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Development

The Global Conflict Prevention Pool

A joint UK Government approach to reducing conflict



Contents

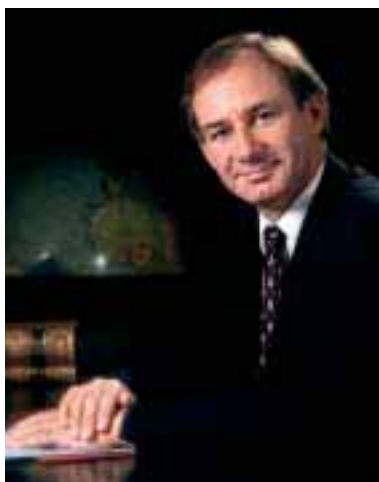


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Glossary

ASEAN	Association of South East Asian Nations
BMATT	British Military and Advisory Training Team
CEE	Central and Eastern Europe
CHAD	Conflict and Humanitarian Affairs Department (part of DFID)
CoE	Council of Europe
DDR	Disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration
DFID	Department for International Development
DPA	Department of Political Affairs (United Nations)
DPKO	Department of Peacekeeping Operations (United Nations)
EU	European Union
FCO	Foreign and Commonwealth Office
FRY	Former Republic of Yugoslavia
MEPP	Middle East Peace Process
MOD	Ministry of Defence
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
NGO	Non-governmental organisation
OAS	Organisation of American States
OCHA	United Nations Office for the Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs
ODIHR	Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (part of OSCE)
OHCHR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
OSCE	Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe
SALW	Small arms and light weapons
SSR	Security sector reform
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
UNTAET	United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor

Foreword



The cost of conflict in terms of lives lost, communities divided and livelihoods devastated is immense. The cost to the UK and the wider international community of resolving violent conflicts and their aftermath is substantial. Preventing conflict is both better and more cost-effective than resolving it. Preventing conflict is also vital if we are to promote international security and stability, protect human rights and reduce poverty. It is therefore a fundamental responsibility of the international community to find ways to stop violent conflict from erupting or re-igniting.

The UK has been successfully working in the field of conflict prevention and reduction for many years. But we want to keep improving the effectiveness of our work. We have therefore begun to approach conflict-related work by combining the different perspectives of security, foreign policy and development to achieve coherent and creative solutions, seeking to address the underlying causes of conflict as well as tackling the consequences.

The UK's Global Conflict Prevention Pool, along with the Africa Conflict Prevention Pool, is one such initiative. The Global Pool, established in 2001, combines the knowledge and resources of the Ministry of Defence (MOD), the Department for International Development (DFID) and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO). It has a unique funding arrangement specifically voted by parliament for conflict prevention and reduction.

The UK government strongly believes that through a process of team working across these departments, from policy formulation to programme delivery, a more strategic and cost-effective approach to conflict reduction can be realised. Activities of the Global Pool seek to harness the expertise available within these government departments across a wide range of sectors including development, security reform, public administration, good policing and equitable justice systems.

This report highlights how this groundbreaking initiative in joined-up government has begun to enhance the UK government's contribution to conflict prevention and management. A secure, safer and more peaceful world, with increased prosperity and a better quality of life worldwide are our aims. Working to prevent and reduce conflict is a major step on the road to achieving these.

Introduction



Thousands of Afghan people were displaced during two decades of conflict

The Global Conflict Prevention Pool and the Africa Conflict Prevention Pool were set up by the UK government with the aim of reducing the number of people around the world whose lives are affected by violent conflict and, ultimately, of cutting the number of conflicts that occur. This report looks at how the Global Pool has been working towards these targets in the two years to March 2003.

The Global Pool was born out of the 'joined-up government' initiative, which encourages departments to integrate their policy-making and programme delivery. The Pool has brought together the conflict prevention work of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), Ministry of Defence (MOD) and Department for International Development (DFID), helping them increase the impact of what they do through better co-ordination and common strategies.

The effects of conflict

Every day the terrible effects of armed conflict are felt by ordinary people around the world. Some of that suffering is brought home to us by TV, radio and newspaper reports, but much more goes on out of public sight. In the 12 years since the Cold War ended, there have been 57 different major armed conflicts in 45 locations,¹ and millions have been killed or injured.

Today, wars are increasingly taking place within rather than across national borders and drawing in whole societies, not just their armed forces. The UN estimates

that 90 per cent of conflict victims are civilians.² While human beings killed, wounded or fleeing for their lives may be the most visible and emotive consequence of conflict, the effects go wider and deeper.

Conflict devastates economies, robbing people of their livelihoods. It damages infrastructure, which then affects health, welfare and education systems. Money is often diverted from essential services to the military to try to stabilise the situation and provide security. Lack of economic confidence and stability deters investors, while allowing unregulated or 'shadow' economies to thrive. Conflict-affected countries are fertile ground for criminal activities such as narcotics production and smuggling, money laundering and the theft of resources to fund transnational organised crime.

Conflict also damages society, breaking down social cohesion, separating families and destroying traditional cultural patterns. Governments under threat often seek to control media and civil organisations, stifling democracy and creating a climate of fear. Conflict creates and exacerbates divisions, highlighting people's differences rather than focusing on what they have in common.

And the effects are not confined to those countries directly involved. Neighbouring countries may be drawn into the conflict, or find themselves hosting large numbers of refugees, while the international community — including the UK — may become involved to try to resolve it.

Criminal activity in one country can also create social, economic and political problems thousands of miles from the conflict itself.

Managing conflict

There are compelling political, humanitarian and practical reasons for taking steps to resolve and prevent violent conflict. The international community as a whole has a responsibility to seek to provide the global security and stability which will minimise the human suffering and reduce the economic devastation that can result from violent conflict. That community needs to work harder — and work together more effectively — to meet the huge, diverse and evolving challenges posed by violent conflict. The UK is already playing an active part in this.

The UK government recognises that elements of conflict are an essential part of all social and political change, so eradicating conflict altogether is an unrealistic goal. What the government aims to do through the Global Conflict Prevention Pool is to help manage conflict and to stop it spilling over into violence.

But the Pool also has to be pragmatic. Successful conflict prevention requires practical tools for resolving armed conflict and helping countries recover and rebuild, so that underlying tensions do not cause conflict to flare up again. Building up international and regional peacekeeping capabilities plays an important role in this. Conflict prevention work must also go hand-in-hand with development initiatives: conflict can exacerbate

many of the problems associated with poverty, while economic stability can form a strong basis for peace. UN Secretary General Kofi Annan has said: ‘The prevention of conflict begins and ends with the promotion of human security and human development.’

About this report

This report provides an overview of the Global Conflict Prevention Pool’s strategies and programmes from April 2001 to March 2003. Section A, ‘Tackling conflict around the world’, looks at the geographical strategies. Section B, ‘Supporting the strategies’, looks at the two thematic areas. Section C, ‘Strengthening international response’, looks at how the Pool is supporting the conflict prevention efforts of the EU, the OSCE and the Council of Europe and the UN.

All the projects and initiatives discussed within the individual strategy sections are wholly or partly funded by the Global Pool.

Please note that we cannot always give full details of Pool activities because of the need to maintain the trust of parties to a conflict or peace process.

The next chapter looks in more detail at how the Pool was formed and how it works.



A UN observer looks on as a member of Afghanistan's Loya Jirga votes for a new leader



Anti-government protesters in Tbilisi, Georgia. The transition to democracy can leave countries vulnerable to conflict



ISAF – the International Security Assistance Force – has been working with the Afghan police to restore law and order in Kabul

1 SIPRI Yearbook 2002, Appendix 1A.

2 UN Foundation factsheet *Conflict prevention and peace building*

www.unfoundation.org/media_center/

The UK's conflict prevention role and the Conflict Prevention Pools



The Foreign and Commonwealth Office



The Ministry of Defence



The Department for International Development

The UK has been working to manage and prevent conflict for many years and in many different ways: contributing to peacekeeping operations around the world, using quiet diplomacy, taking part in defence collaboration and supporting countries' transition to democracy, as well as running large scale development aid programmes in countries suffering the effects of violent conflict and inter-communal tension. The UK has also made a significant contribution to the conflict prevention work of the United Nations (UN), the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) and the European Union (EU).

Three government departments — the FCO, DFID and the MOD — have traditionally been involved in conflict prevention work.

Previously, each took responsibility for activity in their own areas of expertise. Since 2001, these departments have been working closely together under the umbrella of two Conflict Prevention Pools, developing joint policies and co-ordinating their work in order to maximise its impact and effectiveness.

Joining up government

This new approach originated in 2000, when a government-wide review of conflict prevention work was carried out as part of the 'joined-up government' initiative. This aimed to encourage different departments working in similar areas to co-operate more closely, increasing effectiveness by cutting out duplication and making sure each department's work supports and complements the others'.

The review concluded that the UK's contribution to conflict prevention could be even more effective if it was co-ordinated across departmental boundaries. It also called for more focus on conflict prevention as well as conflict resolution and post-conflict reconstruction, with the aim of reducing the likelihood of conflict and the costs to the international community and the UK that go with it.

The two Pools

In response to the review, the UK government set up two Conflict Prevention Pools: the Africa Pool, which covers sub-Saharan Africa, and the Global Conflict Prevention Pool (GCPP) which covers the rest of the world.

The aim of the Pools is to integrate UK policy-making so that the three departments can develop shared strategies for dealing with conflict and make the practical programmes they fund as effective as possible. Most Pool activities form part of longer-term strategies, with the partner departments first analysing the situation then agreeing a conflict prevention strategy to fit the circumstances.

This emphasis on joint working is reflected in the fact that the three departments now share a demanding Public Sector Agreement (PSA) target.



The shared PSA target

‘Improved effectiveness of the UK contribution to conflict prevention and management, as demonstrated by a reduction in the number of people whose lives are affected by violent conflict and a reduction in potential sources of conflict, where the UK can make a significant contribution.’

UK funding for peacekeeping and other peace support operations was also brought within the management structure of the Pools, having previously been paid for direct from the Treasury’s Departmental Expenditure Limits (DEL) reserve. This move was intended to improve the relationship between peacekeeping and other conflict prevention work, and to streamline management of the peacekeeping budgets.

Initially, each department put in funds from their own budget, with the Treasury providing additional resources. Today the Pools bid for money alongside their parent departments in each Governmental Spending Round.

Managing the Pools

Both Pools are overseen by Cabinet committees comprising the Foreign Secretary, the Secretary of State for International Development, the Defence Secretary and the Chief Secretary to the Treasury. DFID chairs the Africa Pool, the FCO the Global Pool.

