



Coordinator for
Reconstruction &
Stabilization



CIVILIAN
RESPONSE
CORPS

The Civilian Response Corps

Addressing conflict through expeditionary diplomacy

The Civilian Response Corps is comprised of civilian federal employees who are trained and equipped to deploy rapidly to countries in crisis or emerging from conflict, in order to provide reconstruction and stabilization assistance.

The Reconstruction and Stabilization Civilian Management Act of 2008 was passed in October 2008 with broad bipartisan support. This important law charges the Department of State with leading the effort to: (1) significantly improve the ability of the United States to respond to conflict, and (2) create a civilian force that is ready and capable of assisting countries in the transition from conflict and instability.

As an interagency capability, the Civilian Response Corps strengthens our ability to conduct integrated whole-of-government operations to advance America's interests by helping states avoid or recover from conflict.

Composition

Who

Civilian Response Corps members are diplomats, development specialists, public health officials, law enforcement and corrections officers, engineers, economists, lawyers, public administrators, agronomists and others who offer the full range of skills needed to help fragile states restore stability and the rule of law, and achieve economic recovery and sustainable growth as quickly as possible.

Because no single government entity has all of the relevant expertise, the Civilian Response Corps is a partnership of nine departments and agencies: Department of State, the U.S. Agency for International Development, and the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Energy, Health and Human Services, Homeland Security, Justice, and Transportation.

Components

The Civilian Response Corps currently has two components:

- ▶ An Active Component made up of full time federal employees across the participating departments and agencies. These "first responders" are experts who can deploy to a crisis with as little as 48 hours notice.



- ▶ A Standby Component from same departments and agencies. These are current federal employees, as well as retirees of the Foreign Service, who volunteer to undertake additional training and to be available to serve in stabilization missions in case of need. Standby Members are deployable within 30 days for up to 180 days.

Funding

Past and Present

Total funding appropriated for the Office of the Coordinator for Reconstruction and Stabilization and the Civilian Response Corps between 2008 and 2010 was \$210 million.

Achievements to Date

The Civilian Response Corps has deployed members to countries around the world, including the Democratic Republic of Congo, Bangladesh, Sudan, Chad, Haiti, Lebanon, Kosovo, Iraq, and Afghanistan, among others to assist with conflict prevention, mitigation and stabilization.