Program Overview

The Combating Terrorism Fellowship Program (CTFP) is a U.S. Department of Defense program that provides education to international security personnel as part of the global effort to combat terrorism.

It assists key countries in the war on terrorism by providing strategic and operational level education and training to mid to senior-level foreign military and civilian officials with a direct role in combating terrorism. Policy oversight is provided by the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations/Low Intensity Conflict & Combating Terrorism (SO/L IC & IC) while program execution and financial management is administered by the Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA).

CTFP is specifically designed to help reinforce combating terrorism capabilities of partner nations, as well as build and strengthen the global network of combating terrorism experts and practitioners who are committed to fighting this threat.

CTFP graduates are expected to have a positive impact on their countries’ abilities to cooperate with the United States in the war on terrorism.

Facts and Figures

In fiscal year 2011, 39 African countries benefitted from CTFP educational and training opportunities at a cost of nearly $5.8 million. The overall worldwide CTFP budget stands at roughly $35 million. Many CTFP graduates of invitational and other individual training and education have played key roles in their countries combating terrorism efforts, such as working in a National Counter Terrorism Center, developing Counter Terrorism policy and doctrine for their countries’ security forces, or commanding national counter-terrorism assets.

Some of the courses CTFP alumni have attended include: Special Operations Masters programs, International Counterterrorism Fellows program, Seminar on Trans-Atlantic Civil Security, Seminar on Special Operations Combating Terrorism and the Combating Terrorism Executive Seminars.

Mid to senior-level foreign military and civilian/security officials with a direct role in combating terrorism in their home country are eligible to participate.

Other Sources

Defense Institute of International Legal Studies

Foreign Military Financing Account Summary (U.S. Department of State)

Regional Defense Counterterrorism Fellows Program