Each Pool is managed at working level by a joint steering team made up of officials from each department. These Pool steering teams prepare an agreed view of priorities for UK work on conflict prevention, recommend budgets for delivering programmes and develop processes for Pool management.

Below this level, the Africa and Global Pools have different ways of co-ordinating their work. The Global Pool’s system is outlined on page 8.

What the Pools have achieved

Setting up the Pools has helped the partner departments work more closely together. It has also increased the impact of their work: bringing together the security and development aspects of conflict prevention has been particularly valuable, as initiatives must include both these elements if they are to lead to lasting stability. Inevitably, their departmental priorities mean that the Pool partners bring different perspectives to their work, but the Pools provide an opportunity to resolve differences and achieve consensus on the best way forward.

Working together is also helping the departments carry out more detailed and consistent policy analysis, and establish a more integrated approach to developing and implementing programmes on the ground. The Pools are therefore strengthening the UK’s contribution to international conflict prevention efforts by ensuring that initiatives are based on evidence of what works and are well targeted.

An independent evaluation is being undertaken in 2003 to look at how the Pools are run and assess the impact of their work to date.

The Global Conflict Prevention Pool in practice

In the two years to March 2003, the Global Pool has been working to deliver its PSA target through a wide range of projects grouped under 12 geographical or thematic strategies. Three further strategies aim to strengthen the conflict prevention capabilities of European and international organisations.

The Global Pool's programme budget was £60 million in 2001/02 and £68 million in 2002/03. In 2002/03, the budget was boosted by a rebate from the UN of money that the UK had committed to UN Protection Force (UNPROFOR) operations in Bosnia in the early 1990s. The budget will rise to £74 million in 2003/04. See the Annex (page 40) for a breakdown of budgets for each strategy in 2001/02 and 2002/03.

Setting priorities

Aside from the obvious value of reducing the number of human lives affected by conflict and improving international security, there is growing evidence that early preventative action is far more cost-effective than stepping in once violent conflict has already started. The Global Pool therefore prioritises activity that contributes to long-term peacebuilding. Post-conflict reconstruction also forms a significant part of its work. This involves strengthening governance and putting systems in place that make further violent conflict less likely, as well as dealing with the immediate aftermath.

Ministers are responsible for setting priority areas, based on recommendations made by the Global Pool steering team which in turn has evaluated all the ideas put forward by the three departments. The criteria considered by the steering team and ministers include:

- ◆ **How important is it that the conflict** or underlying cause of conflict is addressed in terms of UK and other significant international interests, the number of people affected, and public concern? What impact will resolving/averting the conflict have on our overall aims, as set out in the PSA target?
- ◆ **Will UK involvement make a significant contribution to preventing or resolving the conflict?** Is the UK encouraging other donors and co-ordinating its activity with other actors in the field?
- ◆ **Is there an international effort** under way or in view to resolve the conflict?
- ◆ **Within the UK government, does joint effort between Pool partners and any funding through the Pool make the UK intervention more effective,** or would it be better carried out by an individual department? Is the Pool the right funding mechanism?

Once priorities are set, funding is allocated and the geographical and other expert areas of the three departments can focus on turning their strategies into practical programmes of work.

Managing the strategies

Under the leadership of a strategy manager, the relevant areas of the three departments plan the work within each strategy, calling on expertise from across their departments, overseas posts, non-governmental experts and interest groups.

This planning also includes detail about the delivery of programmes. Project definition and management is often carried out by overseas staff, who know what will work on the ground and can ensure that local conditions and sensitivities are fully taken into account. These staff work closely with non-governmental organisations (NGOs), the private sector and academic institutions, as well as international organisations like the UN and the OSCE to deliver the Pool's conflict prevention work.



The OSCE Secretariat Office at the Hofburg Palace, Vienna

Each strategy manager heads a strategy management team that includes representatives from all the partner departments. The team may be based in London or at the relevant overseas post. The manager is also responsible for ensuring the integration of defence, development, foreign policy, law enforcement and economic perspectives in all Pool activities within their area. They monitor and evaluate the work of the various programmes, gathering valuable information on what works — and what doesn't — in a range of different conflict regions.

Activities under the various strategies include:

- ◆ Carrying out conflict assessments to measure the likely impact of policies and programmes on conflict situations.
- ◆ Supporting peace initiatives.
- ◆ Promoting safety and security, which may include supporting military efforts to stabilise a conflict situation.
- ◆ Supporting fair and accessible justice systems.
- ◆ Improving the professionalism and accountability of security organisations like the police and armed forces.
- ◆ Enhancing local military capacity to contribute effectively and efficiently to regional and international peacekeeping and other peace support tasks.
- ◆ Demobilising, disarming and reintegrating soldiers into society.
- ◆ Helping civil society organisations defuse the tensions which can lead to

violent conflict. This can include some promotion of human rights.

- ◆ Using research and ongoing evaluation to inform and adapt Pool activities in response to changing circumstances.
- ◆ Helping the UN and other organisations such as the OSCE and EU develop their capacity to plan and implement peace support, and increasing their understanding of best practice in this field.

Geographical strategies

- ◆ Afghanistan
- ◆ The Balkans
- ◆ Belize and Guatemala
- ◆ Central and Eastern Europe
- ◆ India and Pakistan
- ◆ Indonesia and East Timor
- ◆ The Middle East and North Africa
- ◆ Nepal
- ◆ Russia and the former Soviet Union
- ◆ Sri Lanka

What the Global Pool doesn't fund

The Global Pool does not fund humanitarian relief work, including support to refugees and displaced people, as individual departments are already engaged in this work on a large scale.

Thematic strategies

- ◆ Security sector reform
- ◆ Small arms and light weapons

Most de-mining, good governance and human rights activities are also excluded, unless they clearly form an integral part of a conflict

prevention strategy. For example, the Pool has funded the provision of election monitors in areas of high tension, initiatives aimed at re-establishing the rule of law in the Balkans, and human rights projects in Nepal.

International strategies

- ◆ The EU
- ◆ OSCE and the Council of Europe
- ◆ The UN



On some occasions, Pool funding has been used to supply military equipment where this forms part of an integrated conflict prevention strategy and is crucial to ensuring the stability of a conflict area and to the success of the strategy. Such decisions are scrutinised carefully, often at ministerial level. The Pool takes into account the risk of any equipment supplied being misused by the recipient or falling into other hands, and the likely political consequences. Ministers will always take the final decision on any supply of weapons and ammunition.

The Quick Response Fund

Activities that fall within the Global Pool's remit but do not fit into existing strategies can be funded through a separate Global Pool Quick Response Fund, provided all Pool partners agree

and the activities in question support the PSA target. This might happen where an activity is in an area where the Pool does not plan to set up a long-term strategy, or where rapid intervention is needed to deal with a new conflict situation.

Peacekeeping

The peacekeeping element of the Global Pool funds FCO, MOD and DFID contributions to peace support activity. It is split into two parts: assessed and non-assessed, and budgets are set at the beginning of each financial year.

The assessed element meets the cost of the obligatory UK contribution to international organisations' peace support activities. The UK contributed 6.8 per cent of the UN peacekeeping budget¹ and 10.34 per cent of the OSCE's mission budget during the period covered by this report. The non-assessed element funds voluntary contributions to peace support activities. This includes the cost of sending UK troops or civilian personnel to participate in UN peacekeeping missions and the cost of the UK representation in operations such as the EU Jericho Monitors, part of the Middle East Peace Process.

For more information on the Africa Pool, see FCO (2001) *The causes of conflict in sub-Saharan Africa* (available online at www.dfid.gov.uk). For more information on peacekeeping activities, see www.mod.uk/aboutus/defence_matters/info_pages/mak_diff.html and www.peacekeeping.co.uk



¹ Contribution levels are set by member states at the General Assembly, and are based partly on countries' GDP.

The Afghanistan strategy



President Hamid Karzai marks UN Day Against Drugs 2002

Afghanistan presents particular challenges for conflict prevention. The country has no history of centralised government, and two decades of war have led to the weakening or collapse of many institutions. Local economic structures have been seriously damaged and food production reduced to the bare minimum. Many people have been forced to leave their homes.

Following the fall of the Taliban regime, conflict prevention in Afghanistan is one of the UK government's key foreign policy priorities. The overriding objective is to support the December 2001 Bonn Agreement, which brought together representatives from all the major groups in Afghanistan with the aim of building a more democratic and representative government by 2004. Despite the problems Afghanistan continues to face, the climate post-Bonn is more positive than for many years and the international community has an excellent opportunity to bring about real and lasting changes in this troubled country.

The Pool is encouraging women to play an active role in Afghan politics by providing childcare facilities in the main parliament building



The Global Pool's Afghanistan strategy is constantly being revised in response to the changing situation on the ground. Pool initiatives must also complement rather than duplicate the work of the UN and the rest of the international community. Improving short-term security and carrying out longer-term security sector reform (SSR) is essential: without stability it will be impossible to work towards other goals like alleviating poverty, promoting development, countering drugs and eradicating terrorism.

Rebuilding the security sector

There is significant international involvement in the reform of the Afghan security sector. The G8 countries led a conference in Geneva in April 2002, which included the Afghan foreign minister and UN Special Representative Brahimi. The UK agreed to lead on counter-narcotics work (see page 12). The G8 is still the lead forum for co-ordinating the international community's SSR work.

The overall aim is to have a viable Afghan security sector by summer 2004. Key milestones achieved so far include the setting up of the Office of the National Security Adviser, operational since November 2002, the establishment of the Afghan-manned Counter-Narcotics Directorate in January 2003, and the development of a clear Afghan-owned strategy for counter-narcotics.

Afghanistan's security apparatus is being rebuilt from scratch. A plan for the new Afghan National Army was formalised by a decree signed by President Hamid Karzai at the Bonn II Conference in December 2002. The decree, which acts as a road map for re-establishing permanent government institutions, states that the new army must be subordinate to the civil government and be ethnically and regionally balanced. It also calls for the disarming and reintegration of all other armed groups. Supported by Pool funding, the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan is drawing up a disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration (DDR) implementation plan. The Pool has also funded the secondment of advisers to the National Security Council, one of whom will focus on DDR.

A key part of building an effective, accountable army is attracting and keeping intelligent, capable recruits. The Pool has helped the Army purchase essential communications equipment and vehicles and is contributing to salaries. The strategy has also helped fund the refurbishment of the Palace Barracks in Kabul. All of these measures are helping

to make the Army a more viable career option for high calibre candidates.

