Conflict Pool Annual Report
2009/2010

DFID Department for International Development

Foreign & Commonwealth Office

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Conflict Pool Annual Report 2009/2010

Annual Report

Cover photo: Consultation with users on the impact of Conflict Pool funded boreholes in Sudan, where tensions over water provision can lead to conflict.

DFID Department for International Development

Foreign & Commonwealth Office

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Contents

CONTENTS

Introduction

The Conflict Pool seeks to reduce the impact of conflict and instability around the world. The UK is committed to preventing, managing and resolving conflict, and building peace and stability in the priority regions where the risk and impact of conflict is greatest.

The Conflict Pool was established on 1 April 2009 through the merger of the former Conflict Prevention Pool and the Stabilisation Aid Fund.

The Conflict Pool is managed jointly by the Department for International Development (DFID), the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) and the Ministry of Defence (MOD). It is valued as a means of coordinating the discretionary conflict work of the three departments by joining up UK expertise in development, diplomacy and defence. The Conflict Pool has encouraged the three departments to conduct joint conflict analyses, establish shared priorities and strategies, and implement joint programmes on the ground.

In 2009/10, the Conflict Pool had a budget of £171 million, which funded conflict prevention activity through five programmes, four regional and one thematic:

- Africa
- Middle East
- South Asia
- Wider Europe
- Strategic Support to International Organisations.

Each programme is based on a tri-departmentally agreed analysis and strategy, which guide the approach and funding decisions.

This report sets out some of the work that has been funded by each programme. It highlights key achievements, and illustrates the number of local and international partners that we work with when dealing with conflict.

It shows the impact that a relatively small programme budget can have on delivering UK conflict prevention, stabilisation and discretionary peacekeeping objectives, and the flexibility and speed with which the UK has been able to respond to emerging needs on the ground.

Chapter 1 identifies overarching conflict themes which serve as priorities in each of the programmes. Chapters 2 to 6 provide an assessment of progress against each of the five programmes. Chapter 7 presents a summary of 2009/10 expenditure, including the proportion of programme expenditure which can be reported as Official Development Assistance (ODA).

Chapter 1

Impact against conflict themes

District Governor's Shura ('consultation') to discuss the return of displaced villagers to Zorobad, Afghanistan.

Common Conflict Pool themes

In 2009/10, Conflict Pool programmes delivered across six key thematic areas: rule of law; justice; security sector; civil society; governance; and peacekeeping support. This section provides examples of Conflict Pool funded activities within each of these overarching themes.

Rule of law

A strong rule of law, enforced fairly by well managed and professional police, is a key building block for sustainable peace and stability. It is fundamental to preventing various 'risk factors', such as greed and grievance, from developing into violent conflict and to achieving a durable peace in the aftermath of conflict. Its presence reduces the likelihood of citizens taking the law into their own hands, and prevents the 'need' for non-state security forces and the spread of weapons to equip them.

- Support to *Non-Violence International* led to the signature of the first ever 'Cooperation Agreement' between the Interior Ministries of seven republics in the **Russian North Caucasus**, including Chechnya and Ingushetia. The agreement builds trust and respect between the police and the public, and supports inter-regional cooperation.

- The UK has supported the development of the **Afghan National Police** by posting officers to the NATO Training Mission and Combined Security Transition Command in Afghanistan (NTM-A/CSTC-A) and to the EU Police Mission in Afghanistan (EUPOL). UK officers were responsible for establishing the anti-corruption unit within the office of the Inspector General of Police. The unit provides training in countering corruption and adhering to professional standards, and has established six mobile anti-corruption teams. Through the Conflict Pool, UK police officers have also provided support to the Ministry of Interior in the development of a long-term National Police Strategy and a supporting National Police Plan.

Justice

Fair, accessible, and effective judicial institutions, and a strong and credible penal system, can reduce the risk of greed, grievance and exclusion escalating into violent conflict. States need effective judicial systems that are able to resolve conflicts and to respond to violations of the law. Without them, marginalized peoples will remain vulnerable to oppression and non-state dispute resolution mechanisms, including violent conflict, may become established.

- In October 2009, the run down prison in **Helmand, Afghanistan,** was replaced with the first wing of a new, purpose built facility. It currently houses up to 500 prisoners, in a more secure environment which meets international standards. The prison build is scheduled for completion in November 2010. A block for female prisoners has also been completed.

- Since May 2008, the UK has worked in **Helmand** with provincial and district government officials and community elders on the implementation of innovative initiatives aimed at supporting non-Taliban informal justice systems in the province. One notable success has been the Gereshk Justice Sub-Committee of the District Community Council, which has female members who deal with disputes affecting women such as forced marriage. This helps address the issue of access to justice for women, which is a major concern throughout Helmand.

- The **Helmand** Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) has supported the establishment of a Women and Children's Justice Group. The Independent Commission for Women and Children's Rights is now equipped to support local communities and justice institutions, and is Helmand's only paralegal institution run by women. The PRT continues to support the Director of Women's Affairs in running Justice Shuras for all of the justice officials in the Province to discuss the issues facing women.

- In **Bosnia and Herzegovina**, the Conflict Pool's support to the State Court and provision of a court prosecutor led to the conviction of genocide of a former Republika Srpska Army officer for his role in the execution of about 7,000 Bosniaks.

- In **Kosovo**, the Conflict Pool helped establish the Constitutional Court Secretariat and set up a functioning courthouse, enabling the Court to take forward key constitutional decisions affecting the future stability of Kosovo, such as a recent decision to protect minority rights.

Security sector

Security sector reform is critical to the consolidation of peace and stability and to preventing countries from relapsing into conflict. A democratically run, accountable, effective and efficient security sector helps to reduce the risk of conflict while at the same time enhancing the security of the citizens of the country. In addition, a well managed security sector ensures a vital precondition for development and so contributes to the reduction of poverty, which is often at the core of instability.

- The Conflict Pool is contributing to create the right conditions for a future deal on integration of Maoist rebels into the **Nepalese** security forces, a critical issue for the peace process.

- The Conflict Pool supported the release and rehabilitation of all remaining child soldiers in **Sri Lanka**.

- We supported the development of the **Afghan** National Security Strategy and National Security Policy. Conflict Pool funding was also used to support the creation and continuing operation of a Strategy and Policy Unit within the Office of the National Security Council.

- In **Afghanistan**, the Building Afghan National Security Force (ANSF) Capability programme combined English-language training in the key military academies, training programmes to improve the effectiveness of the MOD (including civilianising posts), and an extensive scholarship programme for top students on UK courses. The programme made a vital contribution towards the International Security Assistance Force's (ISAF) main strategic aim of building ANSF capability.

- In the **Great Lakes** region of Africa, 279,263 ex-combatants had been demobilised by the end of the seven year Multi-Country Demobilization and Reintegration Program (MDRP). The reinsertion and reintegration of ex-combatants into civilian society has been satisfactory, with a very low level of military re-enrolment.

- In **the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC),** a biometric census of Congolese soldiers resulted in the reduction of fraud and the regular payment of military salaries. Together with better discipline and living conditions for the Congolese soldiers, this will reduce the predatory and abusive behaviour by the solders against the local populations.

- In both **Lebanon** and the **Occupied Palestinian Territories**, the Conflict Pool has played a key role in developing a strategic approach to Security Sector Reform and in strengthening domestic security management.

