

COMPLEX CRISES FUND

MINIMUM REQUIREMENT FY 2021

\$30.6 MILLION

FY 2020 President's Request: N/A

FY 2020 Enacted: \$30 Million

WHAT IS COMPLEX CRISES FUND PROGRAMMING?

The Complex Crises Fund (CCF) is used to prevent and respond to emerging or unforeseen crises with projects that address the root causes of conflict and instability. The CCF is used in countries or regions that demonstrate a high or escalating risk of conflict and instability or in fragile democracies with unanticipated opportunity for progress. The CCF provides flexible funding that enables the United States to act outside of planned programming.

WHAT DOES IT BUY?

The CCF enables timely investments to catalyze peace and mitigate potential conflict.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

- ▶ The CCF mitigates crises quickly where and when the need is greatest, reducing the need for costly military responses. For example:
 - ▶ The CCF helped prevent pre-election violence in Kenya, consolidate unanticipated democratic gains in Sri Lanka, and support human rights monitors in Burundi. It has also supported critical programs in Tunisia, Mali, Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, and the Caucasus.
 - ▶ The CCF was used to prevent and de-escalate tensions in Jordan between Jordanians and Syrians after the outbreak of the conflict in Syria in 2011, supporting better, more peaceful resource management between the two groups. The program helped 135 communities find nonviolent solutions to community issues.
 - ▶ A review of a CCF program in the Central African Republic found that “the social situation would have been much graver and peace would have been sorely tested had it not been for this intervention.” The review documented cases of fighters voluntarily disarming after participating in the program.
 - ▶ Violence following Guinea's first democratic elections was an increasingly severe threat to national security in the country. A CCF program promoted conflict resolution and social cohesion. This funding helped prevent violent events and global health threats from evolving, saving numerous lives.

WHY SHOULD AMERICANS CARE?

- ▶ The CCF consolidates security gains and protects progress in development and diplomacy. By reducing and preventing community violence, the CCF minimizes risk to U.S. development investments, including education, health, and food security.
- ▶ Investing in stability and diplomacy abroad strengthens U.S. national security and prevents future military or humanitarian interventions.



WHAT MORE COULD BE DONE?

- ▶ Additional investment could allow the U.S. to take a regional approach to mitigating conflict. Crises seldom remain within borders, and CCF programs would have more impact if implemented regionally.
- ▶ The CCF should be funded at \$60 million in FY 2021 to meet the global need around evolving armed conflicts. Since its inception, the CCF has been used to address conflicts in 19 countries. However, in 2018, 34 countries experienced armed conflict within their borders. In 2017 alone, nearly 70,000 people were killed in armed conflict. Many of these conflicts involved external actors, such as Russia and China. With a \$20 million increase, the CCF could be used in an additional two to five countries.
- ▶ As of 2018, the OECD considers 15 countries “extremely fragile,” and lists 43 additional contexts as “fragile.” Each of these contexts is susceptible to unforeseen shocks or crises. While the U.S. government is already involved in many of them, additional investment in the CCF would enable a whole-of-government approach to reducing global fragility.

6 YEAR FUNDING HISTORY

(In millions)

