield no simple answers, but show a number of different models for Mission consideration. 1) Take a very narrow focus in a rapid monitoring project, as in the case of the village studies in Malawi. Such studies may be a cost-effective way to answer questions of interest to USAID, as long as they are not linked to broader capacity-building, EIS work, or other government or USAID activities that could make them less efficient. 2) Conduct in-depth research to identify causal links between USAID activity and the environment. This strategy seems too cumbersome to address USAID interests, yet not focused enough on government interests to induce the latter to commit to implementation. 3) Link USAID research questions to ongoing EIS development. If the national EIS is already operational, it may be an effective way to take advantage of existing government capacity; otherwise, it may raise the same management problems as in-depth research. 4) Undertake the EMEMP as part of a mission-wide monitoring activity. This may raise questions of how to hold those whose activities harm the environment accountable. 5) Support development of a national EIS. This will not provide immediate answers to USAID questions, but will help build infrastructure that will prove helpful in the long run. 6) Simply mitigate. This avoids efforts to establish elusive causal relationships, and focuses simply on ensuring that environmental harm is not occurring.



Democracy and Governance

Democracy and Governance Cross-Sectoral Linkages: Guinea Case Study

Charlick, Robert; Hal Lippman; et al. USAID/Guinea; USAID/PPC/CDIE, USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. February 2000. 32 p. \$4.16 paper, \$2.00 disk
PN-ACG-601

Democracy and Governance Cross-Sectoral Linkages: Madagascar Case Study

Lippman, Hal; Richard Blue; et al. USAID/Madagascar; USAID/PPC/CDIE, USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. March 2000. 23 p. \$2.99 paper, \$2.00 disk
PN-ACG-612

Democracy and Governance Cross-Sectoral Linkages: Mali Case Study

Miller, David; Gwen El Sawi; et al. USAID/Mali; USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. December 1999. 25 p. \$3.25 paper, \$2.00 disk
PN-ACJ-164

Democracy and Governance Cross-Sectoral Linkages: Zambia Case Study

Ott, Dana; Anne O'Toole Salinas; and David Miller. USAID/Zambia; Academy for Educational Development, USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. December 1999. 23 p. \$2.99 paper, \$2.00 disk
PN-ACJ-165

Synthesis of Democracy and Governance Cross-Sectoral Case Studies

Robert Groelsema. USAID/AFR/SD, Washington, DC. October 2000. 31 p. \$3.00 paper, \$2.00 disk
PN-ACJ-950

The synthesis report and five case studies examine USAID's experiences in Africa with democracy and governance (DG) cross-sectoral programs. Between



September 1998 and April 1999, case studies were done by the DG Team in the Africa Bureau's Office of Sustainable Development in Mali, Zambia, and Zimbabwe (the latter is not available as a separate case study), and in cooperation with the Center for Development Information and Evaluation, in Guinea and Madagascar.

The purpose of the case studies was to develop a knowledge base of best practices from Missions that have incorporated DG program elements and principles into their activities in other agency goal areas, including the environment, health, education, economic development, and agriculture. The synthesis examines examples from across the studies and identifies trends and patterns in four areas: 1) facilitating factors and constraints on strategic programmatic levels, 2) development impact, 3) future directions, and 4) practical suggestions for building DG synergies. The key findings of these studies are that: 1) host country context provides impetus for synergy programming, 2) it takes a change agent (leadership) to succeed, 3) decentralization and civil society components encourage DG synergies across sectors, and 4) synergy can be unintended, or crafted. These examples and findings are intended to serve as a guide to practitioners interested in pursuing USAID cross-sectoral DG and other programming.

SD Abstracts is a technical bulletin from the Office of Sustainable Development (SD) of USAID's Africa Bureau. This bulletin is an attempt to share with a wide audience the results of the analytic work of SD resident staff, project field advisors, collaborators, and contractors.

SD Abstracts is published by the Africa Bureau Information Center (ABIC). ABIC is operated by the Academy for Educational Development, Inc. under contract to USAID, and is part of the Research and Reference Services Project of USAID's Center for Development Information and Evaluation.

Editors: Christine Chumblor
Patricia Mantey



To receive SD Abstracts contact:
Africa Bureau Information Center
1331 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 1425
Washington, DC 20004-1703 U.S.A.
Tel: 202-661-5827
Fax: 202-661-5890
E-mail: abic@rrs.cdie.org
www.usaid.gov/regions/afr/abic/

To order documents from SD Abstracts:
Use the order form included. Prices are included for non-USAID readers.



TO ORDER DOCUMENTS:

1. Send orders to **USAID/DEC/DDU, 1611 North Kent Street, Suite 200, Arlington VA, 22209-2111, USA**. Non-USAID readers may have to order some publications directly from the publisher. In these cases, the publisher's contact information is provided at the end of the abstract.
2. Include the **document identification number** when placing an order. This number is found at the top of each abstract. **Example: PN-AAJ-875**.
3. USAID readers should indicate whether they would like an **electronic version** of the document, if available.
4. Note the following categories of customers:
 - **USAID employees, USAID contractors overseas, and USAID-sponsored organizations overseas** are **USAID readers**, and may order documents from SD Abstracts at no charge.
 - **Universities, research centers, government offices, and other institutions located in developing countries** may order up to five titles per issue at no charge.
 - **All other institutions and individuals, including local USAID contractors**, may purchase documents at the prices given. **Do not send payment** with your order. Applicable, reproduction and postage costs will be billed.

FOLD

**USAID/DEC/DDU
1611 NORTH KENT STREET, SUITE 200
ARLINGTON, VA 22209-2111**



FOLD