Police reform

Germany is taking the lead on police training, but UK involvement is increasing. Representatives from Bramshill Police College in Hampshire have visited Kabul twice to identify potential projects and give pre-course training to officers selected to attend courses at Bramshill. Future plans include sending six ex-policemen to Kabul to help re-establish the police force and provide ongoing training.

Tackling drugs

In 2002, farmers who voluntarily eradicated their opium poppy crop were offered one-off financial assistance. In the same year the Afghan authorities destroyed more than 16,500 hectares of opium, preventing 76 tonnes of heroin worth US\$8 billion from reaching the West.

These are positive steps, but banning opium is not enough: the UK government needs to help Afghan people introduce other crops and find alternative livelihoods. The problem is complex and requires a long-term commitment, so helping the Afghan authorities organise themselves to tackle it is vital. The Pool is currently helping with all aspects of capacity-building including training, mentoring and funding personnel and equipment in the new Counter-Narcotics Directorate.

Good governance

The post of National Security Adviser was created at the specific request of President Karzai. The Pool has allocated funding to support the office of the adviser, Dr Rassoul, for three years and set up training and consultancy workshops to clarify organisational structures and working procedures, and help Dr Rassoul and his team understand their place in government. In February 2003 Dr Rassoul came to London to look at the structures and functions of the UK government. The UK has been instrumental in drafting a framework for SSR, endorsed by the G8 SSR Working Group, which is now being developed by Dr Rassoul and his staff.



Eradicating opium requires a long-term commitment

Strengthening the media

The Pool supports the work of the Institute for War and Peace Reporting (IWPR), which strengthens local journalism in conflict areas by training journalists, facilitating dialogue and providing reliable information. Since March 2002, IWPR has been running successful training courses for Afghan journalists with the aim of establishing a responsible print media sector.

An independent media is essential to conflict resolution, political participation and long-term peace and stability. But in the past two decades, many journalists fled or were killed and those that survived did so by strictly censoring their own work. New media ventures are emerging quickly, but the basic principles of responsible reporting are still largely unknown.

Over the last year IWPR has trained 371 journalists, including 53 women. Over 200 articles have been published, each translated into Dari, Pashtu and English. These articles have then been republished in local and international media outlets a total of 352 times, disseminating international standards of journalism throughout the country and making IWPR the only international channel for Afghan journalists.

Looking ahead

The Pool will continue to support a wide range of SSR activities, including developing and training the army and police. The strategy will also focus on judicial reform, promoting human rights and counter-narcotics work. There will be more emphasis on promoting democratic rule in the regions, in support of wider UK political aims. The Pool has allocated significant resources to support UN-led work on DDR during the run-up to elections in Afghanistan in mid-2004. It is also looking at ways of improving the sustainability of existing projects, particularly through better care and maintenance of equipment.



IWPR trainees are using techniques like interviewing to enhance the accuracy of their reporting



Foreign Secretary Jack Straw at an ANA training session run by soldiers from the Royal Anglian Regiment

The Balkans strategy



Reintegrating people into society post-conflict is a vital part of the Pool's work in the Balkans. This man was displaced by war, and had been living for years as a hermit in the mountains

Since the collapse of Communism, the Former Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY) has suffered years of fierce conflict, resulting in considerable loss of life and damage to economies and infrastructure. Many of the causes of conflict, including inter-ethnic disputes, still affect people in the region today. The human, social and economic impact on the region has highlighted the need for the international community to take a more proactive approach to conflict prevention.

The Pool strategy seeks to co-ordinate efforts to transform the Balkan countries into peaceful, law-abiding states ahead of integration into the EU and NATO. Pool funding is supporting work in many areas including democracy, inter-ethnic relations, organised crime, security sector reform (SSR) and the justice sector.

Strengthening democracy and inter-ethnic relations

In April 2002, Foreign Office Minister Denis MacShane opened the International Conference on History Education in South East Europe in Athens. Scholars and teachers drew up a set of practical recommendations to help schools throughout the region teach more regional history and expose students to a range of points of view.

The Pool supports the work of Croatian NGO GONG, which monitors elections and educates people about election laws and processes. GONG also runs a range of ongoing programmes including Open Parliament, which gives citizens access to parliamentary sessions, and

Citizens' Hour, which encourages regular communication between constituents and their elected representatives.

In Montenegro the Pool has helped set up an ISDN network so radio stations throughout the country can exchange information and programmes and improve the quality of their output. The network also supports efforts to stimulate public debate on any future referendum on independence.

Closure and justice

Uncertainty about the fate of their loved ones is a continuing source of anguish for the hundreds of thousands who lost family members in the conflicts, and a major barrier to rebuilding society.

The International Commission for Missing Persons (ICMP) is a charity that identifies bodies exhumed from mass graves in the former Yugoslavia. ICMP's pioneering techniques have accelerated and cut the cost of making positive identifications, bringing closure for bereaved family members and providing valuable evidence for war crimes tribunals in The Hague.

Speaking at the Commission's Board meeting in Washington in October 2002, US Secretary of State Colin Powell praised its work: 'You have built relationships with families as well as governments, to bring closure as well as justice.' ICMP has used Pool funding to buy vehicles and essential chemical reagents, and to furnish and equip DNA laboratories in Banja Luka and Belgrade.



Advanced DNA techniques are being used to identify victims of the Balkans conflicts

Safety, security and access to justice

The Pool's detailed three-year strategy on safety, security and access to justice recognises the need to support reform across the police, prosecution services, courts and prisons throughout the Balkans region. There are three components: developing affordable justice sector policies; improving community policing and justice delivery at local level; and regional lesson learning.

Three projects are under way. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Pool is working to strengthen the capacity of the two Ministries of Justice and help the Office of the High Representative (OHR) develop a long-term strategy for the justice sector. In Serbia, the Pool is helping to build the policy formulation, planning and budgeting capacity of the Ministries of the Interior and Justice, and supporting the implementation in selected localities of community-based policing and community safety schemes that prevent and reduce crime and disorder, reduce tensions and build public confidence in a modern Serbian police service.

The consultants undertaking this work are developing nine further proposals for Bosnia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Croatia, Serbia and the region as a whole.

The European Commission has made a significant commitment to the reform of justice and home affairs in the Balkans. The Pool is currently helping justice sector institutions to negotiate for and use EC funding effectively, and is

also liaising with other international donors to improve co-ordination of the overall aid effort in this region.

Security sector reform

A doctrine for the armed forces in Bosnia and Herzegovina has been agreed, and implementation will be linked with the establishment of the Peace Support Operations Training Centre (see page 16).

Education

English language training 'opens up' individual soldiers to international thinking and enables closer co-operation in multilateral military operations. Many soldiers who have attended Pool-sponsored training courses now occupy influential positions within their national command structures.

The Pool also supports a range of seminars for armed forces

personnel. In 2002, topics included restructuring, peace-keeping doctrine, crisis management and international law. Measuring the impact of this work is difficult, but anecdotal evidence suggests it can be valuable — for example, an officer who attended a seminar on military law has directly influenced the development and implementation of the FRY's new military legislation.

Reintegration

The Pool is working with the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and the International Organisation for Migration to reduce the impact of some 12,000 personnel leaving the armed forces in Bosnia and Herzegovina, where unemployment already stands at around 40 per cent. The Pool is helping to fund the provision of

The NATO mission hands over to the EU in Macedonia, March 2003



starter 'tool kits' for new businesses, and has prepared 160 ex-service personnel for new jobs as fire fighters. Local authorities have agreed to give them jobs for at least two years, bringing much-needed fire cover to 27 communities.

Tackling organised crime

The Pool is working closely with the United Nations Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) and the Office of the High Representative in Bosnia to reduce levels of organised crime. A prosecutor from the Serious Fraud Office has been seconded to work alongside lawyers in the Serious Crime Unit in Bosnia, while a UK lawyer has been seconded to UNMIK's Sensitive Information and Operations Unit. Pool funding has also been used to purchase criminal analysis software, and to teach staff how to use it.

Crimewatch Kosovo

In 2002 the Pool funded a six-part TV series, *Crimewatch Kosovo*. Using the same format as the BBC's own *Crimewatch* show, the series aimed to break down barriers between citizens and the police and to tackle the culture of impunity. Each live programme was anchored by members of the police force and featured crime reconstructions and appeals for information from the public. The series was a huge success, and another six episodes will be made and screened in 2003.

Looking ahead

The Pool will continue to provide training for the region's security forces. Plans for a Peace Support Operations Training Centre in Bosnia and Herzegovina are well under way. Building work should begin shortly, and the first training courses are scheduled for spring 2004.

A reintegration programme for personnel leaving the armed forces in Serbia and Montenegro, similar to that already running in Bosnia and Herzegovina, is likely to begin later this year, helping to take forward the modernisation and reform of the security sector across the region.

In the field of inter-ethnic relations, the Pool will continue to support projects designed to help those displaced during the conflict to return home. Justice sector reform, particularly in Kosovo and Bosnia, is also a high priority. The Pool is planning to expand its existing community policing projects to other countries in the region, based on the lessons learned from earlier successes.

Victoria Whitford of the British Office in Pristina with the *Crimewatch Kosovo* crew



The Belize and Guatemala strategy



LtoR: Belize Foreign Minister Assad Shoman, OAS Secretary General Cesar Gaviria and Guatemalan Foreign Minister Gabriel Orellana Rojas announce proposals aimed at resolving the border dispute

The border dispute between the former British colony of Belize and neighbouring Guatemala is hindering economic development, frustrating free trade and causing civilian casualties. As well as resolving these problems, a peaceful final settlement would avert the need for costly international arbitration or military intervention and set a positive example to other countries in the region with disputed borders.

Although the latest round of negotiations, sponsored by the Organisation of American States (OAS) and supported by the UK, ended inconclusively, the two countries have agreed in principle to take forward the facilitators' proposals and are implementing confidence-building measures.

The Global Pool is working with the OAS to secure a lasting settlement and supporting projects aimed at reducing tensions, encouraging co-operation between security agencies and addressing the underlying causes of conflict.

Education and communication

The Thomson Foundation has been teaching journalists in Belize and Guatemala the principles of accurate, balanced reporting. NGO network Just World Partners has used its Pool funding to run workshops on tackling conflict along the border and identifying sustainable sources of income for communities on both sides. The Pool is also working with the English Language Programme to help government agencies, the armed forces and the police communicate better by teaching

Spanish to Belizeans and English to Guatemalans.

