

CONFLICT STABILIZATION OPERATIONS

Proposed Appropriation Language

[CIVILIAN STABILIZATION INITIATIVE] CONFLICT STABILIZATION OPERATIONS

For necessary expenses to support, maintain, mobilize, and deploy a civilian response corps and for related reconstruction and stabilization assistance to prevent or respond to conflict or civil strife in foreign countries or regions, or to enable transition from such strife, \$92,200,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That funds made available under this heading may be made available to provide administrative expenses for the coordination of reconstruction and stabilization activities: Provided further, That the Secretary of State may transfer and merge funds made available under any other heading in Titles I, II, III and IV of this Act with funds made available under this heading to maintain and deploy a Civilian Response Corps and to provide reconstruction and stabilization assistance: Provided further, That the Secretary may appoint, compensate and remove Civilian Response Corps personnel without regard to Civil Service or classification laws.

CONFLICT STABILIZATION OPERATIONS

SEC. 7049. (a) Funds appropriated or made available under this or any other Act for reconstruction and stabilization assistance, including funds that are reprogrammed or transferred to be made available for such purposes, may be made available for such purposes, notwithstanding any other provision of law; Provided, That the administrative authorities of the Foreign Assistance Act may be utilized for assistance furnished with such funds: Provided further, That the President may furnish additional assistance by executing the authorities provided in sections 552(c) and 610 of the Foreign Assistance Act, notwithstanding the percentage and dollar limitations in such sections: Provided further, That funds allocated or reprogrammed for purposes of this section shall remain available until expended. (b) Section 618 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 is amended in subsection (b) by striking "and 2011" and inserting "2011, and 2012"

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CONFLICT STABILIZATION OPERATIONS

Resource Summary (\$ in thousands)

Appropriations	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 CR	FY 2012 Request
American Positions	218	218	301
Funds	80,000	120,000	92,200

Formerly known as Civilian Stabilization Initiative, this appropriation has been renamed Conflict Stabilization Operations. FY 2010 Actual reflects the rescission of \$40 million from unobligated balances, as enacted in the FAA Air Transportation Modernization and Safety Improvement Act (P.L. 111-226).

Program Description

Conflict Stabilization Operations (CSO) funding will support policy and operational solutions for crisis, conflict, and instability in priority countries of U.S. national security importance with a goal of ensuring longer-term peace. CSO will also support the Department of State's execution of conflict prevention and response activities abroad, as described in the Secretary of State's Quadrennial Diplomacy and Development Review (QDDR). Efforts will build upon the activities of the Office of the Coordinator for Reconstruction and Stabilization (S/CRS) and further support the response capabilities of the Civilian Response Corps (CRC) in accordance with the Reconstruction and Stabilization Civilian Management Act of 2008 (Title XVI of Public Law 110-447). CSO funding will be used to manage and institutionalize an effective U.S. Government civilian capacity to assess, plan, coordinate, and integrate a whole-of-government response in countries struggling with, or at risk from, conflict or civil strife; focus on the development of conflict prevention, mitigation, response policy and mechanisms; and train and exercise with U.S. military and international partners to ensure successful joint operations in conflict and crises situations. CSO will support and further strengthen the Active and Standby components of the interagency Civilian Response Corps.

Performance

The U.S. Government can better influence key transitional moments in fragile states if it can deploy civilians early enough in the cycle of Reconstruction and Stabilization (R&S) operations. Since this is a relatively new initiative, the Department is using this output measure to focus on whether it is getting civilians to critical spots in a timely manner. However, the average monthly number of deployed responders is a function of many factors some of which are outside the control of the Department. These external factors, such as the level of global political stability at any one point in time can have an enormous impact on the relationship between the target number of employees deployed per month and the actual number deployed.

