



Australian Government
AusAID

International | **Crisis Group**
WORKING TO PREVENT
CONFLICT WORLDWIDE

PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA
(Represented by the Australian Agency for International Development – AusAID)

AND

THE INTERNATIONAL CRISIS GROUP (ICG)

2009 – 2012

Introduction

I

1. The International Crisis Group has been providing authoritative analysis of key political, security and conflict issues of interest to the Australian Government for several years. Of particular interest has been its work on these issues in relation to East Timor, Indonesia, Afghanistan, Burma, Bangladesh, Nepal, southern Thailand and Sri Lanka. Crisis and security threat prevention and resolution has been of increasing policy interest to the Australian government.
2. The Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) has played a key role in taking this agenda forward. AusAID, given the increasingly fragile and conflict-affected environments in which it operates, and in recognition of the fundamental relationship between conflict and development, has been increasingly supporting and drawing on the analysis, policy formulation and advocacy services of the International Crisis Group.
3. AusAID acknowledges that the International Crisis Group is best placed to set its work program priorities and the core support covered by this partnership framework reflects and intends to facilitate this. However there are certain countries, geographic areas and issues which are of particular policy interest to AusAID and these will be the focus of AusAID's programming dialogue with the International Crisis Group. Areas of immediate interest include Indonesia, East Timor, Burma, and the southern Philippines. Emerging areas of interest include Central Asia and Africa. In relation to AusAID's long-standing engagement in the South Pacific AusAID will start a dialogue with International Crisis Group on the desirability and feasibility of establishing a modest work program focussed on a range of South Pacific issues.

Purpose

II

4. The purpose of this Partnership Framework is to articulate the principles, procedures and resources that will govern an enhanced relationship between AusAID and the International Crisis Group commencing in 2009 and completing by 30 June 2012.

Common Vision

III

5. The enhanced relationship between AusAID and the International Crisis Group will support research, analysis, policy formulation and advocacy efforts that complement

and reinforce the efforts of national governments, the UN and other international and regional organisations to prevent or resolve conflict and build a lasting peace.

Partnership Principles

IV

6. The Partnership Framework will be governed by the following principles:
- a) mutual respect for the contribution each agency can make to the partnership and in the pursuit of common goals whilst recognising that each agency has different skills, attributes and strengths; and
 - b) professionalism, honesty, cooperation, the sharing of ideas and open, two-way communication.

Partnership Objectives

V

7. The partnership framework will support the following specific objectives:
- a) To govern the provision by AusAID of financial support for the International Crisis Group's core work program which in turn aims to prevent or resolve crisis and conflict through:
 - i. The provision of informed, independent analysis of key trends and developments;
 - ii. The generation of practical, specific policy recommendations aimed at advancing and supporting conflict resolution, peace processes and state-building efforts; and
 - iii. The mobilisation of political support in conflict-affected countries, in their surrounding regions, in key country capitals, and in the international community at large for the implementation of policy recommendations to build peace and prevent conflicts.
 - b) To facilitate a stronger process of policy dialogue in which both organisations articulate their policy priorities and the rationale behind them.
 - c) To make provision for potential new areas of interaction between the organisations including a greater contribution to each organisation's policy and program formulation and review processes.

- d) To enable greater flexibility in the application of AusAID funding to areas which both organisations feel require attention.
- e) To increase the total quantum of AusAID financial resources available to support the International Crisis Group's work.
- f) To reduce the administrative burden facing both organisations associated with AusAID financial support by moving to core program support resourced from a central funding point within AusAID.
- g) Subject to mutual consent, to draw upon their respective networks to facilitate the conduct of each others work programs.

Operating Approach	VI
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The Partnership Objectives and Principles will be achieved through the following operating approach:

- 8. The key management element of this partnership framework will be a high level dialogue once every two years between senior AusAID and ICG staff. The dialogue will provide AusAID and the International Crisis Group with the opportunity to discuss the relationship, quality and relevance of the ICG's work program, identify future work priorities and discuss past and future funding provision.
- 9. Regular and routine maintenance of the partnership will be through the timely provision of reports, identified in the reporting section below, by the International Crisis Group to AusAID. AusAID will endeavour to provide timely responses to these documents where it has comments to offer.
- 10. Provision of AusAID comments on the International Crisis Group's annual work plan will be a key vehicle through which AusAID provides input into the programming priorities of the International Crisis Group.
- 11. Consistent with the desire for each organisation to make a greater contribution to each other's work program formulation and review processes AusAID and the International Crisis Group will seek:
 - 1) specific briefings of each other, either for general staff consumption or more targeted briefings for senior managers; and
 - 2) provision of comments on specific elements of each organisation's policy and programming work.

Both organisations will endeavour to respond positively to such requests.

12. Both organisations have extensive networks which they draw upon to undertake their work. AusAID has extensive links with partner governments (at all levels) and other donors whilst the International Crisis Group has links with senior policy makers and civil society. With mutual agreement, these networks will be drawn upon to support each others work programs.

13. The terms and conditions for the Partnership Framework funding are at Attachment A.

Duration	VII
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14. This Partnership Framework will come into effect on the date of signature by both organisations.

15. The Partnership Framework will conclude on 30 June 2012 or will terminate when one or both parties propose that the partnership has served its purpose and request an end to the agreement.

Attachments	VIII
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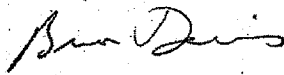
16. The following attachment forms part of this Framework:

Attachment A:

Partnership Framework – Terms and Conditions

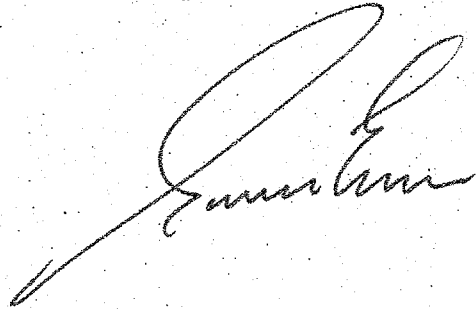
SIGNED in Canberra and Brussels on the 5th day of June 2009.

**For the Australian Agency for
International Development**

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bruce Davis".

**Mr Bruce Davis
Director General**

**For the International Crisis
Group**

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gareth Evans".

**Mr Gareth Evans
President & CEO**