



# ICITAP's Post-Conflict Expertise

Since its first post-conflict law enforcement development program in Panama in 1990, ICITAP has played a critical role in efforts to establish stability and rule of law in war-torn countries.

## ICITAP's Experience

ICITAP has participated in the majority of U.S. and international peacekeeping and post-conflict reconstruction missions during the past two decades.

In most of these missions, ICITAP's law enforcement experts were dispatched by the State Department immediately after major conflict ended to assess conditions. ICITAP then managed comprehensive, long-term law enforcement development programs under the auspices of the United States or the United Nations and other international organizations.

In many countries, ICITAP continued to build capacity for years after the post-conflict transition period (see Sidebar). ICITAP's steady-state programs focus on assisting the host country in becoming effective law enforcement partners in the international community.

## ICITAP's Approach

ICITAP's approach in post-conflict missions consists of two parallel tracks: (1) immediately standing up basic law enforcement capacity and (2) initiating institutional development programs based on thorough assessments of

the host nation's capabilities. The goal is to ensure long-term sustainability of assistance efforts.

Immediate capacity building consists of reestablishing basic force structures for civilian police, border forces, and correctional systems. Depending on the situation, law enforcement forces may need to be organized from scratch. ICITAP trains existing police and/or new recruits on basic skills consistent with international standards for human rights and dignity.

ICITAP's comprehensive development programs for law enforcement institutions address recruitment and vetting; training academy and instructor development; budgeting, planning, payroll, and procurement; facilities and equipment maintenance; internal affairs; command and control structures; leadership and management; critical incident management; and design of new police stations, prisons, and training academies.

In some countries, ICITAP helps to transition police organizations, previously under military control, into independent, civilian-led police forces that support democratic governance.

To prevent failed states from becoming safe havens for terrorist groups, ICITAP also provides advanced training on border and marine security; information systems and

## ICITAP's Post-Conflict Missions

Panama (1990-1999)  
El Salvador (1992-2004)  
Somalia (1993-1994)  
Haiti (1994-2000)  
Bosnia-Herzegovina (1996-present)  
Guatemala (1996-2003)  
Kosovo (1999-present)  
East Timor (2001-2006)  
Macedonia (2001-present)  
Afghanistan (2002-2003; 2009-2014)  
Iraq (2003-2012; 2017-present)

investigative, forensic, and criminal databases; special investigative techniques, such as computer forensics and cyber-crime, post-blast, trafficking, and kidnapping investigations; and unit-level, high-risk tactical training, including improvised explosive device detection and disposal and specialized weapons and tactics (SWAT) procedures.

## About ICITAP

ICITAP works with foreign governments to develop professional and transparent law enforcement institutions that protect human rights, combat corruption, and reduce the threat of transnational crime and terrorism. ICITAP supports both national security and foreign policy objectives.

ICITAP is funded by and works in partnership with the Department of State, USAID, and Department of Defense.