

Top Ten Themes & Principles

Information requirements for Stabilization and Reconstruction (S&R)

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1) Know the country

- Political and power structures
- Relationships, social organization
- Values

2) Achieve a Common Operational Picture (COP)

- Different organizations disseminate information (e.g. U.S. Military, State, and USAID) but have no mechanisms to tie or integrate their efforts
- Need a USG-wide integrated information and reporting program
- Need agreements to use common definitions and terms
- Need an integrated monitoring capacity
- Need to develop information standards and reporting requirements
- Manage multiple ongoing efforts in a push to capture, direct and manage
- Need a common geo-referenced database
 - medical clinics, hospitals, munitions dumps, schools, police stations, prisons, security incidents, landmines, etc
- Specific sectoral functional efforts need to be connected to all efforts and centralized in a database
- Need to coordinate efforts with the White House Science and Technology Commission meetings

3) Need for information management capacity—must convince leadership of its importance

4) Need to develop interagency data and information management strategy early on

5) Need to pull information into a flexible framework

- Information needs to be able to be disseminated in different types to different users (i.e. hubs and spokes model may be useful)

6) Need information from the standpoint of the field

- Field-based team leaders should be a factor in designing a system:
 - Vital for them to be able to make decisions on-the-spot on both current and evolving operations
 - Some information needs are the same as those desired by HQ—but much is not
 - Need to know organizational and personality dynamics of in-country allies and adversaries
 - CA units gather great information, but the reporting system (technical and institutional) didn't permit the information to reach the CPA, or contribute to any database used by CPA.
 - Need to partition information requirements by “client” or “user”

7) Strategic Communications

- Use reported information and communications to keep the public informed of laws, government rationale, policies, programs, security situation

8) Need to de-conflict information through analysis.

9) Plan to turn over system to the host government

- bring them into the process earlier
- aid their coordination and control of future priorities.

10) Need to identify responsible organization(s) with authority

- provide it/them with resources.