



HOMELAND SECURITY

Research and Development in the President's 2006 Budget

Technology continues to help secure our nation against terrorism. Research and development over the past three years in detectors against weapons of mass destruction (WMD) threat agents, medical countermeasures to improve public health preparedness and to protect our Nation's food and livestock, and advances in protecting the First Responders are moving from laboratory to operational use. The President's FY 2006 Budget continues an aggressive investment in research, development, and the research infrastructure so as to further enhance our Nation's security. Priority research areas include:

Protecting the Nation from Nuclear Terrorism: The President is requesting \$227 million in the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to fund the creation of a Domestic Nuclear Defense Office (DNDO), whose responsibility will be to develop a comprehensive system to detect and mitigate any attempt to import, assemble or transport a nuclear explosive device, fissile material or radiological material intended for illicit use within the U. S. The DNDO will integrate domestic nuclear detection and response across the federal, state and local governments.

Enhancing the Biological, Chemical, and Radiological Defense of the U.S.: The President's FY2006 Budget includes aggressive funding for research and improved infrastructure to enhance the development of medical countermeasures against biological, chemical and radiological threats, including:

- \$1.8 billion to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to fund research and development of countermeasures against biological, chemical and radiological threat agents; and
- \$1.2 billion to the Department of Defense (DoD) from 2006 to 2011 (\$147 million in 2006) for infrastructure upgrades to facilities critical for WMD medical countermeasures research and development, including \$764 million over 2006-2011 to upgrade the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (\$62 million in 2006).

Protecting the Nation's Food and Livestock: \$596 million is allocated for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, HHS and DHS to improve food and agriculture defense. This includes funding for research on exotic and emerging diseases of plants and animals and to prevent and detect food contamination, expanding and improving laboratory facilities, and enhancing disease monitoring, surveillance and vaccine storage. This includes a new initiative for DHS to accelerate the research and development of countermeasures against specific potential foreign animal disease threat agents.

Supporting America's First Responders: The FY 2006 Budget continues to support the men and women that make up America's first line of defense, including sustained investments in equipment and technology. Initiatives include the development of standards and technology to enable interoperable communications across first responder communities; enhanced performance of personal protective equipment; improved sampling, detection, and forensic analysis of potential threat agents; and information management tools to aid in consequence management.

Protecting Water Infrastructure and Improving Decontamination: A total of \$94 million will fund new and ongoing research at the Environmental Protection Agency related to their role in water security and post-incident decontamination. Systems for monitoring and surveillance of terrorist threat agents in drinking water will be piloted in several U.S. cities. Decontamination capabilities will be strengthened by testing new cleaning methods, systems and antimicrobial products for buildings and outdoor areas and by conducting risk assessment work to support decontamination/revision of cleanup guidance goals.