



Essential Services

Civilian Response Corps Capabilities

Essential Services expertise is a vital part of the Civilian Response Corps’s reconstruction and stabilization efforts abroad. In conflict environments, a government’s capacity to provide for its citizens can deteriorate leaving them to face numerous challenges, including chronic, non-communicable diseases; neglected tropical diseases; maternal and child mortality; malnutrition; sanitation and access to clean water and electricity; and availability of basic health-care services and education. These problems affect U.S. national interests through their influence on economies, governments, and militaries. In response, the Corps leverages its technical expertise in essential services in order to address lack of services within a country. Essential Services experts and their colleagues in the Corps share a common base of assessment, analysis, planning, and program design skills which ensures that best practices are integrated into the larger stabilization effort.

What Corps Members Offer

The Corps’s Essential Services experts can help U.S. Embassies, Combatant Commands, and others create stable and secure environments in fragile and post-conflict host nations by:

- ▶ Providing recommendations on infrastructure development;
- ▶ Monitoring the public health status of local communities to identify possible health problems or hazards;
- ▶ Developing policy and regulations that address and support local efforts to provide basic needs;
- ▶ Recommending how to deliver clean water, electricity, sanitation, communication, and other basic services to the local community;
- ▶ Conducting sector-specific situational analysis—assessing public and private sector capacity to deliver essential services, infrastructure status, and community perceptions of needs and quality of services;
- ▶ Analyzing long and short-term options, lines of action, and constraints to achieving mission objectives;
- ▶ Assessing the capacity of national organizations to absorb transition and development assistance and maintain critical systems; and
- ▶ Developing approaches to measuring effectiveness of actions to achieve mission objectives.

A Wide Breadth of Capabilities

The Corps’s Essential Services experts reside in several different federal agencies, but especially the Departments of State, Agriculture, Health and Human Services, Homeland Security, Energy, and Commerce and the U. S. Agency for International Development, each with a wide array of technical expertise including:

- ▶ Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Recovery
- ▶ Education
- ▶ Energy
- ▶ Engineering
- ▶ Environment & Science
- ▶ Food Security
- ▶ Human Services
- ▶ Humanitarian Aid
- ▶ Labor
- ▶ Public Health/Medical Systems
- ▶ Rural/Urban Planning
- ▶ Water & Sanitation

Language and Regional Expertise

Languages: Albanian, Arabic, Armenian, Bahasa Indonesian, Bengali, Bosnian, Creole, Croatian, Czech, Dari, Esan, Estonian, Farsi, French, Hausa, Hebrew, Hindi, Hungarian, Kiswahili, Lao, Malay-Indonesian, Mandarin, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Serbo-Croatian, Spanish, Swahili, Swedish, Tamil, Thai, Turkish, Urdu, Uzbek, Vietnamese

Regional Experience: Experts in all regions including Africa, East Asia & Pacific, Europe & Eurasia, Near East Asia, South & Central Asia, and the Western Hemisphere

Significant Essential Services Engagements

Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)

In January, the Corps deployed to the DRC to assess the problem of sexual and gender-based violence in the country. The team deployed at the request of the U.S. Embassy in Kinshasa to assess a wide variety of topics including security sector reform (SSR) and illegal mineral exploitation.

Pakistan

The Corps currently has two members deployed to Pakistan as part of an eight-person team. They are Electrical and Civil Engineers from the U.S. Agency for International Development focusing on development