



MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORPORATION THRESHOLD PROGRAM

GOVERNANCE AND POLICY IN RWANDA

The United States Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) evaluated Rwanda on 17 different policy indicators that measure the country's promotion of political and economic freedom, investment in education and health, control of corruption, and respect for civil liberties and the rule of law. Rwanda's primary weaknesses are in the Ruling Justly category with low scores in political rights, civil liberties and voice and accountability.

RESPONSE

Working in collaboration, the U.S. Government and the Government of Rwanda have developed a Threshold Country Plan (TCP) for Rwanda which is designed to improve Rwanda's MCC Ruling Justly indicators, specifically political rights, civil liberties and voice and accountability. The plan, a three-year \$24.7 million program, will be implemented by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the U.S. Department of Justice, and the Government of Rwanda. The plan includes activities to strengthen the relationship between Rwanda's civil society and government through three components:

- Strengthen the judicial sector;
- Promote civil rights and liberties; and
- Strengthen civic participation.

STRENGTHEN THE JUDICIAL SECTOR

Rwanda underwent major constitutional and judicial reforms in the last decade. USAID support strengthens the judiciary through legislative reform and by building its institutional capacity, including developing legislative drafting expertise, enhancing legal education, and providing recommendations for reform of the country's legal framework.

PROMOTE CIVIL RIGHTS AND LIBERTIES

An independent media and high-performing police force will enable strong civil rights and liberties in Rwanda. USAID support is professionalizing the Rwandan media by building the capacity of journalists and media owners and providing technical support to media associations. To increase the transparency and accountability of Rwandan police, USAID support strengthens monitoring and investigation of police performance.

STRENGTHEN CIVIC PARTICIPATION

In order to improve civil liberties and promote good governance, the Government of Rwanda must improve its relationship with civil society organizations. Two new USAID projects are planned to increase civic participation at the local level and to build the capacity of Rwandan national civil society organizations.

MCC INDICATORS AT A GLANCE

Ruling Justly

• Political Rights:	Failing
• Civil Liberties:	Failing
• Control of Corruption:	Passing
• Government Effectiveness:	Passing
• Rule of Law:	Passing
• Voice and Accountability:	Failing

Investing in People

• Immunization Rates:	Passing
• Health Expenditures:	Passing
• Primary Education Expenditures:	Passing
• Girls' Primary Education Completion:	Failing
• Natural Resource Management:	Failing

Economic Freedom

• Regulatory Quality:	Passing
• Land Rights and Access:	Failing
• Business Start Up:	Failing
• Inflation:	Passing
• Trade Policy:	Passing
• Fiscal Policy:	Passing