CONFLICT STABILIZATION OPERATIONS

STRATEGIC GOAL: ACHIEVING PEACE AND SECURITY						
Strategic Priority	Conflict Prevention, Mitigation, and Response					
Indicator	Average number of civilian reconstruction and stabilization personnel deployed to conflict zones per month.					
FY 2007 Result	FY 2008 Result	FY 2009 Result	FY 2010 Result	FY 2010 Target	FY 2011 Target	FY 2012 Target
2.3 employees/month	2 employees/month	11.4 employees/mo [Baseline] New Indicator, No Rating	60 employees/month ◁▷ Improved But Not Met	70 employees/month	82 employees/month	107 employees/month
Steps to Improve	Deployments increased over fivefold from FY 2009 to FY 2010 and exceeded the Bureau target by the 4th quarter of FY 2010, but not the full year. The best way to demonstrate the value of this Conflict and Stabilization capacity is to engage in a major conflict prevention/response operation from the start. The Department has begun to do so in connection with the January 2011 referendum in Southern Sudan.					
Impact	Deployment capability of CSO is significant and unique and will take time to be fully realized and utilized, but it is growing. In the 4th quarter of FY 2010, Civilian Response Corps averaged about 81 monthly deployed responders. Important strides in the value and benefit of this capacity are evident in ongoing and growing deployments in Afghanistan (31), Sudan (28), Pakistan (7), and Kyrgyzstan (4).					
Methodology	Engagement Memorandum between the appropriate Regional Bureau Assistant Secretary and the Office of the Coordinator for Reconstruction and Stabilization that details the terms, conditions, and resource requirements of a particular deployment.					
Data Source and Quality	Field reports and reach-back information from deployed employees. In addition, CSO maintains a detailed database to capture information on deployments. Data Quality Assessment revealed no significant data limitations.					

Justification of Request

Conflict Stabilization Operations (CSO) supports U.S. national security objectives in priority countries to prevent violence, to stabilize the operating environment, and to help establish conditions necessary for longer-term peace. The FY 2012 request of \$92.2 million will support increased and proactive operations to prevent emerging violent conflict, as envisioned in the QDDR, as well as stabilization efforts in several critical countries in, or emerging from, conflict, with a range of conflict prevention, mitigation, planning and stabilization tools and activities. This broadened mandate and tempo requires the ability to support 100 or more deployed responders each month in support of key embassies. These missions are executed through the deployment of civilian experts and specially trained responders from the Civilian Response Corps under the authority of U.S. Chiefs of Mission. Response operations are supported in Washington by analysts, planners, and country and conflict specialists working to improve, design and support the U.S. effort. The training, analysis, and application of lessons learned that are supported by CSO will improve the effectiveness of conflict operations undertaken not just by the CRC, but also by all State officers working in conflict zones. To ensure better operations with U.S. military and key international partners, such as the United Kingdom, the European Union, and the African Union, CSO will support joint training, exercises and deployments, as well as engaging new partners to develop and expand their own civilian response capabilities.

CONFLICT STABILIZATION OPERATIONS

The FY 2012 budget request of \$92.2 million will provide the necessary resources to carry out these critical activities and mission requirements. By the end of the first quarter of FY 2011, the CRC was averaging over 80 deployed responders per month. Some of the more significant missions included an innovative stabilization effort to prevent the emergence of violent conflict in Southern Sudan leading up to, during, and following the referendum on independence; more than 25 responders supporting the civilian and military mission in Afghanistan; and stabilization activities in the conflict areas of Kyrgyzstan. At the same time, the CRC continues to respond to immediate, short fuse (within 24-48 hours) requests for assistance, such as support to the elections verification efforts in Haiti. The Department anticipates that demand for such conflict expertise and specialized prevention and response missions will increase in FY 2012. The FY 2012 request provides funding to support CSO's ongoing efforts to aid the transition in Juba following the January 2011 referendum.

The FY 2012 request of \$92.2 million consolidates all funding for CSO activities in the Department of State.

The following provides a detailed justification by CSO Program Activity:

Interagency Responders (Civilian Response Corps Active)

This program element supports the salaries, benefits, and support costs of 200 interagency CRC Active component members in the Department of State and six other participating agencies (the U.S. Agency for International Development and the Departments of Justice, Agriculture, Commerce, Homeland Security, and Health and Human Services). Because the Standby component is comprised of current Federal employees who volunteer to deploy when needed, there is no cost for the Standby component until deployed. Funding for the cost of Standby members when activated for a deployment is included under Deployments.

Operations Support

These funds will provide for direct management and operational support of the CRC, including mission support, training management, personnel management, and other functions necessary to effectively recruit and oversee the Civilian Response Corps and any additional expert roster.