Civil Society

A strong civil society includes non-governmental organizations; grassroots, community and religious groups; professional and labour organisations; and an effective media. It can hold governments to account and can play an important role in building citizens' trust in the state, by encouraging it to fulfil its responsibilities transparently. A strong civil society is a precondition for building sustainable peace and stability and trusted civil society organisations are often in a unique position to play a key role in conflict prevention, de-escalation, resolution, rehabilitation, and reconciliation

- In **Yemen**, Conflict Pool funding facilitated dialogue, leadership and conflict resolution training of community leaders and elders, aimed at reducing conflict between camp-based refugees and community groups. Conflict Pool funding also supported an assessment of the threat posed by the proliferation of small arms and light weapons and of government and community responses to armed violence and low level conflict. This assessment will inform the development of effective follow-up activity to reduce the use of small arms in low level conflict.

Governance

Good governance is a key building block for sustainable peace and stability. The existence of democratic, transparent, open and inclusive systems of governance and accountability significantly reduces the risk of grievance and exclusion leading to violence. Risks are often only transformed into causes of violent conflict when they are able to be exploited politically, and when a state's governance structures are not democratic, flexible, inclusive and resilient enough to respond to grievances or manage pressures.

- The Conflict Pool helped stimulate political will and public consensus for critical reform of governance arrangements in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas, along **Pakistan's border with Afghanistan**.

- Progress towards the building of democracy in **Iraq** has been made by strengthening the Council of Representatives to undertake effective oversight of the Executive, increasing transparency and accountability.

- Support for the process of legalising land rights for Palestinians in **East Jerusalem and the West Bank** has enabled a number of Palestinian land owners to return to cultivate their land, from which they had been cut off by illegal barriers, and protected a further 3,000 Palestinian homes in East Jerusalem from demolition.

- In **Serbia**, the Conflict Pool facilitated the registration and election processes for National Minority Councils. This included the first Albanian National Council, a significant step in improving relations between the Albanian minority and the Serbian Government.

Peacekeeping support

The UK's support of multilateral and national peacekeeping capabilities is crucial to conflict prevention worldwide. UK military forces can play an essential role in developing effective national and multilateral forces, preparing them to be deployed on peacekeeping operations. In promoting accountable and effective armed forces, operating within the law and under civil control, the UK can effectively build national and regional capacity whilst reducing the direct peacekeeping burden on the UK's own forces.

- The **East African Standby Force** (EASF) successfully held its first deployed Field Training Exercise for peacekeepers, marking a significant step on the way to achieving full operating capability by 2015.

- The Peace Mission Training Centre in **Pretoria** has supported the training of over 550 South African personnel in Peace Support Operations. Overall, the UK has trained around 14,000 African peacekeepers since 2001.

- Support to the Republic of **Sierra Leone** Armed Forces (RSLAF) enabled its first ever peacekeeping deployment on a UN mission (UNAMID). The RSLAF was also reduced to its target manning figure of 8,500, further transforming the sector from being a burden on the Government to an asset.

- Conflict Pool funding has supported the improvement of **UN** mechanisms for the prevention of mass atrocities by helping the Office of the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide (SAPG) enhance its tracking system to improve early warning. Throughout 2009/10, SAPG continued to develop its links for information sharing with UN missions in conflict-affected countries, including **Cote D'Ivoire and Central Africa**. With

Conflict Pool support, SAPG further developed its mechanism for monitoring inflammatory speech with a successful pilot completed in **Bosnia-Herzegovina**.

- Conflict Pool support has helped the **UN** improve the effectiveness and cost-efficiency of its peacekeeping operations globally through implementation of peacekeeping reforms in the UN Security Council, and practical work on developing the doctrine for coherent transition from peacekeeping to peacebuilding.

- Conflict Pool support has helped the **UN** improve its peacebuilding capacity in conflict-affected countries. It enabled its Department of Political Affairs to examine lessons learned from the setting up of integrated UN missions in **Sierra Leone, Guinea Bissau, the Central African Republic** and **Burundi**.

- The British Military Advisory and Training Team (BMATT(CZ)), based in the **Czech Republic**, is a key tool for enhancing the effectiveness of forces currently contributed by partner countries to UN-mandated peace support operations, and developing the capacity of the next generation of troop contributors. Over the past year BMATT(CZ) has provided pre-deployment training assistance to Czech, Romanian and Georgian units before they deployed as part of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan. It has also provided longer-term capacity-building assistance to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kazakhstan, Morocco, Serbia and Kosovo.

Chapter 2

Africa: Programme progress and case studies

African Union (AU) hearing at El Geneina, West Darfur.

Photo: Joel Frushone, DDDC (Darfur-Darfur Dialogue and Consultation) Communications Manager.

Africa programmme

The Africa programme's overall approach to conflict in Africa focuses on three broad objectives:

- To support the building of African conflict prevention, management, and peace support capacity, particularly at the continental and regional level.

- To assist with conflict prevention, management, peacebuilding and post-conflict reconstruction in a number of priority sub-regions and countries, and to address the underlying causes of conflict.

- To support initiatives in Africa for improving security sector reform, governance and demilitarisation.

African Union (AU)

The Africa programme has continued to work closely with the AU's Peace and Security Department at all levels to give strategic advice on the development of the AU's capabilities to prevent, manage and resolve conflicts in Africa. On prevention, the AU's Situation Room is now more active in providing early warning reports and informing decision making and policy by the AU Peace and Security Council. With UK support, the AU has also developed its political liaison offices at country level. These offices are engaged in political mediation in countries including the Democratic Republic of Congo and Burundi.

A number of crises have been resolved or contained due to early, AU-facilitated mediation at International Contact Group meetings (in Guinea, Madagascar, and Mauritania). Some notable achievements can be attributed directly to Conflict Pool funding, including AU mediation missions on Madagascar and Guinea.

Horn of Africa

The Africa programme has provided support to conflict prevention and to improve resilience to conflict in **Sudan**. This has included building capacity within the Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration (DDR) Commission[1]. In the Three Areas, Conflict Pool funding has also supported the enhancement of peacebuilding capacity, and has improved the supply of – and access to – water, including in some of the most remote areas. This is improving local resilience to conflict.

The Africa programme continued to provide sustainable support to the Joint Integrated Units (JIUs) in **Sudan**[2]. The number of JIU demining units has increased, and JIU troops actively employed in the digging of water bore holes have removed a source of local tension in some areas. The Security Sector Development and Defence Transformation programme is laying a solid foundation for the transformation of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) from a guerrilla force into professional armed forces. The Conflict Pool continues to fund the Chairman of the Assessment and Evaluation Commission, who has played an important role in helping move the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) parties towards a position where they are ready to negotiate post-2011 issues.

Conflict Pool engagement in **Somalia** has been difficult for a number of reasons, including the deteriorating security situation. The UK has no diplomatic presence and access is either limited (in Somaliland) or not allowed at all. Much Conflict Pool support for **South Central Somalia** has been focused on supporting a more coherent international approach. This has been achieved through UN secondments, seminars and workshops. The Africa programme has also provided support to the security sector through funding to the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), whose presence in **South Central Somalia** is vital in ensuring the Transitional Federal Government's survival. Activity in **Somaliland** was easier but the country's fragile democracy was tested by the postponement of its presidential elections to June 2010. To complement UK diplomatic activity, the Africa programme funded the creation of an elections dialogue and dispute resolution process. Initial signs have been positive: potential flashpoints have passed – in part attributable to the project.

The Africa programme's support for **Ethiopian** security sector reform and the development of Peacekeeping Support Operations (PSO) continued to deliver results, with the Ethiopians retaining local ownership. The Peacekeeping English Project, jointly funded with the Government of Ethiopia, started in 2008

---

[1] The DDR Commission is responsible for DDR strategic direction and policy in Southern Sudan, and international agencies involved with DDR engage with the Commission rather than the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA).
[2] Joint Integrated Units (JIUs) comprise troops from the Sudanese Armed Forces and the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) and form an important element of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement's (CPA) security arrangements.

and will be handed over gradually to the Ethiopian Ministry of National Defence by 2013. It addresses a UN-recognised weakness in levels of English within Ethiopian contingents for UN and AU operations. Over 700 students have so far been trained in seven centres in Ethiopia. The focus is now switching to establishing sustainability by qualifying teacher trainers and examination teams. As of March 2010, Ethiopia had 2,408 peacekeepers deployed on UN peacekeeping missions – ranking them eleventh in the world and fifth in Africa – and has offered to deploy more troops.

