

United States Government
2004 Trade Capacity Building Assistance (\$US)
CENTRAL AMERICA NS

| Activity Title | Activity Description | TCB Category | FY 04 Total |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|------------------|
| Accelerated Central American Market Integration | This project advances regional integration and harmonization of trade laws and regulations. This project includes: (1) the organization and set up of the Regional Trade Dispute Mechanism, (2) the consolidation of Central American Customs Union, and (3) the harmonization of regional road standards. This project provides TA and training to private and public sectors of the CAFTA countries in the process to resolve trade controversies and to promote a uniform application of the mechanism. It builds on previous assistance to advance the customs union, advancing the harmonization of current customs legislation and tariff structure in CAFTA countries. This project will develop and promote the use of two roads manuals. Expected results include: (1) Regional Trade Dispute Settlement Mechanism established and functioning, (2) Advance harmonization of customs legislation, tariff structures, sanitary and phyto-sanitary measures, and other technical norms, and (3) Roads manuals are widely used in the region. Funded and implemented by USAID/G-CAP. | Customs Operation & Administration | 290,400 |
| | | Regional Trade Agreements (RTA) | 943,800 |
| | | Physical Infrastructure Development | 72,600 |
| | | Gov/Transparency & Inter-Agency Coord. | 145,200 |
| | | Activity Total | 1,452,000 |
| Activation of the CAFTA Environmental Cooperation Agreement | Technical assistance and training by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) to strengthen the capacity of officials from the Environmental Cooperation Agreement (ECA) under the Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA) parties to develop and enforce environmental standards. This activity is in support of the Central America - Dominican Republic FTA negotiations. Funded and implemented by Department of State. | Environmental Trade & Standards | 500,000 |
| Alliance for CAFTAAction - G-CAP Funded | The need to successfully implement CAFTA provides a very real and immediate opportunity for the Alliance for CAFTAAction to help move the transformation process along. The project brings together the business and public sector leadership from the Central America region and the U.S. to lay the ground work for mobilizing the business community to take a leadership role to implement CAFTA. Developing an outreach program and seminars, the project is aimed to build a broad based consensus to implement CAFTA and to raise business, legal and social standards across the region through the harmonization of best business practices. Expected results include: (1) leadership of members of the Alliance to increase public support for CAFTA implementation, (2) regional network linking leaders across the region from the private sector to participate in trade policy decision making, (3) linkages of management and workforce interests, and (4) consensus to pursue harmonization of "best business practices" across industries. This activity is in support of the Central America - Dominican Republic FTA negotiations. Funded and implemented by USAID/G-CAP. | Business Services & Training | 280,000 |
| | | Gov/Transparency & Inter-Agency Coord. | 120,000 |
| | | Activity Total | 400,000 |

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| | | Gov/Transparency & Inter-Agency Coord. | 90,000 |
| | | Activity Total | 300,000 |
| CAFTA Alliance for TCB | Counterpart International and the Humane Society of the United States have formed an alliance of NGOs, private corporations, foundations, and partner organizations in the CAFTA. This is the second phase of the project aimed to promote the implementation and compliance of regulations related to humane treatment of animals and environmental sustainability, encouraging organic production that promotes rural development and open market opportunities under CAFTA. Through conferences, workshops, seminars and other dissemination activities, the expected results are: (1) increased compliance of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Flora and Fauna (CITES), (2) at least one new major animal welfare law or policy in each CAFTA country, (3) Humane Slaughter Certification Program in each participant country, (4) a pilot veterinary rural service, and (5) certification and sales of cacao in international markets. This activity is in support of the Central America - Dominican Republic FTA negotiations. Funded and implemented by USAID/G-CAP. | Customs Operation & Administration | 134,100 |
| | | Environmental Trade & Standards | 268,200 |
| | | Gov/Transparency & Inter-Agency Coord. | 44,700 |
| | | Activity Total | 447,000 |
| CAFTA Trade and Commercial Assessment (SELDON) - G-CAP funded | This project will assess trade and commercial laws and institutions through studies, short visits, and round tables to discuss results at the national and regional levels. The CAFTA Trade and Commercial Assessment analyzes laws, systems and networks from the following perspectives: framework laws, implementing institutions, supporting institutions, and social dynamics. The regional scope allows intra-regional and subject matter comparisons of commercial legal frameworks and associated institutions. Expected results include: (1) better understanding of constraints that hamper growth within countries and throughout the region (2) prioritized recommendations on strengthening the environment for trade and economic growth and (3) participatory discussions, at the national and the regional level, to shape the dialogue on development regional technical assistance strategies. This activity is in support of the Central America - Dominican Republic FTA negotiations. Funded and implemented by USAID/G-CAP. | Customs Operation & Administration | 55,800 |
| | | Business Services & Training | 111,600 |
| | | Competition Policy & Foreign Investment | 111,600 |
| | | Gov/Transparency & Inter-Agency Coord. | 279,000 |
| | | Activity Total | 558,000 |

