



ENDING POVERTY BY 2030

Protecting the International Affairs Budget and Humanitarian Assistance

QUICK FACTS

With significant investments from U.S. foreign assistance:

- » Since 1990-92, **216 million fewer people go to bed hungry**, despite a 1.9 billion increase in the global population¹
- » **Literacy rates are up 33 percent worldwide** in the past 25 years.²
- » In the last 25 years, **infant and child deaths have dropped by half.**³
- » Since 2000, the **number of children in hazardous labor has fallen by half.**⁴

Introduction

Poverty -focused U.S. foreign assistance accounts for less than 1% of the federal budget—yet this small amount enables the United States to work through trusted partners, including faith-based organizations such as World Vision, to fund and implement programs that support innovation, infrastructure, and improved well-being for people in need. These efforts result in a stronger global economy and improved national security.

Why it matters

Foreign assistance programs support U.S. interests and reflect our nation's founding principles: that all human beings are born with equal value and an equal right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. The United States has long been a beacon of hope and opportunity for those suffering from disease, tyranny, poverty, and conflict. It partners with nonprofit organizations, multilateral institutions, and businesses, and supports the work of faith-based organizations to provide relief and long-term development. **U.S. leadership on foreign assistance has long been bipartisan, and it is critical that this continue through strong funding for the International Affairs Budget.**

Supporting freedom and opportunity for our global neighbors expands opportunities for Americans here at home. U.S. foreign assistance programs promote economic growth and stability, strengthen trade partnerships, and attract new consumers around the world for U.S. goods and products. Communities gain livelihood opportunities, helping families build self-reliance and thereby reducing the need for U.S. assistance. These programs also bolster strategic alliances, help combat extremism and instability, improve governance, and provide life-saving assistance. They respond to global challenges that often have negative consequences if we fail to act.

¹ <http://www1.wfp.org/zero-hunger>

² <https://www.usaid.gov/results-and-data/progress>

³ <http://www.jamanetwork.com/journals/jamapediatrics/fullarticle/2613463>

⁴ http://www.alliance87.org/global_estimates_of_child_labour_results_and_trends_2012-2016.pdf



THE OPPORTUNITY

We can end extreme poverty. Since 1990, global investments, including U.S. foreign assistance, have helped cut it in half. Still, 5.6 million children under the age of 5 die each year. One in every 10 people do not have access to clean water. Each night 815 million people go to bed hungry. Seventy-three million children are in hazardous labor conditions. These challenges are amplified in conflict and refugee situations— an unprecedented number of people have been forced from their homes. **This is not the time to halt progress.**



With the goal of ending extreme poverty, foreign assistance encompasses:



Education



Global health



Local advocacy



Disaster response



Child protection



Gender equality



Economic development



Clean water and sanitation



Mother and child care



Crisis and conflict response



Agriculture and food security



U.S.-based innovation

Facts

- » Though it accounts for less than 1 percent of the U.S. federal budget, foreign assistance has faced disproportionate **cuts of 14 percent** since 2012.
- » U.S. foreign assistance helped South Korea recover from economic collapse after the Korean War. Today the country is our sixth largest trading partner and a key ally, from whom we now get back **\$39 billion in trade each year—more than our total foreign assistance** given over five decades.⁴
- » **11 of our 15 top export markets** today are former recipients of U.S. foreign assistance.⁵
- » Started under President Bush, the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) has supported **life-saving treatment for more than 13.3 million people** around the world.⁶ And some recipient countries are beginning to assume financial responsibility for these efforts.
- » Thanks to U.S. foreign assistance:
 - **640 million children** have been vaccinated since 2001.⁷
 - As of 2015, **7.6 million people** have received access to safe drinking water.⁸

⁴<http://www.usglc.org/2014/04/24/how-south-korea-became-a-smart-investment-success/>

⁵http://www.amfar.org/uploadedFiles/_amfarorg/Articles/On_The_Hill/2013/1B%20Foreign%20Aid.pdf

⁶<https://www.usaid.gov/results-and-data/progress>

⁷<https://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/global-health/maternal-and-child-health/technical-areas/immunization>

⁸<https://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/water-and-sanitation>

ASK

To continue U.S. global leadership and influence, please **fund the International Affairs Budget at a minimum of \$59.1 billion. Any cuts to the budget during this time of growing need will be devastating.**

- » To ensure the continued leadership and influence of the U.S. in the protection of children around the world, prioritize the following accounts:
 - \$25 million for the **Displaced Children and Orphans Fund** to support the care and protection of vulnerable children around the globe, particularly those who have been separated from their families or are at risk of separation
 - At least \$91 million for the **Department of Labor – Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB)** for programs that prevent and reduce the use of child labor in countries where the U.S. has trade agreements or preference programs

- » On behalf of those affected by the crisis in Syria and others impacted by conflict, natural disasters, and humanitarian crises around the world:
 - \$4.4 billion for the **International Disaster Assistance (IDA)** account
 - Maintain full funding for the **Migration and Refugee Assistance (MRA)** account at \$3.4 billion
 - At least \$50 million for the **Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance (ERMA)** fund
 - Prioritize programming for **child protection and psychosocial support** in emergency situations

- » To increase global food security and nutrition:
 - \$1.9 billion for the overall **Food for Peace/Title II** funding, including at least \$350 million in funding for non-emergency development programs—as required by the Farm Bill
 - Maintain \$1 billion for the **Feed the Future** initiative

- » To continue critical work to save the lives of mothers and children:
 - \$900 million in funding for the **Maternal and Child Health** account





With the help of a USAID program, Susan lifted her family out of poverty and tragedy. Today, she's helping transform her community.

“I believe that I can make it, just through this, my business. And I always thank God for that. I’m doing it. It’s hard work, but I’m making it. When I started making [these stoves], people were telling me that they have never seen a lady doing this job, but I can now make it. I’m proud of it.”

—Susan Otieno, Kenya

Breaking the cycle of poverty

On November 1, 2011, Susan’s husband died as a result of AIDS, leaving her a widow with three children. In her community in Kenya, tradition dictates “wife inheritance”—Susan was expected to marry her husband’s brother within three days. She resisted, and was told that in doing so she would sacrifice any chances of survival or prosperity for her family.



With a loan that came through a USAID program, Susan learned how to build clean-burning indoor cook stoves (which make homes healthier) as well as how to market and sell the stoves. She quickly repaid the loan and today has a thriving business that covers all her family’s needs, including her children’s school fees. She now trains other women to make stoves so they too can support their families.

World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice. We serve all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or gender. ADV10797_0817 © 2017 World Vision, Inc.

World Vision

worldvision.org/advocacy

Lisa Bos
Director of Government Relations
lbos@worldvision.org
202.572.6545

World Vision
300 I Street NE
Washington, DC 20002