East and Central Africa

In **Kenya**, UK-sponsored reforms, as part of the international response in the wake of the post-election violence, are progressing well. An interim electoral body is in place and a new constitution will be voted upon in a referendum in August 2010. UK technical assistance to the police reform task force led to agreement on the process of reform and draft legislation. District Peace Committees, whilst yet to be tested on political violence, have, with UK support, prevented the escalation of pastoralist violence. The Africa programme continued to support the mediation efforts of Kofi Annan and his team. Kofi Annan has been a frequent visitor to Kenya in 2010/11, intervening and mediating at times of stress between the two sides of the coalition government.

With significant international financial and technical support, including from the Conflict Pool, the **East African Standby Force** – a component of the African Standby Force – held its first deployed Field Training Exercise in Djibouti in December 2009. Troops from ten nations participated in exercise AMANI CARANA, marking a significant step on the way to achieving full operating capability by 2015. Another area of success has been the development of a second rapid deployment capability after Kenya, this time in Uganda.

In the **Great Lakes** region, the Multi-Country Demobilization and Reintegration Program (MDRP) closed in June 2009 after seven years in operation. The MDRP was a unique experience in Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration (DDR). Compared to past demobilisation efforts, the MDRP provided several key advantages: coordination and unity among international actors; predictable funding; and a region wide approach. The multi-agency effort supported the demobilisation and reintegration of ex-combatants in seven countries of the greater Great Lakes. A total of 279,263 ex-combatants were demobilised.

The **DRC** based Democratic Forces for Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) and Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) pose a security problem for the country and the region. The Conflict Pool provided support to the UN peacekeeping mission in the Congo (MONUC), contracting additional expertise to work with the UN demobilisation and reintegration cell, and enhancing internal and external

communication capability. The capacity building programme for community radio has enabled the broadcast of specific radio programmes targeting the LRA three times a week. Ex-LRA soldiers coming out the bush confirmed that they listened to the programme. Through the Africa programme, the Conflict Pool provided assistance to the DRC Ministry of Defence and the DRC Army in the modernisation and reorganisation of their military by providing low level, high impact courses which assisted with the process of Defence reform.

The Africa programme is a key contributor to the EU advisory and assistance mission for security reform in **DRC** (EUSEC), which is supporting the reform of the DRC Army's procurement systems. The EUSEC Chain of Payments project ensures regular payments to the Forces Armées de la République Démocratique du Congo (FARDC) soldiers in the integrated brigades and thus reduces the predatory and abusive behaviour by the solders against local populations. It also separates the chain of payment from the chain of command, ensuring that fraudulent acquisition of salaries does not happen. The project has achieved a fivefold increase in military salaries as a direct result of this reduction in fraud.

West Africa

The Africa programme has contributed to continued improvements in coordination and accountability within the security sector in **Sierra Leone**. Support to a revitalised Anti-Corruption Commission, and to the coordination of maritime oversight mechanisms, are yielding economic benefits by improving the investment climate. Enhanced support to international security, in particular in counter-narcotics and intelligence, has resulted in high profile interceptions. Whilst affordability and sustainability remain key challenges, the reduction in size and scale of the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces (RSLAF) to 8,500 was a positive outcome. Support provided by the Conflict Pool also contributed to the RSLAF's first ever peacekeeping deployment on a UN mission (UNAMID).

Conflict Pool-funded efforts in **Liberia** have significantly contributed to the progress made in the creation of an enabling environment that will eventually allow the UN Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) to draw down without incident. Targeted income-generating support for ex-combatants has been hailed as both innovative and effective, and has now provided over 1,000 ex-combatants with sustainable alternative livelihoods away from key 'hot spots'. The Africa programme's work with the Liberia National Police, a key organisation for securing peace in the long term, is beginning to reap benefits through reductions in armed robberies and other crimes.

In **Nigeria**, Conflict Pool support was mobilized swiftly in support of the former President's Niger Delta Amnesty Initiative, and provided rapid technical assistance to the process of disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration of ex-combatants. Targeted support to reducing election violence in Anambra also proved successful. Support for the structural and intellectual development of the Armed Forces of Nigeria (AFN) is continuing, with a focus on increasing the levels of cooperation between the UK's and Nigerian militaries. The professionalisation of the AFN remains a key aim, met by a mixture of UK development courses and in-country training teams. The increased deployment of AFN elements on UN Peacekeeping Support Operations, and the potential deployment of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Standby Force for stabilisation activities means that this remains an important developmental area. Conflict Pool support also helped unblock the impasse between ECOWAS and the international community in articulating priorities within the ECOWAS conflict prevention framework. The decision to develop a mediation support unit will be a welcome additional response to the likely issues which upcoming elections will present.

Southern Africa

The Africa programme has helped to deliver the UK's strategy in support of a peaceful democratic transition in **Zimbabwe**. The programme focused on areas where the Conflict Pool has a comparative advantage to other UK Government funding, such as the ability to make quick, short-term interventions. Despite the challenging environment, the Africa programme in Zimbabwe has made a difference to people's lives, particularly in its work to provide avenues for democratic debate and support for those who have suffered human rights abuses. It has enabled a vibrant civil society to hold the Government of Zimbabwe to account; all the more important since February 2009 when the Movement for Democratic Change parties joined ZANU-PF in Government, leaving no formal opposition party. Civil society organisations have maintained pressure for a genuine democratic transition, provided support for reforming elements of the government, and provided a platform for Zimbabweans to protest at continued violations of the Global Political Agreement.

With Conflict Pool funding, British Peace Support Team support to the **South Africa** National Defence Force (SANDF) Peace Mission Training Centre in Pretoria has helped train over 450 SANDF personnel and 50 civilians in Peace Support Operations. Training in Zambia, Botswana and Malawi has also helped increase regional capacity.

Sponsored by the British Peace Support Team, the Military Health Resource Centre at the Military Hospital in Pretoria is now in operation. It provides the South African Military Health Service with a centre of excellence to improve medical care for communicable diseases, especially HIV/AIDS.

Sudan: Peacebuilding through water

When water is scarce the potential for community and ethnic tensions to flare into something more complex is very real.

In Sudan's Three Areas, community organisations are taking control of the water supply to reduce the risk of fighting over scarce resources.

The Africa Programme has funded a total of 43 water projects providing boreholes, tools, spare parts and training to help maintain them. But more importantly the projects help set up a local Water Committee which bring community members together to agree responsibilities for collecting levies and coordinate upkeep.

One such project provided a water pump to a village outside Agok, in the Abyei Area where water supply has been poor. Neighbouring community clashes over water were made worse by Agok's expansion after inter-ethnic fighting between Dinka and Misseriya residents in Abyei in May 2008, and the annual Misseriya migration through the region – with over six million cattle – en route to southern water and grazing areas.

In response to the immediate provision of a sustainable water supply and positive impact of community participation in peacebuilding activities, the UN and the Sudanese Government called for a comprehensive water supply programme in January 2010.

A local Dinka boy feeding one of his family's goats at the new borehole outside Agok.

Somalia: Military advice to the UN sees security sector reform moving in the right direction

Colonel Paul Kellett has been seconded to the post of Senior Military Adviser to the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General for Somalia since 31 May 2009. Funded by the Africa programme, his appointment has reinvigorated security sector developments in Somalia:

- The United States, EU, UN, AU, Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and the Transitional Federal Government all signed up to a joint security sector assessment study – when each initially planned to commission separate studies;
- The UN is now recognised as the lead organisation; and
- Somalia's Transitional Federal Government's own reforms are now moving forward with an overall structure for the state's own security forces under development.