Training of the CRC Active and Standby Components

This program element will provide for conflict and stabilization training which is essential for improving the effectiveness of U.S. national security missions. This includes a core of specialized training for the Civilian Response Corps to ensure they have the latest and best competencies for working in dangerous or austere environments to effectively address conflict and instability. The funding also includes \$500,000 for the development of new targeted courses for CRC and U.S. personnel deploying to embassies in conflict zones in collaboration with the Foreign Service Institute and other training institutions. Funding under this program element will support the following number of students in each of the listed courses: 400/Foundations course, 100/Security in a Non-traditional Operating Environment (SNOE) course, and 100/Level I Planners. The request also includes \$250,000 to provide for participation in civilian-military and civilian-civilian planning exercises. Under the QDDR, CSO will focus on extending the training competencies inherent in the CRC to other personnel within the Department.

Deployments

Funding under this program element provides for all costs associated with deploying CRC and other civilian responders to support conflict and stabilization missions. The funding includes the costs of travel, per diem, in-country support, air or surface transportation of equipment, bandwidth for satellite communications, subsistence, and other costs associated with an engagement. When deployed, the salaries and benefits of CRC Standby component members are supported within deployment funding. As previously noted, there is no cost to CSO for the Standby component unless and until deployed.

CONFLICT STABILIZATION OPERATIONS

Equipment

CSO will replace the most critical equipment that has been consumed or rendered unserviceable during deployments including replacement of shelf-life sensitive items in individual deployment “go bags,” e.g., batteries, light sticks, medical supplies. Funding for this program element will also permit selective technology upgrades as equipment is replaced. The request does not include the purchase of any new equipment or additional vehicles.

Civilian Deployment Center

The Civilian Deployment Center (CDC) is a dedicated facility and operation that supports both small and large scale deployment operations, including medical screening and evaluation, pre-deployment orientation and training, equipment issuance, travel order processing and ticketing, visa and passport processing, and other activities necessary to ready a team for deployment. In FY 2011, the CDC will be relocated from a USAID facility in Landsdowne, VA, to a more cost effective and operationally efficient office and warehouse facility in Springfield, VA.

Headquarters Policy and Planning

This program element will provide funds for the Washington-based leadership and organizational functions necessary to ensure operations and efforts in the field including staff engaged in conflict prevention, assessment and planning, doctrine and lessons learned; operations support; resource management; strategic communications; and innovative technology and communications solutions. Funding will support the salaries and expenses of 72 government employees and the cost of 64 contractors, as well as all other administrative overhead expenses (rents, utilities, network support, travel, printing, and internal supplies and equipment).

Summary of Positions

	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 CR	FY 2012 Request
Headquarters and Operational Support	101	101	101
CRC – Active	117	117	200
<i>American Positions Program Total</i>	<i>218</i>	<i>218</i>	<i>301</i>
CRC – Standby	1,000	1,051	2,000
CRC – Reserves	0	0	0

Staffing numbers for FY 2012 include members of the CRC-A which had previously been funded with CSO money appropriated to USAID.

CONFLICT STABILIZATION OPERATIONS

Funds by Program Activity (\$ in thousands)

	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 CR	FY 2012 Request
Interagency Responders (Civilian Response Corps - Active)	22,339	16,000	31,900
Operations Support	8,427	13,020	7,700
Civilian Deployment Center	0	0	600
Deployments	12,344	34,660	15,500
Equipment	1,050	25,000	1,000
CSO Headquarters Policy and Planning	27,226	26,100	25,900
Training of the CRC Active and Standby Components	8,614	5,220	9,600
Total	80,000	120,000	92,200

Funds by Object Class (\$ in thousands)

	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 CR	FY 2012 Request
1100 Personnel Compensation	21,163	22,759	30,471
1200 Personnel Benefits	12,024	17,709	16,834
2100 Travel & Trans of Persons	6,423	4,570	2,923
2300 Rents, Comm & Utilities	3,843	3,843	3,843
2400 Printing & Reproduction	75	75	75
2500 Other Services	34,821	45,694	36,704
2600 Supplies and Materials	300	250	250
3100 Personal Property	1,351	25,100	1,100
Total	80,000	120,000	92,200