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| CAFTA Trade and Commercial Assessment (SELDON)-EGAT/EG funded | Eighty percent of the activity is devoted to commercial law/governance assessments. Activity also supports better competition policies. This activity is in support of the Central America - Dominican Republic FTA negotiations. Funded and implemented by USAID/EGAT/EG. | Competition Policy & Foreign Investment | 120,000 |
| | | Gov/Transparency & Inter-Agency Coord. | 480,000 |
| | | Activity Total | 600,000 |
| Continuous Improvement in the Central American Workplace - GDA funded | When multi-fiber quota agreements end in January 2005, Central America is in danger of losing its apparel industry which employs 400,000 people. In partnership with GAP Inc. and Timberland Co., Inc., this program will promote labor standards and increased productivity. Funded by USAID/GDA and implemented by USAID/G-CAP. | Human Resources & Labor Standards | 500,000 |
| Continuous Improvement in the Central American Workplace- G-CAP funded | This project improves labor standards in the apparel industry in the participant countries. The activity brings together Gap Inc. and Timberland, leaders in the U.S. apparel industry, and their sourcing networks spanning the developing world. The project comprises four phases: (1) A diagnostic on labor standards in the region, which will be used to design the program assistance, (2) Multi-stakeholder events to facilitate dialogue on labor standards that offers an opportunity to discuss the nexus between labor standards and competitiveness, (3) Worker/manager trainings, and (4) Evaluation and dissemination of the project. Expected results include: (1) Strengthened role for government labor inspectors, and (2) Increased awareness of the link between labor standards and productivity of labor. Funded and implemented by USAID/G-CAP. | Business Services & Training | 288,111 |
| | | Human Resources & Labor Standards | 1,152,444 |
| | | Activity Total | 1,440,555 |
| Effective Central American Preparations for the CAFTA | USAID has been supporting the efforts of Central America to develop their trade capacity in order to get the full benefits from CAFTA. In this phase, the project will continue providing assistance through outreach programs, training, seminars and workshops for the ratification of the agreement, implementation and transition to free trade in the following areas: (1) Increased public support for CAFTA; (2) Increased private sector involvement in CAFTA negotiations; (3) Increased understanding of U.S. technical requirements for product entry into the U.S. market. Expected results include: (1) A more effective public-private sector partnership on trade issues; (2) Increasing understanding of the private sector about the scope of CAFTA; (3) Increased understanding of technical standards in the U.S.; (4) Broader use of quality product process in production of C.A. exportable goods; and (5) Private sector support in the phase of implementation of CAFTA. This activity is in support of the Central America - Dominican Republic FTA negotiations. Funded and implemented by USAID/G-CAP. | Regional Trade Agreements (RTA) | 251,100 |
| | | Other Trade Facilitation | 27,900 |
| | | Activity Total | 279,000 |
| Environmental Enforcement | This activity provides policy and implementation tools to Central America on the application and enforcement of regulations. The result is a greater capacity to enforce environmental regulations. Funded by USAID/G-CAP and implemented by Environmental Protection Agency. | Environmental Trade & Standards | 25,000 |
| | | Gov/Transparency & Inter-Agency Coord. | 25,000 |
| | | Activity Total | 50,000 |

