Program Overview

The Foreign Military Financing (FMF) program provides grants and loans to assist foreign nations in purchasing U.S. produced weapons, defense articles, defense services and military training, and supports U.S. regional stability goals and enables friends and allies to improve their defense capabilities.

U.S. Congress appropriates FMF funds in the International Affairs Budget, the Department of State allocates the funds for eligible friends and allies, and the Department of Defense executes the program.

The FMF program supports U.S. Africa Command (AFRICOM) theater objectives to support strategic partnerships, addressing security for enhanced regional stability.

FMF helps countries meet their legitimate defense needs, promotes U.S. national security interests by strengthening coalitions with friends and allies, cements cooperative bilateral military relationships, and enhances interoperability with U.S. forces.

Facts and Figures

The FMF program in Africa has grown from $16M million in fiscal year 2008 to $45 million in fiscal year 2011. Approximately 18 nations receive grants through the FMF program. In FY 2011, the largest benefitting country in the AFRICOM area of responsibility (AOR) was Tunisia with an allocation of $17 million, followed by Morocco with $9 million and Liberia with $7 million.

The countries within the AFRICOM AOR that receive FMF include: Botswana, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Liberia, Libya, Mali, Morocco, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Tunisia, and Uganda.

Impact

FMF enables the United States to meet many of its foreign policy objectives while supporting its allies in improving their defense capabilities. The support provided through the FMF program has been the key to synchronization efforts with other security cooperation programs. It provides sustainment and supports building defense capabilities for long-term security cooperation.

Other Sources

FMF Program (Defense Security Cooperation Agency)

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