Efforts are now focused on the placement of trained forces, with the practical activity now being undertaken by the African Union Mission for Somalia (AMISOM), the EU and the United States.

Colonel Paul Kellett at Al Jazeera Barracks, Mogadishu, with AMISOM troops and Transitional Federal Government security forces.

Liberia: Ex-combatants grow their own peace

"I am tired of fighting. I want to be able to be a peace maker, develop my community and be a respectful person in society."
Jasper – founder member of Help Fight Against Hunger in Liberia (HFAHL)

In Salala district, Liberia, the Landmine Action Tumutu Agricultural Training Programme (TATP) has taken an innovative approach to the reintegration of ex-combatants. Up to 400 ex-combatants join a four month residential programme, where they receive training in vocational agriculture, literacy and numeracy, and psychosocial counselling. Three courses have been run so far and over 1,050 trainees have graduated from the programme and re-joined their communities with specialist agricultural knowledge and peace building skills.

One group of students who attended the second course at TATP have gone on to form their own small agricultural collective - 'Help Fight Against Hunger in Liberia' (HFAHL). Six graduates and nine members of their local community have successfully farmed vegetables, watermelon and rice in the village of Telemai, Lofa county, where they also provide agricultural training to other ex-combatants and women in the area.

The founding members fought for Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy (LURD) during the Liberian Civil War and were unable to reintegrate peacefully into society post-war until TATP provided an opportunity to change and support the development of their own community.

HFAHL was founded by a group of students who had completed the Conflict Pool funded Agricultural Training Programme.

Chapter 3

Middle East and North Africa: Programme progress and case studies

Delegates gather for a business development event in Tel Aviv.

Middle East and North Africa (MENA) programmme

The goal of the MENA programme is to promote greater stability and security in the region. In 2009/10 Conflict Pool activity focused on four priority countries:

- Iraq
- Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPTs)
- Lebanon
- Yemen

There are a number of key drivers of conflict in these countries. These include the divisive impact of confessionalism[3] (which can deepen conflict between different religious and ethnic groups), historical grievances, weak and non-accountable governance, rule of law and security services. The MENA programme aimed to assess these drivers of conflict and mitigate their impact through project funding and diplomacy.

Iraq

The largest project in **Iraq** aimed to increase forensics capacity and acceptance within the Iraqi judicial system, and improve the accountability and transparency of the Iraqi Police Force. The Middle East programme funded the UK Forensics Team to provide specialized training for Iraqi police officers and members of the Iraqi judiciary, and assist in establishing a recognized and skilled forensics capacity. As a result, forensic laboratories and training centres have been established in Basra, Erbil and Baghdad. This will enable the Iraqi Police Force

---

[3] Confessionalism is the system of government which refers to a de jure mix of religion and politics, whereby political and institutional power and positions are distributed proportionally among religious communities. It is intended as a means to secure the peaceful co-existence of diverse religious and ethnic communities by empowering each according to its "weight" in the region. In Lebanon, posts in government and seats in the legislature are apportioned amongst different groups according to the relative demographic composition of those groups in a society, to formally recognise the communal political rights of indigenous groups. But as the proportions are fixed in the Constitution and take no account of changing demographics or individual ability, it often leads to a deepening of conflict between ethnic groups and stagnation in governance.

to build on its notable successes, securing solid and credible convictions in serious cases that would have escaped justice just a few years ago.

Through Conflict Pool funding, the Iraqi Police Force was also trained in the conduct of police investigations. The project focused on "train the trainer" programmes at the Baghdad and Basra Police Academies. While this contributed to the understanding of investigative skills by the Iraqi police, much remains to be done country-wide. Although the Conflict Pool's support to investigative training has finished, the United States will continue to provide training in this area.

Progress continued in the Council of Representatives (CoR) capacity building project, with a strong focus on preparing the CoR committees and secretariat to maintain continuity with the incoming Parliament and Government. Reciprocal visits by CoR staff and officers from the House of Commons library were an opportunity to exchange best practice and develop links that will continue into future years.

Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPTs)

In **Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPTs)** progress has been made against a challenging political backdrop. Approximately a third of the MENA programme's budget has gone on supporting NGO and civil society projects in Israel and the OPTs. Some of these projects have led to positive results on the ground, such as fewer house demolitions and more access for Palestinian farmers to their land. Others have been about shaping the debate: Conflict Pool funding, for example, helps provide authoritative information on settlement expansion and has stimulated detailed and influential new models on security cooperation between the two sides.

The remainder of the MENA programme's budget focuses on improving the performance of the Palestinian security sector through a combination of support to the United States Security Coordinator (USSC) and to the European policing mission in the West Bank. The Palestinian security forces continued to improve significantly over the last year and this, in turn, contributed to a relaxation of some of the Israeli restrictions on movement in the West Bank.

The programme in Israel and the OPTs will only yield durable results if there is a final peace agreement. In the meantime the Conflict Pool's support is helping to make that agreement more likely by reducing some of the sources of tension while the negotiation process continues.

Lebanon

In **Lebanon**, the legislative elections were successful. The Conflict Pool worked in partnership with other donors on electoral reform initiatives. In addition, this period of 'political calm' allowed the MENA programme to support the Government of Lebanon to develop sustainable structures and processes, which will increase state resilience to conflict and reinforce legitimate mediation mechanisms. Conflict Pool funding continued to support the Internal Security Forces to develop a National Policing Strategy that aims to increase public confidence in the rule of law, including a revised Police Code of Conduct with an integrated human rights strategy. In addition, Conflict Pool funding has provided technical support to the Government of Lebanon, in collaboration with other donors, which helped develop a national integrated border management strategy.

The MENA programme also supported dialogue over the future of law enforcement in and around Palestinian refugee camps. This built on Lebanon's stated aim of adopting a human security partnership with Palestinian refugees, recognizing that along with civic responsibilities come civic rights. Through working with the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) in southern Lebanon, the MENA programme has strengthened conflict-sensitive engagement between peacekeepers and their host communities.

Yemen

Yemen continued to be a challenging operating environment, and one in which there are limited entry points and capacities for effective conflict prevention activity. The recruitment of a UK Government Conflict Adviser who will be based in Sana'a will increase the Conflict Pool's capacity to take the programme forward. Support to community and tribal leaders has been increased to provide conflict resolution training, and to initiate dialogue among local communities. An advocacy strategy on the plight and rights of refugees was also developed. This has helped reduce community tensions, especially over the provision of assistance to refugees from the Horn of Africa.

Iraq: Civilian expertise supports the Ministry of Interior and the Iraqi Police Service

Since 2005 the UK Forensic Team in **Iraq** has played a pivotal role in developing forensic capacity and capability. In 2009/10 the team continued to provide specialized forensics training to the Iraqi Police Service across the country, establishing forensics laboratories and training centres in Basra, Erbil and Baghdad.

The service has had notable success, securing solid and credible convictions in serious cases that would have escaped justice just a few years ago, and in establishing the innocence of individuals wrongfully accused of crimes.

In parallel, the Forensics Team has undertaken work to build greater understanding and acceptance of and willingness to use forensic evidence in Iraqi courts.

Tragically, in January 2010 the Baghdad laboratory was targeted by terrorists, killing and injuring staff and badly damaging the building and equipment. With Conflict Pool funding, the UK helped quickly to re-establish a functioning laboratory at a more secure location. This has included the provision of a range of high-tech forensics equipment such as for fingerprinting and DNA testing as well as a sterile laboratory area.