In early 2003, representatives from Belize, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico attended a training course run by the Royal Navy and supported by the Pool. The course aim was to encourage co-ordination and co-operation between the region's maritime agencies.

Building accountable security forces

In the past, border negotiations have led to riots in Belize. The Pool has therefore funded training courses, based at the police training college at Bramshill, to help Belizean police manage public order operations while safeguarding human rights. Training aimed at making the Guatemalan security services more transparent, democratic and accountable is also planned.

Looking ahead

The Pool will continue to support confidence-building measures, particularly among communities living near the border, and to maintain the integrity of land and maritime boundaries. After the Guatemalan elections in November, the strategy will focus on supporting both governments to implement the OAS recommendations in full.

The Central and Eastern Europe strategy



Heads of State from existing NATO members and invitees at the Prague Summit

Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) is a region in transition: 20 new countries have come into being since the early 1990s, and all are experiencing huge economic, political and social changes.

Although the region is currently stable, there is still considerable potential for unrest. Maintaining stability is a high priority both for other European nations and the international community as the states get ready to join the EU, NATO or both.

The UK has been working to establish mature defence and military relationships in Central and Eastern Europe since the end of the Cold War in order to strengthen democracy, defuse tension, bolster the rule of law and develop local capacity for peace support operations (PSOs). Funding for this work was transferred to the Pool when it was set up, and will continue to be drawn from there for the next few years.

NATO's new members

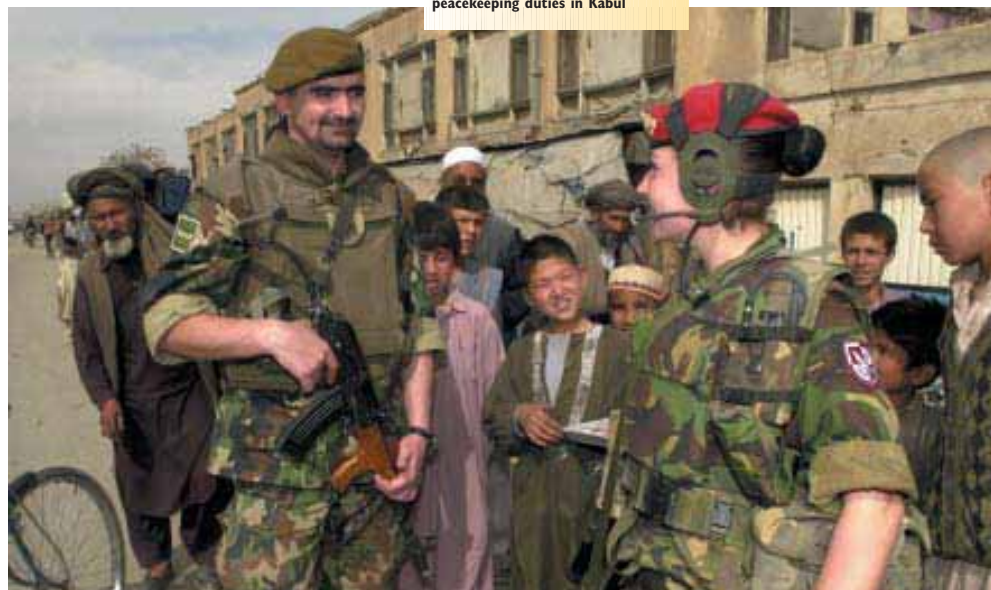
At the November 2002 NATO Summit in Prague Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia were formally invited to join the Alliance. Provided they complete the ratification process, they are expected to become full members at the next summit in May 2004.

Sharing expertise

The Pool has been supporting military and civilian defence advisers in Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic and in the seven NATO invitees. Working at the highest levels, these advisers provide guidance on managing defence and structuring the armed forces to make them more accountable and subject to democratic controls.

The strategy is also funding seminars, courses and expert visits on topics ranging from peacekeeping training to air traffic

Soldiers from Eastern Europe and the UK share international peacekeeping duties in Kabul



control, giving civilian and military defence staff the practical skills they need to reform their organisations.

BMATT

The British Military Advisory and Training Team (BMATT) trains over 180 soldiers each year at its centre in the Czech Republic. The old Soviet military model had no non-commissioned cadre to bridge the gap between officers and the conscripted lower ranks. Using a 'train the trainers' approach, BMATT aims to create military middle managers with the skills to motivate, manage and lead. The improved effectiveness and efficiency of the region's armed forces is demonstrated by the fact that they now regularly participate in PSOs. This is also helping reduce the burden on UK forces.

A co-ordinated approach

At the start of the 1990s the Baltic states — Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania — needed to create defence ministries and armed forces from scratch. The UK has worked closely with other NATO countries to support military training and education in the area for nearly 10 years, offering practical advice and assistance to BALTBAT (a joint infantry battalion), BALTRON (the countries' joint naval squadron), and the Baltic Defence College.

Judicial and police reform

The Pool is working with a number of countries in the region to develop robust judicial systems, and is encouraging the region's police to deal more fairly with ethnic minority populations by

sending advisers to countries including the Czech Republic, Hungary, Latvia, Poland, Romania and Slovakia.

In Bulgaria, the London Metropolitan Police is running a project, Policing for Roma Communities, to promote understanding of cultural differences and introduce alternative dispute resolution techniques, like using community intervenors.

Effective communication

Sharing a language helps countries work together and become part of the international community. UN peacekeeping operations are run in English, and it is also the lingua franca of NATO.

The Pool is working with the British Council to teach English to a range of staff from junior officers to generals and ministers throughout Central and Eastern Europe. By 'training the trainers', the Council is building countries' capacity to educate themselves.

Programme director Paul Woods sees language learning as part of a wider process. 'Good language teaching isn't just technical, it's about effective communication: that includes understanding and engaging with alternative values and concepts. The training we provide therefore has a vital role to play in bringing about culture change.'

International involvement

The Pool is helping countries develop their own peacekeeping capacity through involvement with international initiatives. Armed forces from the region have played an active part in peacekeeping efforts in the Balkans and Afghanistan.

Looking ahead

The Junior Staff Officers' Course

In 2003/04 junior officers from Central and Eastern Europe will attend the first Junior Staff Officers' Course in Slovakia. Run by the UK in partnership with the Netherlands, the course will focus on developing management, administration and leadership skills.

Beyond 2005

All the countries in the region have now been invited to join the EU, NATO or both, and this strategy will therefore close in 2006. Wider conflict prevention activities will be transferred to other relevant Pool strategies as appropriate.



British Council

English is the lingua franca of NATO and the UN, so language training is an important aspect of the Pool's work in the region

The India and Pakistan strategy



Indian and Pakistani border officials at a check post

India and Pakistan have fought two wars over Kashmir since 1947. A dramatic increase in terrorist activity — including the attack on the Indian parliament building in December 2001 — led to an escalation in tension during 2002, although the two sides have now restored full diplomatic relations.

Over 30,000 people have been killed (some sources put the figure at over 80,000) and up to 200,000 Hindus have fled the Kashmir Valley since militancy began in 1990. International NGOs continue to report human rights abuses, and people living close to the Line of Control are regularly displaced by shelling. A full-scale military conflict would destabilise the whole region and hinder economic development, while a nuclear conflict would have devastating consequences for the whole world.

Developing an effective strategy

Initially, the Global Pool had a single strategy for South Asia. Following events in Afghanistan, and in the light of the disparate nature of the conflicts in the region, the Pool partners decided to create separate country strategies.

The India and Pakistan team has been developing its strategy since July 2002. So far this has mainly focused on identifying where the Pool can encourage contact between the two sides and promote public debate on reducing conflict in the region.

In February 2003, the Pool supported a conference at Wilton Park, which brought together Indians, Pakistanis and Kashmiris from a range of professional backgrounds. The meeting aimed to build confidence and promote co-operation, laying the foundations for future dialogue. In April two seminars — one involving participants from India, the other participants from Pakistan — were held at Birmingham University to discuss practical military confidence-building measures.

Looking ahead

Future initiatives are likely to focus on humanitarian assistance, supporting basic services and improving local capacity for conflict resolution and reconciliation. The Pool will continue to work with international partners to encourage India and Pakistan to engage in productive dialogue, end cross-border infiltration and terrorism and remove the risk of nuclear conflict.

The Indonesia and East Timor strategy

Indonesia is the world's fourth most populous country and has its largest Muslim population. Following the fall of President Soeharto in 1998, the country is slowly transforming itself into a democracy at the same time as facing an upsurge in Islamic militancy. While most Indonesian Muslims are moderate and tolerant, the country is home to a wide range of extremist groups and the bomb attacks in Bali in October 2002 and Jakarta in August 2003 highlighted its vulnerability to terrorism. Indonesia's size and position mean that its stability is vital to the stability of the whole region.

After 24 years of armed struggle against Indonesian occupation, neighbouring East Timor is working to establish new democratic institutions and laws. Conflict often occurs during periods of transition, so both countries need careful monitoring and appropriate support from the international community. The Global Pool is therefore working to promote democratic reform and strengthen state institutions in East Timor, and helping both countries develop accountable and

professional security forces. Other key strategy aims include supporting reconciliation and preventing further conflict.

Working with police and the military

The Pool supports the Governance Partnership, an Indonesian-led initiative which is promoting police reform in Indonesia by clarifying roles, enhancing relationships with the public, encouraging civilian oversight and providing a channel for technical assistance.