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| Facilitating Streamlined Trade project (FASTrade) | In order to advance the regional integration and CAFTA processes, the Central Americans (CA) identified customs administration as one of the main topics that requires special attention. This project is a response to that request to support the CAFTA countries in their efforts to facilitate trade. Through short term training and advisory services to CA countries, the project supports ongoing efforts to improve border processing systems and building and strengthening private-public partnership to improve coordination of policies and practices related with trade. Expected results include: (1) Implementation of improved risk management systems (2) Organization, set up and functioning of a Pro-Committee for trade facilitation in each of the CA countries and (3) Cooperation to facilitate trade among the CAFTA countries through the organization of a regional pro-committee association. This activity is in support of the Central America - Dominican Republic FTA negotiations. Funded and implemented by USAID/G-CAP. | Customs Operation & Administration | 808,500 |
| | | Business Services & Training | 215,600 |
| | | Gov/Transparency & Inter-Agency Coord. | 53,900 |
| | | Activity Total | 1,078,000 |
| Harmonized Agric. Statistics and Improved SPS Regulatory Infrastructure | This activity contributes to the objectives of diversifying the rural economic base and increasing competitiveness in regional and world markets. The objectives are achieved through an improved ability of Central American governments to develop and implement regulations that provide for improved protection of plant, animal, and human health and safety. In assisting Central America to fully take advantage of trade opportunities provided under CAFTA and other trade agreements, USAID's Central American Program will address public sector SPS needs through an inter-agency agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). It is a government-to-government program of assistance to the public sector in the development and strengthening of SPS regulatory systems necessary to facilitate trade. This activity is in support of the Central America - Dominican Republic FTA negotiations. Funded by USAID/G-CAP and implemented by Department of Agriculture/FAS. | Agreement on SPS | 360,000 |
| | | Regional Trade Agreements (RTA) | 240,000 |
| | | Activity Total | 600,000 |
| Harmonized Environmental Standards and Regulations | This activity provides training and technical information related to the development of harmonized environmental standards and regulations. It provides model regulations for the region in areas such as environmental impact assessments, and various environmental media are developed as a basis for the development of national environmental regulations. The result of this activity is harmonized environmental standards and regulations are developed in the region. Funded by USAID/G-CAP and implemented by Environmental Protection Agency. | Environmental Trade & Standards | 80,000 |
| | | Gov/Transparency & Inter-Agency Coord. | 80,000 |
| | | Activity Total | 160,000 |

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| Human Food Safety Regulation of Veterinary Drugs Workshop | With an audience that included participants from eight Central American countries, the Human Food Safety Regulation of Veterinary Drugs workshop focused on the U.S. FDA approach to regulating veterinary drugs. Topics covered included good laboratory practices, laboratory animal care and the importance of quality laboratory data, safety of antimicrobial new animal drugs and the impact of resistant zoonotic bacteria on human health, a review of laboratory animal toxicology data and the types of toxicological studies reviewed, the microbiological safety of residues on human intestinal flora, a review of residue chemistry data including the determination of tolerances (MRLs) and withdrawal times, analytical methods and method validation trials to support the tolerances and comments on specific methods issues for chloramphenicol, nitrofurans and antimicrobial and pathogenic agents in food. Funded and implemented by Health & Human Services/FDA. | Agreement on SPS | 5,000 |
| IPR Protection Enforcement Training for CAFTA/Panama/Belize | The U.S. State Department Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), working with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), will provide customs training assistance related to IPR protection to support the Central American Free Trade Area (CAFTA) process, and to include Panama and Belize. This activity is in support of the Central America - Dominican Republic FTA negotiations. Funded by Department of State and implemented by Department of Commerce/PTO. | Agreement on TRIPs | 110,000 |
| Information and Transparency in Environmental Management Systems (ITEMS) | This project will allow the U.S. to develop a flagship project that will address the top priority that the Central American Parties (Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua - the C.A. Parties), have identified for work under the Environmental Cooperation Agreements (ECA) Program of Work (POW), and to demonstrate to Congress and the public that the Administration is beginning to conduct new activities in accordance with the agreement. The C.A. Parties have indicated that their top priority for work under the ECA is Article V.1(a): Strengthening each Party's environmental management systems, including reinforcing institutional and legal frameworks and the capacity to develop, implement, administer and enforce environmental laws, regulations, standards and policies. This activity is in support of the Central America - Dominican Republic FTA negotiations. Funded by Department of State and implemented by Environmental Protection Agency. | Environmental Trade & Standards | 200,000 |
| International Environmental Agreements | This activity seeks to: (1) provide training and technical assistance for strengthening Central America's capacity to implement the Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and Pesticides in International Trade (PIC) Conventions; (2) provide technical assistance for mobilization of resources to Central American countries through Global Environment Facility and other donor mechanisms; (3) facilitate inter-sectoral cooperation on pesticide management issues at the national and regional level; and (4) strengthen Central America's capacity to recognize linkages between trade agreement and achievement of environmental objectives. The intended result of this activity is that key environmental agreements are effectively applied. Funded by USAID/G-CAP and implemented by Environmental Protection Agency. | Agreement on SPS | 160,000 |
| | | Environmental Trade & Standards | 80,000 |
| | | Gov/Transparency & Inter-Agency Coord. | 160,000 |
| | | Activity Total | 400,000 |