'CSI Iraq': high tech ballistics comparison in one of Iraq's Conflict Pool funded forensic labs.

Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories: The business of peace

While resolving the **Israeli-Palestinian** conflict needs a political agreement, it also needs the right conditions on the ground. The Conflict Pool has funded an innovative project in the information and communication technology (ICT) sector that has not only led to new business partnerships between Israeli and Palestinian companies but also a better understanding of each other's motivations and perspectives.

Four business partnerships, valued at an estimated $2 million, have already been established and others are in the making. The project also implemented a business creation programme (TeamStart) which provided skills and advice to 90 Palestinian ICT professionals and led to the establishment of six new businesses with a potential for high growth.

The project has received international praise winning a nomination for a Global ICT Excellence Award and most recently receiving the Digital Opportunity Award.

HM Consul General, Jerusalem, welcomes delegates to a business development seminar in Ramallah.

Lebanon: Planning for peaceful and secure elections

In partnership with the International Foundation for Election Systems (IFES) the Conflict Pool helped the Government of **Lebanon** develop a Risk Assessment to inform security plans for the June 2009 legislative elections.

For the first time, these elections were held nationwide on a single date, posing a considerable challenge in terms of electoral process, movement of voters, and the security of the polls themselves.

Drawing on their experience of major event policing and a nationwide risk assessment, the Metropolitan Police Service helped the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities and the Lebanese Armed Forces deployed resources to constituencies judged to be most at risk of violence. The elections passed peacefully and the Ministry effectively adapted the planning methodology for the municipal elections that followed.

Lining up to vote in Zgharta – Conflict Pool support ensured the elections passed peacefully.

Chapter 4

South Asia: Programme progress and case studies

Members of a Military Stabilisation Support Team (MSST) and colleagues from the local Coalition Force Battle Group with Zorobad children, Afghanistan.

South Asia programme

In 2009/10, the South Asia programme's five objectives were to:

- Support the delivery of the civilian contribution to stabilisation, security and development in **Afghanistan**;
- Increase the capacity of **Pakistan** and **Afghanistan** to govern the border areas, reducing popular support for the insurgencies, and encouraging better relations between the two countries;
- Promote confidence-building between **India** and **Pakistan**;
- Support peace in **Nepal**, including by promoting security sector reform, respect for human rights and an inclusive constitutional process; and
- Consolidate the peace in **Sri Lanka** by encouraging political dialogue, security sector reform and improved human security.

The South Asia Programme has enabled the UK to have wide ranging impact in **Afghanistan**. Conflict Pool-funded activities are aligned with the UK's overarching Afghan strategy and support the Government's work in Helmand in particular. During 2009/10, the South Asia programme supported capacity building in the central Afghan Government, so it can have a more positive impact on the lives of its citizens. It also contributed to important international trust funds designed to directly benefit the Afghan state. Together, these ensured the UK's ability to influence a wide range of policy debates crucial to the region's security, stabilisation and development.

Bilateral relations between **Pakistan** and **Afghanistan** improved during the year. The Conflict Pool contributed to this through various projects, including one providing support to a new Centre for Regional Cooperation at the Afghan Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Insecurity poses a major obstacle to working in the border areas between Afghanistan and Pakistan. Nonetheless, the Conflict Pool supported a programme of activities which helped stimulate political and public consensus for improvements in how the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) are governed and to make them more effective, democratic and accountable. Activities included opinion polling within FATA and inter-party dialogues in FATA and Islamabad. The Government of Pakistan referred to this process and the resulting consensus when it announced a historic package of reforms for

FATA. The Conflict Pool also supported activities to promote more objective media coverage in the Pakistani border areas, contributing to a reduction in popular support for the Taliban.

The South Asia programme provided support to the development of a training centre for the Frontier Corps in Balochistan.

At a time when official dialogue between **India** and **Pakistan** was suspended, the South Asia programme provided support to influential actors on both sides to talk through important issues. One such meeting involving senior editors from two of the biggest newspapers from India and Pakistan resulted in a historic initiative for peace, "Aman Ki Ashaa".

The Conflict Pool supported civil society groups on both sides of **Kashmir** to increase their willingness and ability to engage with one another to build a public constituency for peace. In one project the Conflict Pool assisted community development in the Neelam District, on the Pakistan side of the Line of Control. This was an area which had greatly benefited from the reduction in violence since the 2003 ceasefire with India. When rumours spread in December 2009 that the ceasefire might end, these community organisations lobbied the local Pakistani authorities to urge peace to be sustained.

Political disagreements frustrated progress on the **Nepal** peace process during 2009/10. A key dispute concerned the fate of Maoist combatants who have been living in cantonments since 2006. At the request of all the major parties in Nepal the South Asia programme funded a project to assist the multi-party Technical Committee which was considering the issue. This helped the Committee to develop, by consensus, key documents outlining how demobilisation and integration into the Nepalese security forces could be managed. This should pave the way for an agreement on this critical issue.

In **Sri Lanka**, the war finally ended, but risks of renewed conflict remain if underlying causes of minority resentment are not resolved. This is the primary responsibility of the re-elected Sri Lankan government, and the UK's capacity to influence it is limited. The Conflict Pool has sought to help build the foundations for sustainable peace by encouraging public debate over constitutional reforms; creating spaces for moderate, pragmatic voices to emerge within the Sri Lankan diaspora; and supporting the police to better engage with local communities. A Conflict Pool-funded project with UNICEF has continued to achieve notable results in ending the suffering of child soldiers since the end of the fighting. All children found among those arrested as suspected Tamil Tigers have been held separately and eventually released with reintegration assistance from UNICEF.

Afghanistan: Surveillance, monitoring, targeting and verification – targeting poppy eradication

Poppy eradication – or ploughing up poppies before harvesting – is central to Afghanistan's National Drug Control Strategy. The authorities try to eradicate a large proportion of the crop randomly, so farmers have to consider this risk when deciding which crop to grow. But destroying the livelihoods of already poor farmers can lead them into criminality or even into insurgency.

The Survey, Monitoring, Targeting and Verification (SMTV) project supported governors to target eradication activities in areas where farmers had alternatives to growing poppies. SMTV used complex agricultural, geographic and economic data to provide maps pinpointing areas of fertile agricultural land, or which were close to urban centres, or where livelihood support programmes existed, to ensure farmers could grow lawful crops immediately after eradication or had access to alternative sources of income.

By mid-2010, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)/SMTV reported that 94% of eradication in Helmand and 82% in Farah was within target areas. Even more importantly, aerial monitoring showed that farmers had been preparing ground for lawful crops immediately after eradication had taken place.

Ploughing poppy fields in target areas where farmers are able to grow lawful crops is a key part of Afghanistan's Drug Control Strategy.

Afghanistan: Military and civilian personnel join forces to help re-build communities in support of stabilisation

Five Military Stabilisation Support Teams (MSSTs) are working in Helmand with the civilian District Stabilisation Adviser and the local military commander. Conflict Pool projects reinforce sustainable governance and socio-economic development to help build confidence in local and district level government.

Working with the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) the teams have helped the Afghan government support the safe return of displaced people to Zorobad, their village in the north-west of Nad e Ali District, after around 800 of the 1,000 strong population fled the area in 2009.

After making contact with village elders the MSST and Afghan officials established that most people were ready to return home and co-ordinated their safe return. The Conflict Pool projects for the community included Cash for Work programmes, which helped refurbish the village school and repair drainage and irrigation systems. As well as providing income for the community, these type of projects help create a safe environment in which to work and live. Most of the local men have already returned to working in the fields to provide for their community.

Further plans include projects to provide clean water, repairs to damaged buildings and new footbridges to improve access to the Bazaar. Using local labour, these projects will help mark a welcome return to normality, while the community of Zorobad continue to see a clear and direct benefit from their own government.

