

# EAST WEST CENTER

## *Resource Summary*

(\$ in thousands)

<b>Appropriations</b>	<b>FY 2010 Actual</b>	<b>FY 2011 CR</b>	<b>FY 2012 Request</b>
Funds	23,000	23,000	10,830

### *Program Description*

Recognizing that Asians knew little about America and vice versa, the U.S. Congress established the Center for Cultural and Technical Interchange between East and West (East-West Center, EWC) in 1960 "to promote U.S. – Asia Pacific understanding and relations through cooperative research study and exchange."

Since then, more than 55,000 individuals have participated in the Center's activities and today can be found in many sectors and at all levels throughout the region. At the highest political levels, for example, the current Prime Ministers of India and Malaysia were EWC program participants early in their careers, as were most of the leaders of Pacific Island nations. The sitting U.S. President is the son and stepson of former EWC scholarship grantees. Members of the Center's governing board have included a U.S. Speaker of the House, several U.S. Senators, the Prime Minister of Korea, the President of Fiji, and finance ministers of Malaysia and Korea, among others.

In addition, the EWC has a worldwide network of more than 750 government, academic, business and not-for-profit partner organizations which collaborate on education, research and exchange programs. By drawing on these extensive individual and institutional ties, the Center is uniquely placed to work effectively on the region's leading issues.

### **Research Program**

The EWC Research Program provides rigorous and critical analysis of key regional issues of common concern to the Asia Pacific region and the U.S. with a focus on analysis that will be useful in informing policy decisions. It is a source of regional expertise in support of all the Center's programs and activities. Collaborative research promotes better relations and understanding among the nations of the region and the U.S. and contributes to both capacity and institution building. The Research Program is organized into four broad study areas: politics, governance and security; economics; environmental change, vulnerability and governance; and population and health. Themes explored by resident and visiting fellows change depending on research and policy needs.

Relying on its compact research staff, the Research Program effectively leverages appropriated funds with grant-seeking and cost-sharing efforts aimed at expanding resources for performing the public mission through contributions from private foundations, competitive U.S. Government sources, foreign governments and institutions, regional organizations and the private sector. Examples of funding partners include the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the National Atmospheric and Oceanic Administration, the National Aeronautical and Space Administration, the MacArthur Foundation, the Open Society Institute, the UN Democracy Fund, the UN Program on AIDS, the Government of Hong Kong, the Korea Energy Economics Institute, and USAID.

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## **East-West Center in Washington**

The EWC in Washington supports the Center's overall mission through direct work with U.S. policymakers and influential leaders in the nation's capital. Seminar and outreach events bring together practitioners, scholars, and analysts to address a range of issues shaping U.S.-Asia relations and facilitate multinational and collaborative perspectives. Direct interaction with U.S. policymakers brings the research, education and seminar activities of the Center to their attention. Current research activities address key U.S. national interests by focusing on opportunities for relations with key states in the Asia Pacific and the changing regional strategic environment. Visiting fellows from the U.S. and Asia further enhance seminar events and research activities. An important contribution has been the "Asia Matters to America" project demonstrating how Asia Pacific countries matter to U.S. states and congressional districts across trade, employment, immigration, and foreign students. The U.S. Asia Pacific Council promotes active U.S. participation in the leading academic and business networks in the Asia Pacific region and provides a key support base for the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) processes.

## **Pacific Islands Development Program**

The Pacific Islands Development Program (PIDP) is an enduring partnership between the EWC and twenty-two island governments. It is the only program of its kind based in the U.S., bringing together heads of government from an area that spans one-third of the globe. Over the past thirty years, meetings of the Pacific Islands Conference of Leaders (PICL) have included not only the prime ministers and presidents of the independent island nation states, but also American governors from Hawaii, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa. Two PICL meetings (1990 and 2003) have included participation by the President of the United States. PIDP policy research contributes to the substance of these meetings on themes that range from promoting trade and investment with the U.S. to enhancing collective security. In addition to its policy-relevant research findings, the program publishes *Pacific Islands Report*, a daily web-based aggregation of news stories about the region that is regularly accessed by over 2,000 readers. The EWC is widely recognized within the Pacific Island region as the leading U.S. academic institution with island interests.