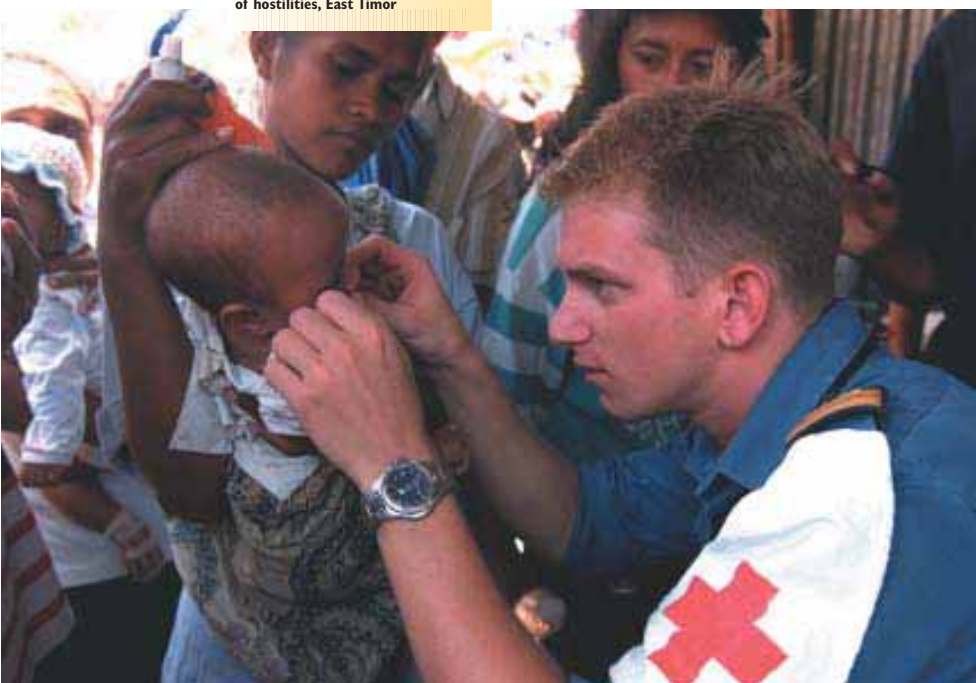
In 2001/02 the Pool helped the International Committee of the Red Cross provide human rights training for the Indonesian military. This programme is ongoing, but is now funded by DFID.

Over the last year, the Pool has been helping Indonesia plan a strategic defence review. Lt Col Stephen Andrews of the MOD's Defence Advisory Team (see page 31) is working with a local team to develop a review process that is appropriate to Indonesia and that fits into the wider international context.

Strengthening the law in East Timor

Lt Col Leigh McNeil went to East Timor in June 2002 to offer legal advice to the Office of Defence Force Development (ODFD). She was the third British Army Legal Adviser to the ODFD to be funded by the Pool; a fourth went out in May 2003. During her six-month stint Lt Col McNeill drafted several pieces of new legislation, including bills on the Defence Force and military discipline.

The Royal Navy providing essential support in the immediate aftermath of hostilities, East Timor



Encouraging dialogue

In February 2002 John Battle, MP for Leeds and special envoy for inter-faith dialogue, took a delegation, including a Muslim former Lord Mayor of Bradford, two other British Muslim councillors and a British Muslim journalist, to Jakarta, South Sulawesi and West Java. The visit, which focused on the importance of strong local government in a democratic society, also showed that Muslims are well-respected, active members of British society. Says John Battle, 'I think there is a huge need for this kind of personal contact, sharing ways in which diverse communities can belong together, actively co-operating without losing their own identities.' The Pool has also been funding visits to the UK for Indonesian parliamentarians, members of the military and academics.

Innovation and education

The BBC World Service Trust runs innovative projects in developing and transitional countries aimed at strengthening civil society through media training and health and educational campaigns. A training course run in Indonesia has given journalists the skills they need to report on conflict accurately and objectively.

The Pool also funded and organised a seminar on conflict resolution for senior Indonesian ministers. This was led by retired general Sir Michael Rose, a former SAS commander and leader of British Army units in Bosnia.

Reducing tension

In 2002/03, the Pool provided funding for Peace Brigades International (PBI). PBI safeguards six NGOs based in Aceh, so they can get on with their work on the ground.

Looking ahead

The strategy will continue to work with the Indonesian government to develop a more accountable security sector and to support the peaceful resolution of tensions in Aceh and elsewhere.



MP John Battle in conversation with Xanana Gusmao, East Timor's President

The Middle East and North Africa strategy



The Jericho Monitors - a joint US-UK initiative - ensure the safety of Palestinian prisoners

The strategy covers the Middle East Peace Process (MEPP) together with other conflict prevention initiatives in the wider Gulf region and North Africa. Although projects are country-specific, there are strong linkages across all the regions covered.

The MEPP

Violence in Israel and the occupied territories causes human suffering and damages the regional economy. The land disputed by Israel and the Palestinian Authority (PA) also includes sites of enormous religious and cultural significance. Resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is an important precondition for long-term peace and stability in the Middle East and North Africa.

The UK has many historical links with the region, and is closely involved in peacebuilding and conflict prevention efforts. The roadmap drawn up by the Quartet (the US, UN, EU and Russia) has been accepted by the PA and Israel. The international community must make the most of this window of opportunity by keeping the political momentum going and supporting the efforts of both parties to meet their obligations under Phase I of the plan. This will form a strong foundation for the peace process to progress towards the ultimate goal of creating an independent Palestinian state.

The Global Pool strategy for the region complements the work of the Quartet, with a strong emphasis on peacebuilding. Its key aims are to support efforts to reach and implement a peace agreement between Israel and the PA, to promote dialogue, to build regional stability and to encourage greater respect for good governance and human rights.

Palestinian reform

In January 2003, the Pool funded a meeting on Palestinian reform and nation-building aimed at helping the PA build democratic institutions and a sound civil administration. As well as helping the Authority advance its reform agenda, the meeting sent a clear message of support both from the UK and the international community. While Palestinian reform is only one part of the efforts required to achieve a just and comprehensive peace, it is an extremely high priority.

Boosting security

The MEPP aside, the Pool provides training for senior military personnel and police throughout the region in order to develop their capacity to monitor and counter threats to internal security at the same time as observing principles of good governance and safeguarding human rights. By providing relatively inexpensive, carefully-targeted assistance, the Pool can reduce the potential for instability, thereby minimising the need for external intervention which would be far more costly in both human and financial terms.

The strategy is currently funding training and support to the Saudi Arabian National Guard, whose responsibilities include policing the Hajj. The National Guard is now beginning to adopt British rules of engagement and to observe international law. As a result, they are more discriminating in their use of force. They are also building new facilities for detecting improvised explosive devices; a crucial factor in the war against terrorism.

Crossing the divide

The first Middle East Interfaith Summit — jointly organised by the then Archbishop of Canterbury and the International Centre for Reconciliation at Coventry Cathedral — was held in Alexandria in 2002, and brought together Muslims, Christians and Jews. The Alexandria Declaration, the only document to have been signed by both Israel and Palestine in the previous four years, calls for an end to hatred, incitement and misrepresentation.

The Pool also supported the Guardian Middle East Dialogue, which brought together representatives from Palestine, Israel and Northern Ireland to discuss topics including new political frameworks, the role of outside intervention, maintaining ceasefires and decommissioning weapons.

Looking ahead

The roadmap represents a real opportunity to find a lasting solution to the conflict between Israel and the PA. The UK government and the Global Pool will therefore continue to support its implementation at the same time as contributing to humanitarian efforts in the region.

Reform of the Palestinian security sector is a high priority area and essential to the continuation of the peace process. It is also an area where the UK has the capacity to make a real difference. The Pool is therefore working with the Palestinian civil police to make visible improvements in law and order, increasing the confidence of the Palestinian people in the peace process.



A member of the Saudi National Guard directs pilgrims at the Hajj

The Nepal strategy

In 1996, the Nepal Communist Party (Maoist) declared a 'Peoples' War' aimed at establishing a Maoist republic in Nepal. To date, the conflict between the rebels and government forces has left over 5,000 people dead. The government has effectively withdrawn from many rural areas, where the Maoists have most of their support.

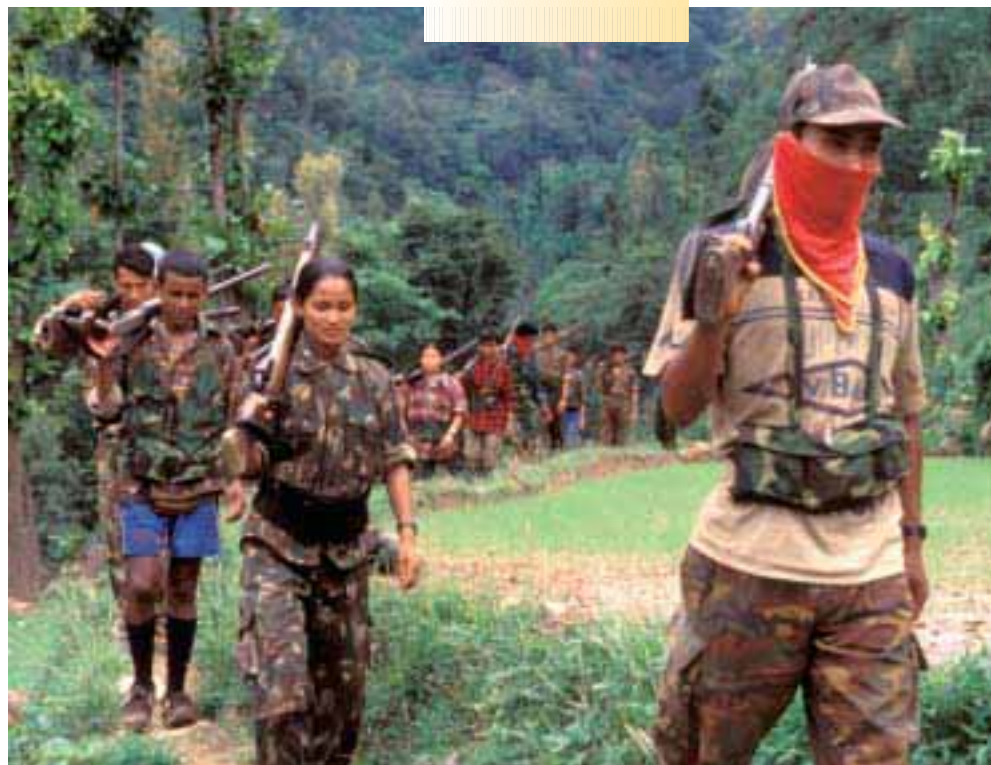
The conflict is characterised by human rights abuses on both sides, and has had a devastating effect on the country's economy. It poses a significant threat to the stability of the region and, if not resolved, could lead to Nepal becoming a failed state reliant on international aid. The UK government — which has longstanding ties with Nepal — has therefore been working for a peaceful solution for some time.

The Global Pool strategy focuses on three integrated strands: support to peacebuilding; improving security; and tackling the root causes of the conflict. The Pool is funding the appointment of Sir Jeffrey James as the UK's Special Representative for Nepal. The Representative will provide a strong focal point for UK policy towards Nepal, and help co-ordinate UK efforts to support the January 2003 ceasefire and the emerging peace process.

Peacebuilding

In June 2002, the strategy funded an international conference on the causes and effects of the conflict in Nepal, focusing on human rights abuses and the economic situation. The aim was to highlight the concerns of the international community, stressing the need for a peaceful resolution.

