

**Joint FCO, DFID and MOD Management Response to the Independent Commission for Aid Impact recommendations on:  
Evaluation of the Inter-Departmental Conflict Pool, July 2012**

ICAI Recommendation	Accept/Partially Accept /Reject	Action specified in Management Response	Target date	September 2012 update
<p><b>Recommendation 1:</b> The Building Stability Overseas Board should develop a clearer strategic framework specifically for the Conflict Pool, to clarify its comparative advantage alongside DFID (particularly in regional programming) and identify how it will integrate defence, diplomacy and development into a multidisciplinary approach to conflict prevention.</p>	Accept	<p>1. The Conflict Pool Secretariat will develop a Conflict Pool Strategy for the BSOB's approval by the end of 2012.</p>	End 2012	<p><b>On track</b> The BSOB will discuss the Conflict Pool at its next meeting on 14 September.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 2:</b> By the next Conflict Resources Settlement (starting in 2015-16), the three departments should simplify the management structure for the implementation of Conflict Pool activities, while retaining</p>	Accept	<p>2. In the context of preparing for the next Spending Review, we will consider what other management arrangements and structures would be appropriate and optimal for the Conflict Pool.</p>	Subject to timing of next Spending Review.	<p><b>On track</b> Too early to report on progress.</p>

ICAI Recommendation	Accept/Partially Accept /Reject	Action specified in Management Response	Target date	September 2012 update
tri-departmental approach to strategy setting and funding allocation.				
<p><b>Recommendation 3:</b> At the next spending review, the three departments should work with the Treasury to reduce volatility in the Conflict Pool budget.</p>	Accept	3. In the context of preparing for the next Spending Review, we will consider what further measures could be appropriate to reduce volatility in the conflict resources settlement.	Subject to timing of next Spending Review.	<p><b>On track</b> Too early to report on progress.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 4:</b> To maximise its impact, the Conflict Pool should match its funding model to its specific objectives, balancing a proactive approach to identifying partners for larger-scale activities with a flexible and responsive grant-making process for promising local initiatives and paying more attention to leveraging other resources to take pilot activities to scale.</p>	Accept	4. We will develop new programme guidelines to address this.	Autumn 2013.	<p><b>On track</b> Too early to report on progress. Action on this recommendation will be taken forward after the Conflict Pool Strategy is agreed.</p>

ICAI Recommendation	Accept/Partially Accept /Reject	Action specified in Management Response	Target date	September 2012 update
<p><b>Recommendation 5:</b> The Conflict Pool should adopt guidelines on risk management and conflict sensitivity.</p>	Accept	5. The guidelines referred to in action 4 will address this.	Autumn 2013	<p><b>On track</b> Too early to report on progress.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 6:</b> The Conflict Pool should develop a balanced monitoring and evaluation system which encompasses both strategic resource management and real-time assessment of the outcomes of specific projects.</p>	Accept	6. We will issue improved guidance on monitoring and evaluation for the Conflict Pool.	March 2013	<p><b>On track</b> Programme-level monitoring/reporting templates for use in the results offers review in autumn 2012 have now issued.</p> <p>Too early to report progress on developing improved guidance.</p>