

## Impact of FY07 Activities

### Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Program (TSCTP)

The TSCTP fills essential gaps in the partner governments' abilities to deny popular support for extremists and terrorist recruiters and deny sanctuary to terrorist operations by targeting at-risk populations and regions with select development and educational programs in order to contribute to the establishment of conditions that counter ideological support for terrorism. USAID is increasingly targeting isolated or neglected regions of Mauritania, Mali, Niger, Chad, and Nigeria, and further, is targeting groups most vulnerable to extremist ideologies and violence by working to support youth employment, strengthen local governance capacity to provide development infrastructure, and improve the health and educational services. USAID is also strengthening the responsiveness and capacity of the state in isolated regions, USAID will reduce areas of sanctuary because incentives to support extremism will shrink, deny financial resources because the ability of extremists to take advantage of unregulated trade will be reduced, and deny access to recruits vulnerable to extremist rhetoric because youth will increasingly conclude that support for terrorism is contrary to their interests.

#### Results to date in Niger

- support youth employment and advocacy

In Maradi 48 youth informal associations (fadas) have received training on topics related to public service such as the democratic process and duties of a citizen or civil society organization 101, to public health HIV/AIDS to income generation through micro credit. This training was done by youth (Peer Educators) who themselves were trained in this program. The target is to provide training to 5000 fada members.

A total of 5,698 madrasa students have received a newly created "Islam and Peace" training with lessons on solidarity, forgiveness and reconciliation.

In Agadez 344 Peer Educators were trained in a six module curriculum of life skills as first step in achieving a target of training 20,000 youth association members.

- strengthen local governance capacity

Commune officials in 13 communes in three provinces, Agadez, Tahoua and Maradi, have received preliminary orientation along with all civil society groups in those communes on decentralization and community planning. This is the first step in promoting at least 100 community based projects in isolated regions of Niger.

#### Results to date in Chad:

- A needs assessment undertaken in conjunction with the Islamic Education, Scientific and Cultural Association (ISESCO) was completed. This was done in the a dozen target communities in the Kanem region. Next step would be governance and management 101 training for local leaders in those communities in conjunction with issuance of community development projects.

### **East Africa Regional Strategic Initiative (EARSi)**

Modeled after the TSCTP, the EARSi is an interagency and inter-country program to: undermine, marginalize, and isolate terrorists; discredit their violent ideology; and empower groups opposed to extremism through threat identification and joint collaboration strategies, policy recommendations and actionable initiatives. This is being achieved through the use of targeted development, military, counterterrorism and strategic communications assistance. In FY 2009 the interagency has requested \$27.177 million. This represents \$10 million in PKO, \$10 million for soft-side counterterrorism programming in ESF and \$7.177 million for NADR (Anti-Terrorism Assistance (ATA) Counterterrorism Finance (CTF), and TIP/PISCES).

In support of the East Africa Regional Initiative (EARSi), USAID is working to combat extremism and the conditions that foster terrorism by diminishing the underlying factors. USAID implements programs on both a country-specific and cross-border basis that aim to reduce the potential for conflicts, increase political inclusion, discourage corruption, and encourage more equitable access to economic and social resources. USAID counterterrorism programming takes place in Djibouti, Yemen, Ethiopia, Uganda, Kenya, and Tanzania.

At present, USAID's program in Somalia aims to mitigate the underlying threats and conditions that encourage extremism, instability and terrorism (EIT). Programming is guided by recent thinking that was initiated in a USAID draft report prepared in February 2006, 'Understanding and Responding to Extremism, Instability, and Terrorism (EIT) in Yemen, East Africa, and the Horn of Africa'. The study reinforces the importance of the provision of social service programs to counter EIT, highlights radio as the most important medium for conveying information, ideally suited for educational purposes and the encouragement of tolerance and also promotes reconciliation and peace building programs. USAID helps reduce despair by improving access to essential services, including education, for vulnerable persons that might otherwise be taken advantage of by extremist organizations. Further, by empowering moderate Islamic groups and other civil society actors to actively participate in the social, political and economic decision-making, they will be less vulnerable to extremist influences.

In support of the 3-D's (defense, diplomacy and development) in the Horn of Africa, USAID, the State Department, and the Combined Joint Task Force for Horn of Africa (CJTF-HOA) are collaborating on a number of counter-extremism projects. These projects are based on a USAID-funded assessment that examined the causes of extremism and identified the most unstable areas in the region. The projects merge CJTF-HOA's comparative advantage in building or rehabilitating infrastructure such as schools, clinics and wells (hardware), with USAID's comparative advantage in providing educational and medical training and resources, developing instructional materials, and building institutional capacity (software).

As an illustration, USAID's East Africa Mission (USAID/EA) based in Nairobi, teamed with CJTF-HOA to rehabilitate ten (10) clinics and hospitals in the urban and district capitals of Djibouti. CJTF-HOA carried out the physical rehabilitation and USAID provided health care training to local health care providers. This integrated programming is facilitated by improved interagency communication. Examples of this integration include CJTF-HOA staff regularly participating in USAID project planning meetings and USAID representatives accompanying Civil Affairs Teams (CATs) in their planning and programming activities.

In Kenya, USAID, State and CJTF-HOA are working together with the Ministry of Water to provide more water to populations at risk. So far, CJTF-HOA has completed a hydro-survey in one location in northeast Kenya and are hoping to expand their operations.

In Tanzania, USAID is bringing access to education to disadvantaged, largely Muslim, youth and pre-schoolers through teacher training, instructional materials development, and community participation in opening and managing schools. Thirty-four new "madrasas," or community-based pre-primary schools, were established, 351 community members now participate in School Management Committees, and 2040 mostly disadvantaged children between the ages of 4-7 were able to attend pre-school.