Many of those who support Nepal's Maoist guerrillas live in rural areas



The Chairman's statement called on the government to address the inequalities underlying the conflict and for an end to human rights abuses by both parties and a peaceful resolution to the conflict.

A workshop for facilitators involved in the peace process was held in Sri Lanka on 28-31 October 2002. Drawing on lessons learned in Sri Lanka itself, the workshop looked at the theory and practice of conflict analysis and transformation.

The Pool is supporting the work of the National Peace Campaign, a Nepalese NGO which aims to build a cross-party approach to resolving the conflict. The Campaign is working with influential mid- to senior-level politicians from all the main constitutional parties, including the Maoists.

Another NGO, CVICT, is training medical professionals to record and treat victims of torture. CVICT has set up mobile clinics and a women-only treatment centre in Kathmandu, and is training lawyers to provide legal support to victims. Pool funds are also being used to develop a community mediation programme in 11 districts across Nepal.

Improving communication between communities is another way of defusing tensions. Radio Nepal's conflict resolution programme explores contentious issues like caste, ethnicity, gender, education and land, and looks at ways of resolving problems at a local level.

The British Council is using Pool funding to run a 'Do No Harm' training programme, teaching development workers effective conflict prevention skills.

Security and stability

To help stabilise the security situation so that peace negotiations and development aid can continue, the Pool has provided training and equipment for the Royal Nepalese Army (RNA) in areas including bomb disposal, campaign planning and peace support operations. The Army has been widely criticised for its handling of the insurgency, so providing human rights training and monitoring improvements in behaviour is a high priority. This also helps support the UK government's other human rights initiatives in Nepal. In summer 2002, the Global Pool also supplied two transport helicopters for the RNA as part of an integrated package of assistance for the Nepalese government. An agreement between the British government and the RNA restricts the use of the helicopters to logistical, medical and humanitarian purposes only.

Tackling the causes of conflict

In Gulmi district, which borders on the Maoist heartland of the mid-west, 500 workers are using environmentally-friendly 'green roads' principles to build a 16km road. DFID is working with USAID on this programme, which forms part of a larger EU development initiative in the region.

The Pool is supporting the Helvetas Pedestrian Trail Bridge Building Project which is helping

to build 248 new footbridges, providing easier access to markets and basic services for rural people. John Snow International is using Pool funds to help improve the availability of essential drugs and equipment in health facilities in 30 conflict-affected districts.

The Pool is also supporting a number of initiatives addressing human rights concerns, including funding a UN human rights adviser, helping the government set up a National Human Rights Action Plan, capacity-building work for the National Human Rights Commission, and working with human rights NGOs to raise awareness and increase accountability.



Counting the cost: a Nepalese man holds up a picture of his missing son

Looking ahead

The UK government will continue to support the peace negotiations both through the Global Pool and more widely, to work to maintain stability on the ground and to develop the Nepalese economy. Future Pool projects currently under consideration include further work on human rights, and ways of providing alternative livelihoods for ex-combatants.

The Russia and the former Soviet Union strategy



Women selling used clothing and shoes in Moldova, Europe's poorest country

Economic and political uncertainty has left many countries in the former Soviet Union unstable and at risk from conflict. Many states are inherently weak, with leaders failing to implement the reforms needed to ensure sustainable development.

The region's people face debt, increasing poverty, the spread of HIV/AIDS and human rights abuses. Corruption and economic mismanagement is widespread, and many governments are tightening their control over the media and civil society. In addition, its proximity to Afghanistan and the Middle East leaves the region susceptible to problems such as extremism, drugs trafficking, arms smuggling and illegal migration, which threaten both regional and international stability.

The Pool is therefore committed to supporting peacebuilding and conflict prevention activities. Priorities include working with others to tackle 'frozen' or potential conflict in Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan and Moldova, reducing tensions in Central Asia and helping the Russian government develop a foreign policy of constructive engagement on matters of common concern.

Defusing tensions

Many new states are involved in negotiating bilateral border agreements, a process which can easily lead to conflict. The University of Durham's International Boundaries Research Unit is running workshops supported by the Pool to enable officials from the region to negotiate effectively.

The Pool has also worked with the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and the High Commissioner for National Minorities (HCNM) to run seminars on reducing inter-ethnic tensions in south Kyrgyzstan, with the aim of encouraging the Kyrgyz authorities to ensure minorities are fairly represented in government.

Latent inter-ethnic conflict in Moldova threatens the successful integration of minority groups. The Pool has funded twice-monthly TV programmes about the importance of social and inter-ethnic co-operation, which reached 95 per cent of Moldova's population.

Encouraging dialogue

The Pool supports the South Caucasus Parliamentary Initiative, a programme of meetings between parliamentarians from Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia and their UK counterparts. By creating a framework for communication, the initiative should pave the way for more regular exchanges between MPs, particularly those from Armenia and Azerbaijan.

Training and education

The Peace-making and Pluralism in Schools project has introduced a new curriculum to schools in Tajikistan, aimed at teaching pupils the skills they need to compete in the modern world and contribute to a healthy civil society.

Twenty-five Russian journalists were killed in the last two Chechen wars alone. The Pool is therefore funding production of a manual and a seminar which will help journalists from the region protect themselves in war zones.

Military training can have far-reaching effects. After the Pool sponsored a Georgian soldier to attend the junior staff course at Sandhurst, he initiated a similar course at the Georgian Military Academy. As a result, young officers in Georgia are now receiving modern, high quality training. The Pool has also sent short-term military training teams to Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan to encourage defence reform and help build regional capacity for peace support operations.



UK Defence Advisers are assisting with defence reform in Uzbekistan

Resettling ex-combatants

In the past few years, Russia has demobilised a huge number of soldiers, placing considerable strain on the fragile civilian sector. MOD staff are working with Russian colleagues to equip ex-soldiers with language, IT and business management skills. By December 2002 16,000 officers had attended a course, and over 70 per cent found employment within four months of 'graduating'.

The Pool is now launching similar initiatives in Ukraine, Georgia and Moldova. A defence adviser has also recently been appointed to the Georgian Ministry of Defence to assist with the reform of their defence management systems.

Long-term solutions

In Tajikistan, the Pool is working with the Aga Khan Foundation to promote stability and reduce the risk of future conflict by giving ex-combatants from the civil war gainful and substantial employment opportunities.

One initiative involved rehabilitating 13 schools in the Gorno-Badakhshan autonomous region; this provided work for 167 local people, of whom 93 were ex-combatants. So far, this community-based approach has provided employment for a total of 471 people.

Looking ahead

Strategic conflict assessments are currently under way in Moldova, Tajikistan, Georgia and Nagorno-Karabakh. These will help the Pool take a longer term, more strategic view and ensure that its activities complement and add value to other UK government initiatives. The strategy also aims to improve monitoring and evaluation by using independent consultants to evaluate some of its larger projects.



Participants from the region at an International Boundaries Research Unit negotiation workshop

The Sri Lanka strategy



Sri Lankan Defence Secretary Austin Fernando (left) shakes hands with LTTE leader Colonel Teewan during a ceremony to exchange prisoners of war



Bradford University's Colombo-based diploma course will build local conflict resolution capacity

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) have been fighting for autonomy for Sri Lanka's Tamils since 1983. An estimated 70,000 people have been killed and 1 million displaced.

In February 2002 the newly-elected United National Front government signed a ceasefire agreement with the LTTE and negotiations began. However, the situation remains fragile and in April 2003 the LTTE temporarily suspended their participation in the peace talks, although the ceasefire is holding.¹ In such an environment, the ability to adapt to changing circumstances is an essential part of a conflict prevention strategy.

Sri Lanka has close historical ties with the UK, and is also an important trade and development partner. The Global Pool is therefore committed to helping achieve a sustainable peace by encouraging dialogue and supporting a wide range of peace-building activities.

Early warnings

There have been several clashes between ethnic communities since the ceasefire in 2002, mainly in the east of the country. Supported by the Pool, the Asia Foundation and the Foundation for Coexistence are implementing an early warning mechanism to mitigate and prevent conflict in troubled areas.

Practical skills

The University of Bradford's Centre for Conflict Resolution and the Social Scientists' Association in Colombo have set up a diploma course in Conflict Resolution and Peace Preparedness. The course will increase knowledge of conflict resolution and post-conflict planning among international organisations, government departments, local NGOs, the clergy and the armed forces.

Learning by example

In December 2002, the Pool brought five senior members of the Sri Lankan Buddhist clergy to London, Belfast and Edinburgh to study devolved administrations. They met a wide range of politicians, senior officials, religious groups and community leaders. The delegates found the visit extremely valuable, and took back positive messages about the devolution process.

Looking ahead

The Pool will continue to provide technical assistance to Sri Lanka's Defence Review Committee. Recently, a member of the MOD's Defence Advisory Team (see page 31) visited Sri Lanka to assess progress and plan future work.

Research commissioned by the Pool suggests that police reform is another priority area, and DFID's police adviser Geoff Bredemear will use the visit he made to Sri Lanka in July 2003 to inform future Pool initiatives.

¹ Correct at August 2003.

The security sector reform strategy



Delegates at a defence management seminar in Accra, Ghana, organised in conjunction with Cranfield University, the DAT and a local NGO

Responsible and accountable security forces reduce the risk of conflict, provide security for citizens and create the right environment for sustainable development.

States that fail to guarantee the security of their citizens lose their legitimacy at home and abroad. Tensions increase, creating an enhanced risk of conflict. In a crisis, a state without a properly functioning security sector is unable to stop internal and external military and security forces moving into the power vacuum and operating undemocratically.

The objectives of the Pool's security sector reform (SSR) strategy are to help developing and transitional countries manage their security functions in a democratically accountable, efficient and effective way by initiating and supporting reform and providing appropriate education and training. The vital role of security in conflict prevention means that the SSR strategy also contributes to the success of Global Pool conflict prevention activities in individual countries and regions (see Section A) by setting out a coherent policy and offering practical guidance on SSR, as well as providing access to centrally-held resources. The strategy's work focuses on three key areas: analysis and policy development; technical assistance; and capacity-building.

What is the security sector?

The security sector includes the armed forces, paramilitary units, the police and the intelligence services. The term also covers the civil authorities that oversee them: legislatures, judicial systems, defence, finance and interior ministries, national security agencies and civil society 'watchdogs'.

Analysis and policy development

SSR is a dynamic concept and no two situations are the same, so proper analysis and policy development play a major part in the running of the strategy. The Pool has set up the Global Facilitation Network for Security Sector Reform (GFN-SSR), based at Cranfield University in Wiltshire, to provide analysis for all Whitehall departments involved in security sector work. The GFN team includes researchers from the UK, Africa, Asia, the Americas and Central and Eastern Europe, and activities fall into three main areas: policy development; civil society capacity-building; and creating a world-class information repository.