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| International Train-the-trainer Good Agricultural Practices | Training on U.S. food safety programs, food laws and regulations, anatomy of outbreaks and epidemiology, traceback and farm investigations, water quality, post-harvest practices, education about good health and hygiene practices, and how to develop an effective training course. Funded and implemented by Health & Human Services/FDA. | Agreement on SPS | 65,458 |
| Market Access for Farmers | The Partnerships for Food Industry Development Market Access for Farmers (MAF) Central America regional project has two principal objectives: to maximize market-led rural diversification and to stimulate both farm and non-farm income growth for small- and medium-sized firms and farmers through new business alliances and increased access to dynamic markets. The project aims to improve the quantity, quality, and product safety of selected non-traditional agricultural products, principally fruits and vegetables, and their export sales. The project will help expand the base of private sector agri-food firms and farms in Central America that can compete regionally and globally. It will improve the linkages between small- and medium-sized producers to export markets and increase the gross value of exports of targeted fresh and processed non-traditional agricultural exports, especially fruits and vegetables. Funded and implemented by USAID/G-CAP. | Export Promotion | 750,000 |
| | | Trade-Related Agriculture | 750,000 |
| | | Activity Total | 1,500,000 |
| Modernization of the Energy Sector in Central America | This project focuses on the power sector in Central America. It will advance the objectives of promoting more open trade and investment policies and accelerating regional economic integration. Through training and technical assistance this project promotes the implementation of many of the laws, regulations, operating standards, regional power sharing, and other initiatives related with the energy sector, in coordination with local government decision makers. This phase of the project is oriented to strengthen and expand the energy sector in the region based on specific country requests and identified needs. Expected results of this project are a power sector in the participant countries with modern laws, regulations, and operating standards and an advancement the regional power sharing initiative. This activity is in support of the Central America - Dominican Republic FTA negotiations. Funded and implemented by USAID/G-CAP. | Other Services Development | 938,000 |
| | | Gov/Transparency & Inter-Agency Coord. | 402,000 |
| | | Activity Total | 1,340,000 |
| More Equitable and Efficient Labor Markets | This project provides technical assistance and training to Labor Ministries and other stakeholders of the labor market in the region to enhance capacity of Ministries of Labor increase labor force competitiveness, harmonization of labor laws and regulations and to update current labor legislation, if needed, to be in line with CAFTA requirements related with labor standards. Expected results include: (1) More active and effective leadership of Labor Ministries in economic policy-making relative to labor and better functioning of labor markets; (2) Initiation of skills certification program throughout region; and (3) Region wide respect for core labor rights. This activity is in support of the Central America - Dominican Republic FTA negotiations. Funded and implemented by USAID/G-CAP. | Human Resources & Labor Standards | 474,300 |
| | | Gov/Transparency & Inter-Agency Coord. | 83,700 |
| | | Activity Total | 558,000 |

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| More Open Trade and Investment Policies | Through training and TA, this project promotes greater understanding about the challenges of recent changes and trends in trade and investment policy. Civil society outreach activities obtain the participation of civil society of Central America in the process of policy change required under the WTO, FTAA, and CAFTA. The project will support the efforts of the countries to modernize and simplify customs procedures and to comply with WTO Agreement on Customs Valuation. The project is oriented at strengthening the enforcement of IPR laws and regulations and to harmonize regulations in the region consistent with WTO and CAFTA agreements. Expected results include: (1) Increased awareness about trade agreements; (2) Strengthened capacity of Customs technical staff in the CAFTA countries in the area of customs procedures; (3) Harmonized application of customs valuation; (4) Harmonization in the region of regulations on trademarks, industrial designs and copyrights; and (5) Enforcement of the TRIPS agreement in a regular and effective way. This activity is in support of the Central America - Dominican Republic FTA negotiations. Funded and implemented by USAID/G-CAP. | Agreement on Customs Valuation Methods | 156,400 |
| | | Agreement on TRIPs | 312,800 |
| | | Customs Operation & Administration | 234,600 |
| | | Gov/Transparency & Inter-Agency Coord. | 78,200 |
| | | Activity Total | 782,000 |
| Pollution Prevention | This activity seeks to (1) provide viable and sustainable technical solutions to Central America to improve solid waste and wastewater management systems; (2) strengthen capacity of Central America's private sector to apply cleaner production principles; and (3) support regional dissemination of demonstration project success stories. The result of this activity is increased use of less polluting technologies in Central America. Funded by USAID/G-CAP and implemented by Environmental Protection Agency. | Environmental Trade & Standards | 130,000 |
| Quality Coffee Program | The activity supports (1) identifying the quality requirements of high quality coffee buyers and roasters and disseminating these to producers (2) identifying specific geographic areas with potential for quality coffee production (3) promoting longer-term buyer-seller arrangements for high quality coffees (4) constructing, adjusting or modifying environmentally appropriate demonstration wet mills and coffee drying patios (5) establishing small coffee cupping labs (6) forming alliances between producers, wet mills, and roasters for improved and consistent quality (7) expanding certification programs (8) developing a system to help farmers verify their production systems through satellite imagery of GPS demarcated fields, linking those farmers via the Internet with foreign consumers, and promoting joint ventures between farmer groups, exporters and specialty coffee companies (9) developing private labels and gaining more direct access to consumers and (10) providing technical assistance to capture product-oriented value by marketing processed or transformed coffee. Funded and implemented by USAID/G-CAP. | Export Promotion | 800,000 |
| | | Business Services & Training | 600,000 |
| | | Trade-Related Agriculture | 600,000 |
| | | Activity Total | 2,000,000 |

