



**DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY**  
2800 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-2800

20 DEC 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR THE COMMANDER, U.S. AFRICA COMMAND,  
DIRECTOR FOR STRATEGY, PLANS AND PROGRAMS  
COMMANDER, U.S. CENTRAL COMMAND,  
DIRECTOR FOR OPERATIONS  
COMMANDER, U.S. EUROPEAN COMMAND,  
DIRECTOR FOR LOGISTICS  
COMMANDER, U.S. NORTHERN COMMAND,  
DIRECTOR FOR INTERAGENCY COORDINATION  
COMMANDER, U.S. PACIFIC COMMAND,  
DIRECTOR FOR LOGISTICS, ENGINEERING AND  
SECURITY ASSISTANCE  
COMMANDER, U.S. SOUTHERN COMMAND,  
DIRECTOR FOR THEATER ENGAGEMENT

**SUBJECT:** Increased Geographic Combatant Command (GCC) Minimal Cost Approval  
Threshold for Humanitarian Assistance Projects, DSCA Policy 12-57 [SAMM E-  
Change 215]

**References:** (a) Special Operations and Low Intensity Conflict, Partnership Strategy and  
Stability Operations, "Policy Guidance for DoD Humanitarian Assistance Funded  
by the Overseas Humanitarian, Disaster, and Civic Aid Appropriation," June 5,  
2012

(b) Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Humanitarian Assistance, Disaster  
Relief and Mine Action Division, "Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA)  
Guidance for Overseas Humanitarian, Disaster and Civic Aid (OHDACA) Budget  
Submissions," February 22, 2012

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform you that Chapter 12 of the Security Assistance Management Manual (SAMM), which governs "Humanitarian Assistance and Mine Action Programs," now reflects the increased GCC minimal cost approval threshold for humanitarian assistance projects funded with OHDACA.

Per references (a) and (b), the GCC minimal cost approval threshold has been raised from \$10,000 to \$15,000, effective FY 2013. Accordingly, SAMM sections C12.3.5.2., C12.3.6.6., and C12.4.15.3., have been updated to reflect the new threshold. The changes are included in the SAMM at <http://www.dsca.mil/samm/> as E-Change 215, Policy Memo 12-57.

The changes are effective immediately. The DSCA points of contact for this memorandum are Ramon Davis and Andrew MacDermott at (703) 601-3652/601-3856, e-mail: [ramon.davis@dca.mil/andrew.macdermott@dca.mil](mailto:ramon.davis@dca.mil/andrew.macdermott@dca.mil).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "For Ki J. Schless". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

Scott R. Schless  
Principal Director  
Strategy

Attachment(s):  
As stated

## SECURITY ASSISTANCE MANAGEMENT MANUAL (SAMM), E-CHANGE 215

### Increased Geographic Combatant Command (GCC) Minimal Cost Approval Threshold for Humanitarian Assistance Projects

#### 1. Replace “\$10K” with “\$15,000” for all references to the minimal cost threshold in Chapter 12 of the SAMM:

C12.3.5.2. Projects that are included within an annual CCMD strategy and budget request are “in-cycle” (annual) projects; all others are “out-of-cycle.” Additionally, any project estimated to cost ~~\$10K~~ \$15,000 or less is considered a minimal cost project and should be reflected with other anticipated minimal cost projects as a lump sum in the CCMD strategy and budget submission. Minimal cost projects are approved at the CCMD program manager (PM) level; however, they will still be entered into OHASIS and are required to meet the same legal, policy and program requirements as other projects.

C12.3.6.6. Out-of-cycle nominations over ~~\$10K~~ \$15,000 will be reviewed and approved or disapproved by DSCA, with an intermediate opportunity for SOLIC to review the projects for consistency with strategic guidance and interests. Regardless of the approval level, a CCMD may fund all approved projects at its discretion.

C12.4.15.3. Minimal Cost Projects. Projects costing less than or equal to ~~\$10K~~ \$15,000 are referred to as minimal cost projects and may be approved at the CCMD level. Separating a larger effort that would ordinarily exceed ~~\$10K~~ \$15,000 into distinct minimal cost projects to avoid DSCA-level review is not acceptable. Minimal cost projects are subject to the same criteria for policy compliance and planning guidelines as other OHDACA-funded projects and must be entered and managed in OHASIS.