As part of the policy development aspect of its work, the GFN recently provided a comprehensive overview of the security sector in Serbia and Montenegro, which will inform future UK government activities in the area. The team also produced a set of concept papers for a Whitehall seminar on SSR, outputs from which are guiding policy development across Whitehall. The Network's International Advisory Group also helps identify key areas for policy development.

Technical assistance

Countries that are implementing reforms often require technical help as well as capacity-building in the shape of the transfer of expertise. The Defence Advisory Team (DAT), which is based with the Defence Academy at Shrivenham, provides bespoke assistance to overseas partner governments on SSR and defence management issues. This interdepartmental and interdisciplinary team includes military and civilian advisers from the MOD and a senior governance adviser from DFID.

Scoping and supporting security sector reviews, and making sure these are set within the broader context of good governance, forms a key part of the DAT's work. The team advises partner governments on process and principles, drawing on lessons learned from previous reviews. It also offers guidance on specialist issues like resource planning and management, improving defence efficiency, procurement and general change management. To date, the team has supported reviews in Uganda, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Serbia and Montenegro, the Baltic States, Ukraine, Sri Lanka, Indonesia and Peru.

The DAT is working with the South East Europe Security Co-operation Steering Group (SEEGROUP).¹ The team has also contributed to the MOD-sponsored Overseas Defence Diplomacy courses in Uganda, Macedonia, Ethiopia and Singapore. It has supported training courses for defence attachés and advisers in the UK, and delivered a course on financial planning and management in Indonesia.

UK defence attachés and MOD civilian and military special defence advisers also provide valuable support to overseas governments carrying out defence reviews and modernising their armed forces. Their efforts are supported by British Military Advisory and Training Teams (BMATTs) and by the deployment of short-term training teams.

Capacity-building

Capacity-building means helping countries develop the ability to manage their own reform processes and create effective and sustainable security sectors that can function without outside assistance. It also means enabling countries to contribute to wider peace support efforts that

promote regional and international stability. The Pool's capacity-building work focuses on education, stimulating dialogue and enhancing understanding by encouraging the flow of information through seminars, workshops, training and, ultimately, distance learning.

As well as the Overseas Defence diplomacy courses mentioned above, the Pool funds students from partner countries to attend the UK-based Advanced Command and Staff Course, Initial Officers Training and the Royal College of Defence Studies. These courses focus on command and staff procedures and international relations, including the principles of democratic accountability, and on conflict prevention and



Participants discussing 'Moving the SSR Agenda Forward' in Maputo – a follow up to the London SSR Forum

¹ SEEGROUP participants at July 2001: Albania, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Romania, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Slovenia, Switzerland, Turkey, the UK and the US.

resolution. In addition the MOD sponsors a number of Pool-funded seven-week defence diplomacy courses on defence management and governance for high ranking overseas officials working in the defence sector, including foreign, interior and finance ministry officials.

The GFN supports an interactive information network (see below), and also works to develop capacity within academic institutions and among civil oversight institutions. For example, it is working with Makerere University in Uganda to deepen and widen understanding of SSR within civil society. Assisting the development of security institutions also helps build capacity. In Afghanistan, for example, the DAT is working with the new National Security Council with the aim of building the capacity of the country's security institutions.



Students from all over the world attend the Managing Defence in Democracy courses run by Cranfield University on behalf of the Pool

Information exchange

The GFN's new website (www.gfn-ssr.org) aims to create a global network for the exchange of information and to build a centre of excellence at Cranfield, underpinning and supporting the rest of the university's work. The site's content management system means users can retrieve a wide range of resources including scoping reports, concept papers, news stories, links to organisational profiles, and project and personal profiles. The site includes an interactive discussion facility and interactive educational materials.

In the future, the site will also support an accredited distance learning programme, opening up access to Cranfield's under- and post-graduate courses in security sector management to students around the world.

Looking ahead

In March 2003 the Pool supported an international forum on SSR which brought together government officials, practitioners, donors and NGOs to participate in a wide-ranging debate on SSR as well as more focused discussion of

specific regional issues. The forum highlighted the fact that SSR requirements vary from region to region, and in future the strategy will tailor its approach accordingly.

A follow-up meeting held in Maputo, Mozambique, in June 2003 aimed to further widen and strengthen existing networks and to maintain the momentum needed to move the agenda forward.

The strategy also plans to develop a more holistic approach to SSR, embracing policing and intelligence as well as the military. A police and an intelligence reform adviser are to be recruited to the DAT. This will encourage closer links between military reform and reform in other areas, and create greater coherence between SSR work and other areas where the security sector is closely involved, such as peace support operations, disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration, and tackling the proliferation of small arms and light weapons.

The small arms and light weapons strategy



Public destruction of firearms organised by the Rio de Janeiro state government, the Brazilian army and the anti-violence NGO Viva Rio

There are over 639 million small arms and light weapons (SALW) in circulation,¹ causing more than 500,000 deaths each year and bringing injury and economic deprivation to millions more. Of those injured or killed each year by gun violence, 11 per cent are under 15 and 43 per cent are women.²

Easy access to these weapons fuels and sustains conflict. Speaking at the January 2003 Lancaster House conference on small arms issues, then Secretary of State for International Development Clare Short said: 'Small arms and light weapons have wrought devastation and insecurity on the lives and livelihoods of people all over the world. They exacerbate conflict and crime and undermine development.'

Effective, comprehensive international controls over the transfer, possession and use of guns and weapons are essential, but the size and complexity of the problem makes it difficult to agree on the most effective solutions. The Pool's SALW strategy therefore works closely with NGOs, governments, regional organisations and the UN to develop and implement targeted strategies for reducing the damage caused by armed violence and gun misuse. It has already made significant progress towards reducing the number of people killed or injured by SALW.

Raising awareness

The first step towards consensus is raising awareness of the problem and the measures already in place. The Pool has helped representatives from developing countries attend key international meetings like the 2001 UN Conference on Small Arms as well as two major conferences in Chile (2001) and Pretoria (2002). The strategy hopes to support a similar conference in South Asia in 2003.

In January 2003, 49 countries that produce or export small arms met at Lancaster House in London to discuss strengthening export controls. The Pool will continue to support initiatives that move the international debate forward, particularly at regional level.

Working with the UN

Helping regional organisations, states and civil society implement the 2001 UN Programme of Action on Small Arms is a high priority. The Pool supports the UN Development Programme (UNDP), which is already having a significant effect on weapons availability in many parts of the world. In 2002, the UNDP collected and destroyed 73,718 small arms and light weapons and 2,158,117 rounds of ammunition as well as disarming, demobilising and helping to reintegrate 11,000 ex-soldiers.³ Collection, management and destruction programmes are now running in 10 countries and three regions.

1 Graduate Institute of International Studies (Geneva) *Small arms survey 2003 — development denied*, OUP.

2 UN Conference on Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons, 9-20 July 2001 (<http://disarmament.un.org/cab/smallarms/>)

3 United Nations Development Programme.

A safer world

The Pool supports Saferworld, an independent NGO which is working to prevent armed conflict throughout Europe and Africa. Their work on strengthening export controls in Central and Eastern Europe is helping reduce arms exports to conflict regions, while community-based policing programmes and awareness-raising workshops are improving safety and tackling the prevailing culture of violence in priority areas like the Balkans.

Tackling gun culture

For a generation of young people in the Balkans violent conflict is part of everyday life, and in much of the region ‘gun culture’ is deeply entrenched. Saferworld and the Yugoslav Red Cross have been working with students at Serbia’s universities to raise awareness of small arms issues and identify future activists.

Saferworld has also set up a network to facilitate the work of civil society groups, which students, NGOs and journalists are using to exchange ideas and develop practical small arms projects. ‘As the future leaders and opinion-shapers in the Balkans, young people have a critical role to play in combating small arms proliferation and building peace’, says Saferworld’s director Paul Eavis.

International action

The International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA) uses Pool funding to support work with more than 500 different NGOs on issues including gun control, disarmament, public health, human rights, humanitarian and development issues. IANSA is setting up a number of regional networks to encourage NGOs to co-ordinate their efforts.

The Latin American network recently launched www.desarme.org, the first website to offer comprehensive information on SALW in languages other than English. IANSA is also hoping to formalise south Asia’s existing NGO network. For IANSA’s director Rebecca Peters, NGOs hold the key to progress on small arms issues. ‘Communication is vital. In troubled areas we can use NGOs to keep the dialogue going even if the governments won’t talk to each other.’

IANSA is committed to raising public awareness worldwide. ‘We are linking NGOs in “producer” countries with those in countries that suffer the consequences to bring home the real impact of small arms’, says Rebecca Peters.

Looking ahead

Curbing the proliferation of small arms requires a long-term commitment. The Pool will continue to work closely with regional organisations, focusing on east Africa, south-eastern Europe, Latin America and south and south-east Asia.



Raising awareness is a key part of the fight against weapons proliferation

At national level, the Pool will be helping to develop more tailored National Action Plans. The Pool is already supporting the development of Plans in Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya; Namibia, Bulgaria and Colombia have asked for help. The Pool is also planning bilateral work with Bulgaria and Ukraine to combat illicit trafficking and strengthen arms export controls.

More generally, the Pool will also seek to ensure that tackling SALW forms a core part of all relevant conflict reduction work, post-conflict reconstruction and poverty reduction programmes.

Viva Rio: cutting gun deaths in Rio's shantytowns

Brazilian NGO Viva Rio was set up in 1993 to tackle gun violence in Rio de Janeiro's shantytowns, home to 2.2 million people. The Pool has supported its work since 2001.

There are 5,000 gun deaths each year in the state of Rio alone in what Viva Rio's Disarmament Co-ordinator Antonio Bandeira describes as 'a silent civil war'. Often sparked by the drugs trade, violence is fuelled by the easy availability and low cost of guns. Says Bandeira, 'Guns are not a detail; they change the nature of conflict. Guns don't provide protection – they endanger people's lives.'

Viva Rio is tackling the problem at a number of levels. In one area, senior police are working with local people to develop security policy. Each of the 24,000 inhabitants has the police commander's mobile phone number so they can report any problems direct to him. There have been no gun deaths since the project began, compared with five a month before it started.