MSSTs oversaw the safe return of refugees to Zorabad, while Conflict Pool projects helped re-establish a working community and trust in government.

Pakistan: History retold – supporting educational reform to challenge understanding of past hatred

The failings of the education system in Pakistan are widely recognised as a major driver of conflict and radicalisation. Rote-learning, a lack of teachers and resources, and outdated history textbooks all encourage suspicion and even hatred towards others.

In a small, innovative project in the mega city of Karachi, the Conflict Pool is funding the Citizens' Archive of Pakistan to conduct history classes at selected government schools in low-income areas. Through groundbreaking use of oral history, photos and even 3D videos, the project encourages critical learning and helps children and teachers develop a more accurate and inclusive understanding of Pakistan's history and identity.

The project, which is largely run by local volunteers, has attracted much interest and should, in time, lead to the reform of the history syllabus in the city. The project's next phase will link government schools in Pakistan and India to explore their shared history.

Seeing the bigger picture: school children in Karachi take a fresh look at their country's history.

Nepal: Justice for all

Injustice was one of the major causes of the Maoist rebellion in Nepal. The Comprehensive Peace Agreement in 2006 made a number of commitments to improving respect for human rights, but progress has been slow.

A Conflict Pool-funded project, working with the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ), aims to advocate for and support implementation of these commitments in a difficult political environment.

The ICJ's expertise led to significant improvements in a Bill to set up a Disappearances Commission. The ICJ has also provided advice to parliamentarians drafting the human rights provisions of the new Constitution, and has helped victims of the conflict to bring cases before the Nepalese courts, in some instances securing landmark decisions from the Supreme Court. Regional consultations have helped make the debate on transitional justice in Nepal more inclusive.

A victim speaks at an ICJ-supported consultation in the Bardiya District in September 2009.

Sri Lanka: Community forums help citizens and police talk the same language

At the request of the Sri Lankan police, the Conflict Pool has funded the Asia Foundation to provide training in community-oriented policing and Tamil language.

The project supports community policing pilots in Kandy and Moneragala. These aim to improve the police's historically poor relationship with local communities, particularly the Tamil-speaking minorities. One pilot brings together police officers and socially marginalised Tamils working on tea estates in a series of unique forums. Feedback so far has been encouraging from both sides. As a result, the Inspector General of Police has asked the Foundation to help develop a community policing manual for use across the island.

Since language is a huge barrier to improving police-community relations, the project has also provided Tamil language training for Sinhala-speaking police officers. Communication is improving, but needs to be developed further by supporting changes to police recruitment procedures and the deployment of trained officers.

Residents share their views at a forum bringing community and police together.

Photo by Karl Grobl, The Asia Foundation.

Wider Europe: Programme progress and case studies

Border patrol: the civilian EU Monitoring Mission in Georgia (EUMM).

Wider Europe programme

A new Conflict Pool programme for Wider Europe was created at the beginning of 2009/10 from the merger of the previously separate Balkans and Caucasus/Central Asia programmes and the incorporation of discretionary peacekeeping commitments in these regions.

Western Balkans

The Western Balkans programme focuses on three countries in the Western Balkans region which are key for ensuring enduring stability, cooperation and growth in the region: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo and Serbia. The Western Balkans programmes objectives reflect the different needs of these three countries while also promoting the common aim of rebuilding trust and networks between ethnically divided communities throughout the region.

In promoting a stable **Kosovo**, the Conflict Pool continued to work towards building organisational and policy safeguards essential to reducing the risk of renewed conflict. The Wider Europe programme funded secondees to the European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo (EULEX), which helped develop capacity within the policing, customs and justice sectors, and to the International Civilian Office (ICO) which contributed to the implementation of the Comprehensive Settlement Proposal and Kosovo's European integration. The Conflict Pool also continued to support the Kosovo Property Agency, which made significant progress in resolving property disputes outstanding from the armed conflict of 1998-1999.

Conflict Pool support to the development of transparent, democratically accountable security services continued to make significant progress across the region. In **Bosnia and Herzegovina**, the Wider Europe programme helped the Ministry of Security work on its first strategic plan – an important step in tackling corruption, money laundering and drug trafficking. The Conflict Pool also supported the Kosovo Security Force and its associated Ministry by providing civilian and military advisers to key positions.

Support for promoting the rule of law led to improved access to justice and reconciliation frameworks in both the criminal and civil sectors. In **Bosnia and Herzegovina**, the Ministry of Justice and Security signed an agreement with civil society organisations which significantly contributed to ensuring sustainable democratic accountability within the sector. In **Serbia**, assistance to local judicial and prosecutorial bodies helped combat people trafficking and organised crime. For example, a cooperative network was set up in the Novi Pazar area against people trafficking, and Bosniak representation in the judicial system, which is disproportionately Serbian, was increased through support to Bosniak law students.

Activities aimed at reducing community tensions through outreach initiatives continued to make a significant impact in south-west Serbia, a severely underdeveloped region which has seen clashes with and between rival Islamic communities prompted to a major extent by years of neglect and political interference from previous central government structures. The Conflict Pool supported platforms which helped young people engage with their communities and voice grievances. Additionally, work with the local media led to an improved standard of reporting that was both impartial and better able to address sensitive issues. Several journalists who had received support were awarded prestigious prizes for their investigative reporting.

Caucasus/Central Asia

The diverse **Caucasus/Central Asia** region remains of concern with a range of conflict points. The war in Georgia in August 2008, and its fallout, continues to have significant wider ramifications for the region.

The Conflict Pool's economic objective in 2009/10 in the **Caucasus** focused on achieving political and civil society recognition for the 'business case for peace'. Particularly encouraging was evidence of the sustainability of the Caucasus Business and Development Network, which continued to develop small business links across borders and boundary lines in **Georgia**, **Armenia**, **Azerbaijan** and **Turkey**.

Civil society projects focused on building people-to-people contacts across conflict divides to try to overcome entrenched misperceptions. Three 'Resource Centres' in Yerevan, Baku and Stepanakert, part of the Consortium Initiative flagship programme, supported the engagement of individuals in the peace process. Civil society projects in **Georgia** and the **North Caucasus** focused, in particular, on engaging the region's youth and building tolerance amongst future civil society leaders.

Media projects in 2009-10 sought to promote a more constructive role for the media in the prevention and resolution of conflicts. The Institute for War and Peace Reporting held six round table debates and three conferences on the political, social and economic issues embedded in the conflicts in the **South Caucasus**. The *Caucasian Knot* web portal gave professional journalists and local communities in the **North Caucasus** a voice in the debate on the fragile security situation there, through enabling them to post comments on articles, upload blogs and contribute to forums. The success of the portal was noted in the recommendations of the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Civil Society Forum.

Support to government institutions' capacity to manage, resolve and prevent conflict continued during 2009/10. Conflict Pool engagement in Georgia's development of its crisis management institutions saw high level political buy-in from the Georgian administration. A successful table-top emergency situations exercise was held with Ministers and staff from sixteen government ministries. This was a low cost/high value project which supported the enhancement of effective government in **Georgia** and contributed to the ongoing cultural change needed to enhance stability.

There was a rising trend of human rights violations in the **North Caucasus** during 2009. The Russian Justice Project saw some success, winning almost two-thirds of the European Court of Human Rights case law on the North Caucasus. The project worked closely with the Council of Europe Secretariat. In its dialogue with the Russian authorities about their compliance with European Court of Human Rights judgments, the Council of Europe Secretariat relied increasingly on evidence produced by the Russia Justice Project.

United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP)

The UK continued to deploy around 280 personnel on Operation TOSCA in support of the United Nations Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP). The troops are deployed in the sector in and around Nicosia. UNFICYP is a UN mandated peacekeeping mission established in 1964 in the interest of preserving international peace and security by maintaining a buffer zone between the lines of the National Guard and of the Turkish and Turkish Cypriot forces.