## **Education Program**

The Center offers educational opportunities for future leaders in the Asia Pacific region and the U.S. in an era of increased social, economic and technological interdependence. Graduate degree scholarships and certificate programs prepare students and professionals to address the challenges and complexities of the world's most dynamic region. Undergraduate degree scholarships build and strengthen the base of future leaders in East Timor and the South Pacific. In FY 2009, 540 students from multiple countries across the Asia Pacific region and U.S., as well as Canada, Latin America, Central Asia, Europe, Africa and the Middle East, took part in EWC education programs. Center student programs have clear public diplomacy content and are group-oriented in contrast to individual scholarship programs (such as Fulbright).

The Education Program also offers professional development programs for educators to strengthen the capacity of individuals and institutions to cultivate in their students an appreciation and understanding of the histories, cultures, and contemporary issues of the Asia Pacific. An international forum on education explores new educational paradigms for the Asia Pacific region that address the needs of an increasingly interdependent world.

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## **Seminar Programs**

Seminar programs provide short-term educational experiences for policymakers, professionals and scholars from Asia, the Pacific, and the U.S. to seek greater understanding of the issues and challenges facing the region. The EWC provides a meeting place where professionals, specialists and emerging leaders can discuss regional issues and build relationships with their counterparts. By facilitating peer-to-peer engagement in a collegial setting, the Center is a catalyst for regional cooperation. The Center has expanded its journalist programs substantially, including recent additions of a program involving U.S. journalists and journalists from Asian Muslim nations, a North Pacific program (journalists from U.S., Japan, China, and Korea), and a biannual Asia Pacific Journalist Conference of more than 200 professional journalists.

Seminar programs have several features that are unique for the Asia Pacific region. Asians and Americans study issues together, thereby learning from each other and developing relationships that continue to benefit understanding on both sides for many years. A large network of partner organizations and EWC alumni have extraordinary access to government and non-government contacts, enabling the programs to arrange study tours in which participants meet with the key decision makers on an exceptional range of current issues. The programs also draw on the expertise of the Center's own research staff. The Center's reputation as an independent organization is also very important to participants – especially journalists – many of whom make clear that their employers would not permit them to participate in programs directly sponsored by the U.S. Government.

## **External Affairs**

The External Affairs Office is broadly responsible for the Center's outreach effort. The Center has a vigorous national and regional outreach program to support its effort to become one of the leading catalysts for Asia Pacific community building. Activities include organizing public programs on freedom of the press and the importance of responsible media in the development of democracies; government, legislative and diplomatic relations; official visitor programming and briefings; arts programming; and an alumni office. Many alumni remain committed to the Center's mission and are now in leadership positions in government, business and education. The international alumni conferences occur every two years, with more than 500 alumni coming to each of the past two meetings in Vietnam (2006) and Indonesia (2008) and 800 alumni for the Honolulu (2010) event.

## **Program Direction, Administration and Overall Mission Support**

Under this heading are grouped the activities and functions of the Board of Governors; the International Advisory Panel, which provides external guidance and evaluation of Center programs; the Office of the President, which provides the overall planning, coordination, and direction of the Center's programs, including fund-raising; and the Office of Administration, which provides personnel, fiscal, budget, computer systems and facilities management services for the Center.

## ***Justification of Request***

The FY 2012 request of \$10.8 million funds the East-West Center. The FY 2012 request reflects a net decrease of \$12.2 million from the FY 2010 Actual level.

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In FY 2012, the EWC will continue to address the U.S. public purposes for which it was established and leverage support from the private sector and foundations. At this budgetary level, the Center projects that it will engage 2,300 participants in its activities in FY 2012 and generate \$7 million from other sources.

### *Funds by Program Activity*

(\$ in thousands)

	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 CR	FY 2012 Request
Public Diplomacy	23,000	23,000	10,830
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,000</b>	<b>23,000</b>	<b>10,830</b>

### *Funds by Object Class*

(\$ in thousands)

	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 CR	FY 2012 Request
4100 Grants, Subsidies & Contrb	23,000	23,000	10,830
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,000</b>	<b>23,000</b>	<b>10,830</b>