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| Rainforest Alliance for Sustainable Economic Growth | The Rainforest Alliance (RA) and its private sector partners in the Certified Sustainable Products Alliance (the "Alliance") will promote and scale-up the sales of certified green products in the timber, banana and coffee sectors and provide a stream of economic, social and conservation benefits to producers, workers and their families in Latin America. During the project period, over 800,000 acres of forest and farmland will be certified as sustainably managed. Over 20 million board feet of certified timber, 90 million boxes of certified bananas, and 13,000 metric tons of sustainable coffee will be sold through valuable sourcing contracts provided to local operations. The value of certified wood products sold during the project will exceed \$7 million, and banana premiums will reach in excess of \$3 million. Communities and cooperatives will see increased income for their families through better access to markets and/or price premiums for their products. Funded and implemented by USAID/G-CAP. | Export Promotion | 500,000 |
| | | Environmental Trade & Standards | 500,000 |
| | | Activity Total | 1,000,000 |
| Reduction of Turtle By-catch in Long-line Fisheries in Central America | This project seeks to reduce mortality in leatherbacks, Eastern Pacific greens (<i>Ch. mydas agazissi</i>) and olive ridleys, from by-catch in the Pacific long-lines of Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Honduras Guatemala, and Colombia. This project will promote the replacement of J-hooks with circle hooks in the long-line fisheries of Colombia and Central-America and will train the fishing crews in turtle-releasing techniques. Funded and implemented by Department of State. | Environmental Trade & Standards | 150,000 |
| Regional Environmental Audits System | This activity provides training and technical information to Central America on development of audits and accreditation systems. The result is a regional harmonized system for environmental auditing, registration and compliance certification is developed. Funded by USAID/G-CAP and implemented by Environmental Protection Agency. | Environmental Trade & Standards | 80,000 |
| Support for Iberoamerican Network for Food Quality Safety | FDA presented lecture on identification of toxic chemicals in foods organized by Costa Rican Science and Technology Institute, at the Iberoamerican Network for Food Quality and Safety. Funded and implemented by Health & Human Services/FDA. | Agreement on SPS | 1,320 |
| The Conservation Coffee Alliance | Starbucks and Conservation International (CI), joined forces to establish the Conservation Coffee Alliance (CCA). The Alliance seeks to preserve the ecological, economic and social integrity of the world's quality coffee growing regions. The CCA draws on the expertise and influence of its private-sector member and the global reach and field and community-based experience of the nonprofit member to accomplish the following: (1) Promote farmer well being, conservation and the sustainable production of quality coffee (2) Increase the economic benefits farmers receive for their conservation and development efforts (3) Develop incentives for all actors in the coffee supply chain to actively support improving conservation and socio-economic conditions in coffee growing regions and (4) Provide consumers with an opportunity to contribute to conservation and poverty alleviation. Funded and implemented by USAID/G-CAP. | Export Promotion | 100,000 |
| | | Trade-Related Agriculture | 100,000 |
| | | Activity Total | 200,000 |
| Total FY04 USG Trade Capacity Building Assistance to Central America ns | | | 16,886,333 |