Kosovo: Helping families return to post-conflict Kosovo

Support from the Conflict Pool helped Kosovo-Serb families who fled during the 1999 conflict return to their village of Softaj/Softovic in southern Kosovo.

As well as supporting the construction of new houses for nine families, the project also provided a power transformer for the whole village, and helped create income generating opportunities for them to support themselves and return to normal village life.

This made a significant contribution to the government of Kosovo's objective of ensuring the sustainable return to Kosovo of all displaced people - and to rebuilding a peaceful, multi-ethnic environment for all communities.

Inauguration ceremony of returnees' houses in Softaj/Softovic, Kosovo.

Bosnia and Herzegovina: Bringing war criminals to justice

Helping to resolve untried war crimes cases has been a key area of focus for Conflict Pool work in Bosnia and Herzegovina over the past few years. Through the Conflict Pool, over £4.5 million has been provided to the country's Court and State Prosecutor's Office since it was established in 2005.

One of the most notable achievements in 2009/10 was when Milorad Trbic, a former Republika Srpska army officer, was found guilty of genocide and sentenced to 30 years' imprisonment for his role in the execution of around 7,000 Bosniaks after the fall of Srebrenica in July 1995.

He was also involved in the exhumation and reburial of victims in a bid to hide evidence. The UK provided funding for two prosecutors working on this case, who made a major contribution to ensuring a fair and effective trial.

Former army officer Milorad Trbic, convicted of genocide.

Photo: Archive of Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Georgia/Abkhazia: Youth dialogue programme

This project supported groups of young adults on both sides of the Georgian/Abkhaz conflict to develop their conflict awareness and political analysis skills through extra-curricular discussion clubs.

Opportunities for direct contacts across the conflict divide are rare, leading to stereotypes and misperceptions in both societies. Confidence-building measures had been further hampered by the conflict of August 2008. The project recognized the importance of keeping open channels for communication and that the current situation offered potential for new internal debate. A key element of the work of the project during 2009/10 was a study trip to Northern Ireland, where participants were able to develop strategies on working within their own societies to make them more conducive to constructive processes towards long-term conflict settlement. Participants were able to explore the similarities between the Northern Ireland and Georgian contexts in meetings at Stormont with politicians from both ruling parties.

It's good to talk: young adults cross the divide through discussion and debate.
Photo: Conciliation Resources

Ingushetia, Chechnya, Dagestan: Youth activists for peace

The highly successful Youth Leadership and Peacebuilding Network (YLPN) developed leadership potential in youth activists, and trained emerging leaders in peaceful ways of resolving and preventing conflict and building tolerance.

The network undertook a huge range of activities. A conference held in Ingushetia raised awareness of the importance of peacebuilding and tolerance in education. Local television, internet portals with a regional focus and other media covered the event widely, and all the presentations and research papers were published by YLPN and distributed in the three republics. In addition, youth activists were regularly invited into education institutions in the three republics to lend their expertise and assistance to efforts to promote peace building in communities.

In Ingushetia, YLPN youth activists took part in the TV programme Ingush Traditions, Customs and Prospects of Youth Development, where they discussed their understanding of youth problems with elders and clergy. Hundreds of young people, teachers and social workers in the three republics also took part in Discussion Video Clubs (DVCs), where they could speak out and debate long-standing concerns. Teachers' reports noted the positive impact that the YLPN had on participants. Subsequently, universities in Chechnya and Dagestan decided to use the YLPN DVC methodology as an integral part of their curricula.

Encouraging young people to speak out and debate long-standing issues.
Photo: Genesis

Chapter 6

Strategic support to international organisations (SSIO): Programme progress and case study

British military peacekeeping training for Czech armed forces before their deployment to Afghanistan.

Strategic support to international organisations (SSIO) programme

The SSIO programme was established in March 2009, bringing together elements of the International Capacity Building programme (previously the UN Strategy) and the Security Sector Reform and Small Arms Control programmes. The SSIO programme provides essential cross-cutting, thematic programme support for the UK's efforts to prevent, manage and resolve conflict.

The SSIO programme's objectives are ambitious. UN reform takes sustained effort and active political engagement. Progress can be slow. DFID, FCO and MOD, working closely with the UK Mission at the UN, identified issues where timely assistance from the SSIO programme could deliver significant results. In addition to this, the SSIO programme aimed to complement regional programmes by improving the capacity of partner nations to reform their security sectors and promoting good governance and rule of law. This focus on upstream conflict prevention activity is fundamental to the aims of the Conflict Pool.

The SSIO programme concentrated on the following key priorities:

- more effective UN early attention/early warning to potential conflicts;
- stronger UN inter-agency mechanisms to respond to conflict;
- more effective UN mediation and preventive diplomacy;
- better led and managed peace support operations;
- implementation of the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations' (DPKO) New Horizon report recommendations and the joint UK/France Peacekeeping Initiative in the UN Security Council;
- getting the system to deliver effective peacebuilding;
- increased numbers of better trained personnel (military, police and civilian) available for and participating in UN mandated peace support operations;
- educating members of partner foreign defence organisations to instil the good principles and ethics necessary for developing professional armed forces;
- development of UN international policing doctrine.

The SSIO programme aims to improve international capabilities on conflict prevention, peacekeeping and peacebuilding. It supports projects and programmes that address key capacity and capability gaps across the conflict cycle. All activities supported by the programme are developed in cooperation with stakeholders, such as the UN and key NGOs and think tanks. The programme works with international organisations and other Conflict Pool programmes to ensure a coherent and strategic approach to conflict prevention, peacekeeping and peacebuilding around the world.

During 2009/10 the SSIO programme focused on supporting international efforts to strengthen the UN's conflict prevention, peacekeeping and peacebuilding capacities. The programme supported, through the UN's DPKO and the Department of Field Support (DFS), enhancements to the UN's capacity to mandate, plan, conduct and draw down peace support operations in close cooperation with other stakeholders. Better management and efficiency (both in delivery and value for money) of UN peacekeeping, through the implementation of recommendations in the DPKO 'New Horizon' report, has significant direct benefits for operations on the ground and support for the victims of conflict. Improvements in the transition from peacekeeping to peacebuilding were also addressed through support to the Integrated Missions Planning Process (IMPP) and the UN's Office of Rule of Law and Security Institutions' (OROLSI) doctrine on rule of law issues.

The SSIO programme worked to support the UN Secretary General's peacebuilding report's recommendation on improving the effectiveness of the UN's Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) and Department of Political Affairs (DPA) in areas such as leadership and civilian capacity. Additionally, the SSIO programme has supported efforts to improve the implementation and impact of work on Women in Peace and Security (UNSC resolutions 1325 and 1869), the Protection of Civilians, Robust Peacekeeping, the Responsibility to Protect, and the Office for the Special Adviser for the Prevention of Genocide (SAPG).

Although the UN remained the SSIO programme's primary focus, the programme also supported other international efforts, in the light of the fact that a growing number of other international and regional organisations (including the EU, AU, NATO, OSCE and Commonwealth) have key roles in conflict prevention, peace support operations and peacebuilding. The SSIO programme sought to help such organisations meet constantly increasing international conflict requirements, for example by supporting two secondments into the EU crisis management team to work on policing and civilian capacity building in crises.

The SSIO programme also helps to train the next generation of troop contributors to UN-mandated Peace Support Operations (PSOs).

The British Military Advisory and Training Team based in the Czech Republic (BMATT(CZ)) trains around 350 instructors a year from 30 potential and current troop contributing countries at Vyskov with its partner, the Czech Republic. The team's in-country training teams also provided training and assistance to some 1,400 personnel, both individual instructors and formed units. There is increasing emphasis on using these teams to provide direct pre-deployment training for UN-mandated PSOs.

