

The Challenge

Sectarian confrontation within Northern Ireland or, more commonly, isolation or voluntary segregation between the unionist and nationalist communities remains a challenge to building a diverse society founded on tolerance, equal rights, and a commitment to nonviolent political means for the common good. Support for cross-community reconciliation has been the focus of U.S. assistance to Northern Ireland and the six border counties of the Republic of Ireland (Donegal, Sligo, Leitrim, Cavan, Monaghan, and Louth) since the 1998 Good Friday Agreement. The U.S. Government makes a significant contribution to the peace process through its support of the International Fund for Ireland.

Objectives, Sectors and Workforce

MCA Status: Not a Candidate

PEPFAR Focus Country: No

Provided or Received Services From Other Missions: N/A

Deputy Assistant Administrator: Thomas Mefford

Program Budget (Appropriations by Objective)		FY 2004 (\$000)	FY 2005 (\$000)	FY 2006 (\$000)	FY 2007 (\$000)	Percent Change FY 04-07	2005 SO Performance Score	Direct SO Admin. Cost Ratio
190-0410 International Fund for Ireland		18,391	18,352	13,365	0	N/A		0.00
Transfer to Other US Government Agency		3,479	3,472	3,465	3,500	0.6%		
Country Total		21,870	21,824	16,830	3,500	-84.0%		

Program Budget (Appropriations by Account)		FY 2004 (\$000)	FY 2005 (\$000)	FY 2006 (\$000)	FY 2007 (\$000)	Percent Change FY 04-07
Economic Support Fund		21,870	21,824	16,830	3,500	-84.0%
Total		21,870	21,824	16,830	3,500	-84.0%

Program Budget by Sector and Account		FY 2004 (\$000)	FY 2005 (\$000)	FY 2006 (\$000)	FY 2007 (\$000)	Percent Change FY 04-07
Conflict Management / Humanitarian Assistance	ESF	21,870	21,824	16,830	3,500	-84.0%
Total		21,870	21,824	16,830	3,500	-84.0%

Other Major Donors:

Bilateral: Canada

Multilateral: European Union

Ireland PROGRAM SUMMARY

(in thousands of dollars)

Accounts	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Current	FY 2007 Request
Economic Support Fund	21,870	21,824	16,830	3,500
Total Program Funds	21,870	21,824	16,830	3,500

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE SUMMARY

190-0410 International Fund for Ireland				
ESF	18,391	18,352	13,365	0
TRANSFER				
ESF	3,479	3,472	3,465	3,500

Note: The Ireland funds include the Walsh Visa Program at the following levels: FY 2004 - \$3,479; FY 2005 - \$3,472; FY 2006 - 3,465 and, FY 2007 - \$3,500.

Deputy Assistant Administrator,
Thomas Mefford

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Ireland
Program Title:	International Fund for Ireland
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	190-0410
Status:	Continuing
Planned FY 2006 Obligation:	\$13,365,000 ESF
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2007 Obligation:	\$0
Year of Initial Obligation:	1986
Estimated Year of Final Obligation:	2006

Summary: Through the International Fund for Ireland (IFI), the United States provides assistance for economic redevelopment and cross-community reconciliation throughout Northern Ireland and the six border counties of the Republic of Ireland.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2006 Program:

Mitigate Conflict and Support Peace: (\$13,365,000 ESF). The U.S. Government's contribution to the IFI, administered by USAID, is used in the following initiatives:

1) Community Capacity Building Initiative: This component is designed to provide people, particularly those in the most disadvantaged areas, with the skills, resources and self-confidence to undertake the social and economic regeneration of their communities. It also encourages local groups to reach out to other communities and through training and work experience helps young people to enter the labor market or further their education.

2) Regeneration of Deprived Areas Initiative: Regeneration of Deprived Areas Initiative. The grouping of community-led, economically driven initiatives under this heading comprises a number of key components which are designed to revitalize the most disadvantaged areas in Northern Ireland and the Southern border counties. The Border Towns and Villages (BTV) Program operates in the Southern border counties. IFI funds support projects to encourage people of both communities to work together towards the development of a core economic project in their area. The BTV projects result in the successful delivery of community-led projects that generate economic activity, create jobs and help retain populations in isolated areas of the Southern border counties. The Rural Development Program (RDP) operates in Northern Ireland, with partnership funding from the Rural Development Council, and in the Southern border counties. One RDP project, the Rural Retail Support Program, aims to support the retention and development of retail services in rural areas. By encouraging the development of the rural retail sector, communities benefit from improved access to services and a strengthened rural economy. The Fund also supports special projects that contribute to the Fund's overall objectives and for which there is no specific program of funding. One example is Creggan Community Café and Catering Ltd. in the Creggan Estate, Derry. This project will create jobs in an area of high unemployment and contribute to the physical regeneration of a prominent site.

3) Economic Development Initiative: The programs brought together under this heading are designed to encourage the development of the local economic base by stimulating a number of community- and private sector-led initiatives designed to create economic opportunities and job creation in several key areas. Priority initiatives include encouraging the growth of small and medium sized companies, technical innovation, especially in product development and marketing methods, tourism, and support for the regeneration of derelict properties for commercial purposes in towns and villages. The Fund's support for a number of major flagship projects and its two investment companies are included under this heading. Principal grantee: IFI.

FY 2007 Program:

Mitigate Conflict and Support Peace: No funds are being notified by USAID for FY 2007.

Performance and Results: As a measure of the Fund's success, between 1986 and September 2004, about 5,236 Fund projects created the potential for 55,000 jobs. Over 800 organizations have been assisted to promote social and economic development, involving more than 9,000 community leaders. For every U.S. dollar invested by the Fund, over two dollars are raised from private British and Irish sources, bringing total investment in the last 19 years in Northern Ireland and the six border counties of the Republic of Ireland to approximately \$2.5 billion. Continued U.S. support underpins U.S. efforts to create an enduring, sustainable peace in Northern Ireland.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Ireland

190-0410 International Fund for Ireland	DA	ESF
Through September 30, 2004		
Obligations	19,600	411,484
Expenditures	19,600	411,484
Unliquidated	0	0
Fiscal Year 2005		
Obligations	0	36,743
Expenditures	0	1,470
Through September 30, 2005		
Obligations	19,600	448,227
Expenditures	19,600	412,954
Unliquidated	0	35,273
Prior Year Unobligated Funds		
Obligations	0	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2006 NOA		
Obligations	0	13,365
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2006		
Obligations	0	13,365
Proposed Fiscal Year 2007 NOA		
Obligations	0	0
Future Obligations	0	0
Est. Total Cost	19,600	461,592