

Bridging the Gap

between relief and development

Office of Transition Initiatives (\$56 million recommended)

The Office of Transition Initiatives (OTI) at USAID helps bridge the gap between emergency aid and long-term development through quick-impact political and economic reconstruction programs. It provides fast, flexible, short-term assistance to support political transitions and address stabilization needs.

Justification: This office normally looks for matching funds from USAID regional bureaus and local USAID missions to support portions of their work. One of the regions where their activities are most needed—Africa—is also the region where USAID regional bureaus and local USAID missions have the least funding available to support matching arrangements. Funding this office at the level requested by the president would allow for more effective programs in Africa and in countries like Haiti, where OTI has played a significant role in providing assistance to Haiti's government following the January 2010 earthquake. OTI's role in Haiti has continued this year, helping with cholera response and prevention activities, and will likely extend through 2012.