Training and mentoring the Czech Armed Forces ready for deployment to Afghanistan

In February 2010, the Czech Armed Forces began training a contingent to be deployed to the UN-mandated operation in Afghanistan as an Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team (OMLT), working with the Afghan National Army. A small team from BMATT(CZ), all with OMLT experience, has been helping the Czechs with their pre-deployment training.

Training began with a presentation giving the British perspective on OMLT operations in Afghanistan and setting the scene for what was about to be undertaken. The BMATT(CZ) team then worked alongside the Czech contingent to provide advice and mentoring support. The team also delivered various parts of the training, including on subjects such as Taliban tactics, Improvised Explosive Devices, cultural awareness, and working with the Afghan National Army.

The training included a six-week package on individual low-level skills and a ten-day intensive Skill at Arms session, designed around combat scenarios the contingent is likely to encounter in Afghanistan. It ended with a mission rehearsal exercise in Hohenfels, Germany, where they joined the US contingent with which they will be working. The first Czech OMLT deployed to Wardak Province in late August 2010. BMATT(CZ) also assisted the second Czech contingent when it began its preparations in September.

British military trainers delivering pre-deployment training to future peacekeepers.
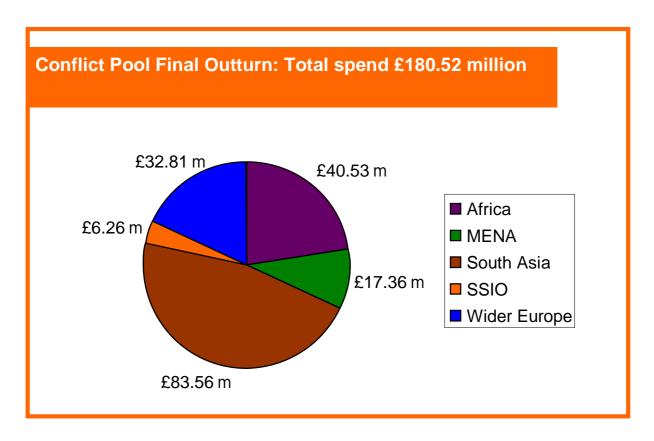
Chapter 7
Financial overview
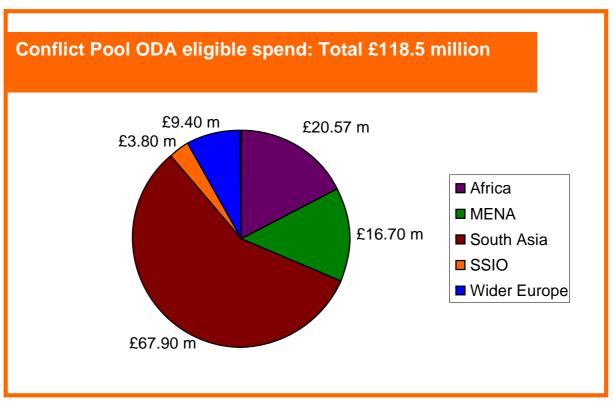
Financial overview

The Joint Conflict Settlement for financial year 2009/10 was £556 million. This covered HMG's contribution to assessed, i.e. legally binding, peacekeeping costs (the Peacekeeping Budget), as well as discretionary conflict prevention, stabilisation and peacekeeping costs (the Conflict Pool).

At the start of the financial year, Ministers agreed to reserve £456 million from the Joint Conflict Settlement for the Peacekeeping Budget, leaving only £100 million for the Conflict Pool.

An additional £71 million was made available for the Conflict Pool from the FCO's, DFID's and MOD's departmental budgets, making a total allocation of £171 million.

In the event, £20 million from this additional budget was committed to supporting stabilisation activities in Helmand province in Afghanistan. Approximately £9 million was kept in reserve and carried forward to the next financial year. The final spend from the Peacekeeping Budget was £378 million. In total, the Conflict Pool spent £180.5 million.

Conflict Pool Final Outturn: Total spend £180.52 million

£32.81 m

£40.53 m

£6.26 m

- Africa
- MENA
- South Asia
- SSIO
- Wider Europe

£17.36 m

£83.56 m

Conflict Pool ODA eligible spend: Total £118.5 million

£9.40 m

£3.80 m

£20.57 m

- Africa
- MENA
- South Asia
- SSIO
- Wider Europe

£16.70 m

£67.90 m

Glossary

AMISOM	African Union Mission in Somalia
ANSF	Afghan National Security Force
AFN	Armed Forces of Nigeria
AU	African Union
BMATT(CZ)	British Military Advisory Training Team (Czech Republic)
CoR	Council of Representatives
CPA	Comprehensive Peace Agreement
CPP	Conflict Prevention Pool
CSTC-A	Combined Security Transition Command – Afghanistan
DDR	Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration
DFID	Department for International Development
DFS	Department of Field Studies
DPKO	UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
DVCs	Discussion Video Clubs
EASF	East Africa Standby Force
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EULEX	European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo
EUMM	EU Monitoring Mission in Georgia
EUPOL	EU Police Mission in Afghanistan
EUSEC	European advisory and assistance mission for security reform in DRC
FARDC	Forces Armées de la République Démocratique du Congo
FATA	Federal Administered Tribal Areas

FCO	Foreign and Commonwealth Office
FDLR	Democratic Forces for Liberation of Rwanda
HFAHL	Help Fight Against Hunger in Liberia
ICJ	International Commission of Jurists
ICO	International Civilian Office
ICT	Information and communication technology
IFES	International Foundation for Election Systems
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development[4]
IMPP	UN Integrated Missions Planning Process
ISAF	International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan
JIU	Joint Integrated Unit
LRA	Lord's Resistance Army
LURD	Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy
MDRP	Multi-Country Demobilisation and Reintegration Programme
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
MOD	Ministry of Defence
MONUC	UN Peacekeeping Mission in DRC
MSST	Military Stabilisation Support Team
NGO	Non-governmental organisation
NTM-A	NATO Training Mission Afghanistan
ODA	Official Development Assistance
OMLT	Operational Mentoring and Liaison Team
OPTs	Occupied Palestinian Territories

---

[4] Members are Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan and Uganda. Eritrea has suspended its membership.

OROLSI	UN Office of Rule of Law and Security Institutions
OSCE	Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe
PBSO	UN Peacebuilding Support Office
PRT	Provincial Reconstruction Team
PSO	Peace Support Operation
RSLAF	Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces
SANDF	South Africa National Defence Force
SAPG	Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide
SMTV	Survey, Monitoring, Targeting and Verification
SPLA	Sudan People's Liberation Army
SSIO	Strategic Support to International Organisations
TATP	Landmine Action Tumutu Agricultural Training Programme
UNAMID	The African Union/UN Hybrid operation in Darfur
UNFICYP	UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund (formerly UN International Children's Emergency Fund)
UNIFIL	United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon
UNMIL	UN Mission in Liberia
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNSC	United Nations Security Council
USSC	United States Security Coordinator
YLPN	Youth Leadership and Peacebuilding Network

Department for International Development

DFID, 1 Palace Street, London, SW1E 5HE
www.dfid.gov.uk

Public Enquiry Point: 0845 300 4100 (UK only)
+44 (0)1355 84 3132 (from outside the UK)
Email: enquiry@dfid.gov.uk

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Foreign and Commonwealth Office, King Charles Street, London, SW1A 2AH
www.fco.gov.uk

Switchboard: +44 (0)20 7008 1500

Ministry of Defence

Ministry of Defence, Main Building, Whitehall, London, SW1A 2HB
www.mod.uk

Switchboard: +44 (0)20 7218 9000