Working with the state government, Viva Rio found that Brazilian manufacturers were legally exporting guns to Paraguay, where dealers then illegally sold them back to criminals in Brazil. Viva Rio brought the two governments together for discussions which led to the Paraguayan president declaring a three-year moratorium on Brazilian guns and ammunition.

However, firearms have continued to flood in from elsewhere. Viva Rio has been asking supplier countries to investigate how the guns got from their factories to the shantytowns, and working with NGOs and the media to push governments to take action. In Argentina, a parliamentary commission has now been set up to look at the illegal export of guns to Brazil.

To mark the 2001 UN Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons on July 9, 2001, Viva Rio, working with the Governor of Rio and the army, destroyed 100,000 weapons. In July 2002, a further 10,000 were destroyed. Viva Rio now plans to do the same every year.



UK weapons gathering played a central role in international efforts to achieve a peaceful settlement in Macedonia in 2001

The EU civilian crisis management strategy



EU Police Officer Marta Donk marks the official transfer of peacekeeping duties in Bosnia from the UN to the EU

The new European Security and Defence Policy calls on the EU to play a more active role in conflict prevention and crisis management. The Pool strategy aims to support the EU in this by ensuring that:

- ◆ the EU makes a positive contribution to resolving the civilian aspects of crises in non-EU countries;
- ◆ new structures and policies make it easier for member states to respond to crises;
- ◆ the EU's conflict prevention work supports that of the UN and the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE); and
- ◆ conflict awareness and impact assessment form an integral part of development efforts.

The relatively small amount of funding allocated reflects the fact that this is primarily an influencing strategy.

Sharing knowledge

In 2002/03, the EU strategy funded a seminar on civil-military issues. Pool backing enabled UN experts to take part, giving EU delegates the opportunity to benefit from their experiences.

The UK-based NGO Peaceworkers used Pool funding to develop pre-mission training courses for civilians preparing to join peace support missions, as part of a wider Commission-funded initiative. The strategy team also looks at how civilians are recruited for these missions, with the aim of establishing standards and guidelines for mission participants.

Partnerships

The Pool's UN strategy has carried out major research into past and present peace support operations, lessons from which now need to be passed on to EU partners. The Pool is currently looking at the most effective ways of doing this.

Looking ahead

Following careful evaluation, it was decided not to allocate funding to the EU strategy in 2003/04. However, building capacity within the EU remains a priority and the Pool will continue to focus on influencing policies and encouraging consensus among key partners, including incoming EU presidencies. The EU has already agreed its first civilian operation, a police advisory initiative in Bosnia, and launched its first peace support operation in the Democratic Republic of Congo in June 2003. UK support for that operation will be funded from the peacekeeping side of the Pool (see page 10). The Pool will also be looking for ways to ensure that the EU draws on lessons learned by the OSCE, the UN and other member states in their conflict prevention work.

The OSCE and CoE strategy



Election monitoring in Bosnia

Since the end of the Cold War, the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and the Council of Europe (CoE) have made a significant contribution to the transition to democracy of many European states.

In many new states, though, the potential for instability remains. The Pool is therefore working to strengthen the conflict prevention capacity of both organisations. The Pool's priorities are to strengthen democracy, bolster the security sector and judicial systems, and to build countries' own capacity to resolve conflict peacefully.

Democracy in action

The Pool has funded election observers in Armenia, Bosnia, Georgia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia, and helped the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) enable election experts from developing democracies to take part in observation missions. Thirty core team members and long-term observers and 112 short-term observers from 25 countries were recruited in 2002.

In Belarus, the Local Democracy Project offered opposition parties guidance on campaigning techniques and electoral issues ahead of local elections in March 2003.

Strategic planning

The Pool has sent secondees to help the CoE develop a more strategic approach to its work in the Balkans and Eastern Europe. Current priorities are Bosnia and Herzegovina, which joined in April 2002, and Serbia and Montenegro, which joined in 2003.

Raising standards

A Pool-funded training and assessment course ensures that all UK secondees to OSCE missions get the training they need. In 2002, 109 potential secondees were trained in areas including mine awareness, first aid, driving techniques, navigation and hostage situations.

Advising the police

In February 2002, former UK policeman Richard Monk became the OSCE's first Senior Police Adviser. Richard has been helping the region's police analyse threats to stability and advising on training and the role of the police in maintaining the rule of law.

His remit is expanding all the time. 'The OSCE is already associated with multi-ethnic police training programmes', he says. 'Now we need to think about training investigators in modern methods of combating major crimes, including sexual crimes.'

Looking ahead

The Global Pool will also support the work of the OSCE through relevant regional strategies such as the Balkans and Russia and the former Soviet Union. A key priority will be to continue to provide UK election monitors and other support for emerging democratic systems.

The UN strategy



Algerian diplomat Lakhtar Brahimi led the evaluation of UN peacekeeping activity

The UN launched its first peacekeeping mission in 1948, during the first Arab-Israeli war. In the decades since, UN intervention has helped defuse tensions and encourage negotiated solutions in conflicts around the world. Its unique legitimacy and authority and its global mandate mean the UN has a key role to play in conflict prevention.

The Global Pool's UN strategy is committed to helping the UN further strengthen its conflict prevention, peacekeeping and peacebuilding capabilities. The strategy is based on the recommendations for current and future operations set out in the Brahimi Report on UN Peacekeeping Reform.¹

The Brahimi recommendations

The Brahimi Report was published in August 2000. Its recommendations, based on expert analysis of past peacekeeping operations, include providing more effective training and induction, establishing a common IT strategy, and ensuring better co-ordination from planning through to deployment.

Developing expertise

The UN System Staff College has already helped train more than 1,100 UN staff in early warning and conflict prevention skills. The Pool has commissioned an independent evaluation of the course.

International civilian police are playing an increasingly important role in peace support operations. The Pool is training police in the UK to take part in international missions, and is 'training the trainers' in more than 30 other contributing countries.

Mapexes: peacekeeping in practice

Mapexes help develop countries' capacity to contribute to peacekeeping missions. Since the first mapex in Bangkok in February 2002, China has sent medical officers and engineers to the UN mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo, while Thailand has sent engineers to Afghanistan.

Gender perspectives

According to the UN Foundation, '90 per cent of those killed, wounded, abused or displaced in conflict are women or children.'² The Pool is helping the UN Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) gather information on women's peacebuilding and gender justice initiatives, and assisting the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) to implement new guidelines on mainstreaming gender in peace operations. The Pool also works with the Urgent Action Fund for Women's Human Rights, which supports grass-roots activities in countries where there are multi-national peacekeeping operations.

Gender mainstreaming in action

In East Timor, women now make up over a third of the new national assembly, there are two female cabinet members and 30 per cent of the police force is female. Pool funding was used to run training workshops for potential candidates and to help the civil police integrate gender perspectives into their work.³

Sharing knowledge

The Pool supports the Conflict Prevention and Peace Forum (CPPF), which gives UN agencies access to a wide network of expertise. In Colombia, the Forum has been working to improve dialogue between the government and the rebel movement, FARC, and assessing opportunities for UN engagement in the country. The Forum has also provided analysis for the Secretary-General's mission to south-eastern Europe, and conducted a series of consultations on conflict prevention in Central Asia.

In October 2002, the UN Institute for Training and Research used Pool funding to run a second workshop for Special Representatives of the Secretary-General. This was a rare opportunity for SRSGs to share views and experiences.

Using technology

The Pool supports the Conflict Prevention initiative (www.preventconflict.org), which provides information on conflict prevention for UN agencies and acts as a forum for exchanging ideas. The site has organised e-conferences on Nepal, Indonesia and central Asia.

The strategy has set up www.peacekeeping.co.uk to provide information on UK peacekeeping initiatives and material for civilian and military training exercises (mapexes). The site also includes information on an Open University diploma module in Peace Support, which was designed using Pool funds.

Supporting post-conflict recovery

Post-conflict recovery work must start quickly, or fragile peacebuilding opportunities can be lost. The Pool is helping the UN Development Programme's Transitional Recovery Unit develop and implement programmes in countries including Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Indonesia and Nepal.

Children and armed conflict

With the support of the Pool, the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Children Affected by Armed Conflict have played a key part in getting child protection advisers involved in peacekeeping missions, and helped bring into force a protocol on child soldiers. The Special Representative's report to the Security Council in November 2002 lists conflicts where child soldiers are being used in violation of international obligations.

Looking ahead

The Pool plans to increase its impact and effectiveness by focusing on specific geographical areas, providing a mix of training, peacekeeping exercises and equipment and resources, and helping to build local and regional capacity. There will also be a strong emphasis on improving links between UN HQ and activities in the field, so that lessons learned are communicated effectively.



UN mission staff welcome Secretary General Kofi Annan to Bosnia

- 1 Summary and full report available online at www.un.org/peace/reports/peace_operations/report.htm
- 2 UN Foundation factsheet *Conflict prevention and peace building* (www.unfoundation.org/media_center/)
- 3 www.peacewomen.org/news/1325News/issue5.html#analysis

Annex: Strategy budget allocations

Strategy	Allocation (£ millions) ^{1,2}	
	2001/02	2002/03
Afghanistan	See note 3	18.1
The Balkans	4.6	8.6
Belize and Guatemala	See note 4	2.1
Central and Eastern Europe	8.7	10.9
Indonesia and East Timor	1.1	2.1
India and Pakistan	0.95 (see note 5)	1.6
The Middle East and North Africa	3.5	5.9
Nepal	See note 5	6.8
Russia and the former Soviet Union	6.4	8.2
Sri Lanka	See note 5	0.7
Security sector reform	See note 6	2.8
Small arms and light weapons	4.4	11.2
EU civilian crisis management	0.5	0.5
OSCE and the CoE	3.9	1.6
The UN	12.8	14.5

1 All figures are rounded up to the nearest £100,000. Figures for 2001/02 include 20 per cent over programming; figures for 2002/03 include 15 per cent over programming.

2 Strategy allocations do not add up to the total budgets for the Global Pool set out in Chapter 2. This is because the Pool has a reserve for unplanned activity, and is allowed to carry forward underspends from one year to the next under government accounting rules.

3 Afghanistan became a major priority for the UK government in late 2001 following the fall of the Taliban and the formulation of the Bonn Agreement. A dedicated strategy was not developed until 2002/03.

4 There was no dedicated strategy until 2002/03, when a window of opportunity for resolving the border dispute arose.

5 In 2001/02 all Pool activity in India and Pakistan, Nepal and Sri Lanka was funded under a single South Asia strategy. This allocation is for the whole South Asia strategy.

6 There was no dedicated SSR strategy until 2002/03.

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