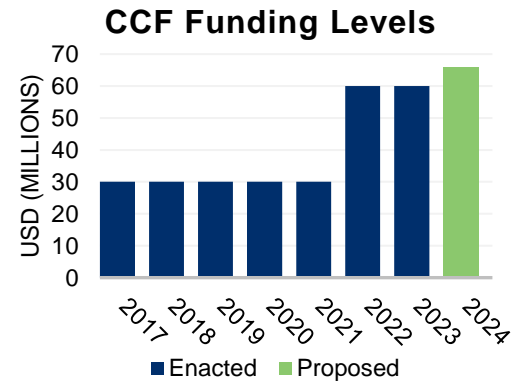


# Increase Investment in the Complex Crises Fund

*The Complex Crises Fund (CCF) supports the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in responding to emergent conflicts and crises. It is a flexible funding source for USAID to act in countries or regions that demonstrate a high or escalating risk of conflict, instability, or an unanticipated opportunity for progress towards sustainable peace.*

## BACKGROUND

The Complex Crises Fund [was created](#) by the 111th Congress in FY10. From FY15 to FY21, CCF funding remained stagnant at \$30 million. However, in FY22, the 117th Congress increased funding to \$60 million. The CCF is the only tool of its kind, providing global, flexible, and rapid-response funding to prevent and reduce violence. This funding enables USAID to strengthen capacity of local governments and citizens, and address growing risks of instability, and to respond to emerging or unforeseen conflicts. The CCF also provides critical funding in support of the Global Fragility Act (P.L. 116-94), enacted in December 2019.



## COMPLEX CRISES FUND IN ACTION

**Bangladesh:** Support from the CCF addressed growing instability and violence resulting from refugee and host community tensions and strengthened social cohesion to reduce future violence. With the arrival of over 745,000 Rohingya fleeing atrocities in Myanmar, the [largest and fastest influx of refugees into Bangladesh](#), tensions between refugee and host communities have been on the rise, with escalating [tit-for-tat violence and retributions](#). CCF funds were quickly mobilized to respond to the emergent violence and help stabilize the situation in 2018.

**Mali:** CCF resources were leveraged to strengthen communities and build youth resilience to violence and extremism. CCF-funded programs allowed USAID to quickly respond to escalating activities of non-state armed actors and increasing instability in the region. This response included support to a conflict early warning and response mechanism; activities to engage vulnerable youth in viable alternatives to violence, and programs aimed to strengthen resilience of communities vulnerable to extremism and violence.

## INCREASE INVESTMENT THE COMPLEX CRISES FUND

After remaining at stagnant funding level of \$30 million for six year, the 117th Congress increased the Complex Crises Fund to \$60 million in FY22. Despite this increase, additional funding is still needed to address emerging conflicts around the world. In their 2022 States of Fragility Report, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) [identified 60 fragile countries, the highest number in any States of Fragility report](#), with 15 considered 'extremely fragile.' Additionally the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP), found that [the average level of global peacefulness deteriorated](#) in 2021. This is the [eleventh year](#) with an average deterioration, in the last fourteen years.

The CCF is the only tool of its kind, providing global, flexible, and rapid funding to respond to developing complex crises. Given the increase in global fragility, and continued deterioration of global peacefulness, increasing investment in the CCF will help ensure USAID has the flexible resources necessary to respond to emergent crisis in fragile states with a high or escalating risk of conflict, violence, or instability the coming year.

**We request that no less than \$66 million be appropriated to the Complex Crises Fund in FY24**

# Examples of Complex Crises Fund Programs

Country	Start Year	Amount	Purpose
<b>Bangladesh</b>	2018	\$3,200,000	To address growing risks of instability and violence as a result of tensions between refugees and host communities, with a focus on strengthening social cohesion, and reducing risks of communal violence in areas impacted by the refugee crisis. The program works to improve access to reliable information and build capacity for non-violent conflict resolution. The program addresses critical gaps in the prevention of trafficking in persons and protection of trafficking victims.
<b>Mali</b>	2018	\$3,000,000	To prevent and respond to violence and counter the potential for further destabilization in central Mali. The program includes activities to strengthen the resilience of vulnerable communities to violence and extremism in Mali's two central regions, Mopti and Segou. The program supports conflict early warning management, and mitigation mechanisms; assistance to survivors of violence; and activities to constructively engage and empower youth with viable alternatives to extremist ideology and recruitment.
<b>Mozambique</b>	2019	\$2,000,000	To address insecurity and increasing violence in Cabo Delgado province that threatens to destabilize a region critical to Mozambique's future economic growth and security, with a focus on mitigating the drivers of instability and violent extremism in the province. The program includes activities to strengthen the economic and civic empowerment of youth; promote constructive engagement between communities and local government; and build capacity of local governments to address community and youth priorities. The program strengthens stakeholders' understanding of the drivers of instability and violent extremism. The program also informs USAID's planning to address instability as part of the expansion of development programs in Cabo Delgado.
<b>South Sudan</b>	2019	\$4,200,000	To reach citizens with timely, accurate information at a critical juncture in South Sudan's peace process, counter misinformation, and promote conflict mitigation and reconciliation in communities across the country. The program supports independent media and leverages independent radio networks to disseminate critical information and facilitate dialogue on peace and security issues. It includes targeted efforts to reach women and citizens in rural and insecure communities.
<b>Libya</b>	2021	\$2,250,000	To strengthen the foundation for a more unified Libyan state by supporting elections and civic education. This program supports Libyan-led initiatives that improve election administration and security, support transparent electoral processes, and encourage civic and political participation to support the country's ongoing transition to a stable and democratic state.