



## ENDING POVERTY BY 2030

Protecting the International Affairs Budget and Humanitarian Assistance

### QUICK FACTS

With investments from U.S. foreign assistance:

- » A projected 23.4 million more people are living above the poverty line, 3.4 million more children are living free of stunting, and 5.2 million more families no longer suffer from hunger.<sup>1</sup>
- » Since 2011, 69.8 million children have received early-grade reading instruction.<sup>2</sup>
- » In 2019, USAID and its partners helped 84 million women and children access essential, and often life-saving, health services.<sup>3</sup>
- » The number of children in hazardous labor has fallen by 94 million.<sup>4</sup>

## Introduction

Poverty-focused U.S. foreign assistance accounts for less than 1 percent 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 implement programs that bring hope, opportunity, and improved well-being for people in the world's toughest places. These efforts result in lives saved, 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 are deserving of dignity and opportunity. For nearly 250 years the United States has been a beacon of hope for those suffering from discrimination, disease, tyranny, poverty, and conflict. It partners with nonprofit organizations, multilateral institutions, and businesses, and supports the work of faith-based organizations to provide humanitarian relief and long-term development. **U.S. leadership on foreign assistance has long been bipartisan, and it is critical that this collaboration continue through strong funding for poverty-focused foreign assistance, particularly in light of increased global needs as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.**

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 hope, dignity, and self-reliance — thereby reducing the need for future 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 needs and challenges that often have far greater negative consequences if we fail to act.

<sup>1</sup><https://www.usaid.gov/documents/1867/feed-future-snapshot-decade-progress>

<sup>2</sup><https://www.usaid.gov/education>

<sup>3</sup><https://www.usaid.gov/global-health>

<sup>4</sup><https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ilab/our-work/child-forced-labor-trafficking>

## THE OPPORTUNITY



We can help end extreme poverty. Since 1990, global investments, including U.S. foreign assistance, have helped cut the number of people living on the edges of society in half. Still, 5.2 million children under the age of 5 die each year, mainly of causes we know how to prevent. One in every 10 people do not have access to clean water. Each night 690 million people go to bed hungry.

One in nine girls in the developing world are married before the age of 15. Hazardous labor conditions entrap 73 million children. These challenges are amplified in conflict and refugee situations—an unprecedented 68.5 million 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

- » At less than 1 percent of the U.S. federal budget, foreign assistance lags behind other developed countries as a percent of GDP. Still, this amount is significant, and has funded many important global initiatives.
- » 11 of our top 15 trade partners today are former recipients of U.S. foreign assistance.<sup>5</sup>
- » Started under President Bush, the **President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)** has supported life-saving treatment for more than 17.2 million people around the world.<sup>6</sup> Some recipient countries are beginning to assume financial responsibility for these efforts.
- » Thanks to U.S. foreign assistance:
  - 760 million children have been vaccinated, in partnership with Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, since 2001.<sup>7</sup>
  - Over two years, 11.6 million people gained access to safe drinking water.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>5</sup>[http://www.amfar.org/uploadedFiles/\\_amfarorg/Articles/On\\_The\\_Hill/2013/1B%20Foreign%20Aid.pdf](http://www.amfar.org/uploadedFiles/_amfarorg/Articles/On_The_Hill/2013/1B%20Foreign%20Aid.pdf)

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

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

<sup>8</sup><https://www.globalwaters.org/resources/annualreport>

ASK

To continue U.S. global leadership and influence, please **fund the International Affairs Budget at a minimum of \$60 billion**. Increasing global needs and acceleration of life-saving interventions require this small funding increase.

- » To ensure the continued leadership and influence of the U.S. in the protection of children around the world, prioritize the following accounts:
  - \$30 million for the **Displaced Children and Orphans Fund** to support the care and protection of vulnerable children around the globe
  - At least \$100 million for the **Department of Labor – Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB)**—for programs that prevent and reduce the use of child labor
- » On behalf of those affected by conflict, natural disasters, and humanitarian crises around the world:
  - \$4.5 billion for the **International Disaster Assistance (IDA)** account.
  - \$50 million for the **Complex Crises Fund (CCF)** account
  - Prioritize prevention, protection, and resilience programming in fragile contexts
- » To promote gender equality and reduce the incidence of child marriage:
  - \$30 million for development assistance programs that prevent child marriage and address the needs of married girls globally
- » To ensure all children have access to quality, inclusive education:
  - \$1.1 billion for basic education, including \$50 million for **Education Cannot Wait**, a multilateral partnership dedicated to education in emergencies and protracted crises, and \$150 million for the **Global Partnership for Education (GPE)**, a multi-stakeholder partnership supporting basic education for children in low-income countries
- » To increase global food security and nutrition:
  - \$2 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 2018 Farm Bill
  - \$264 million for the **USDA’s McGovern-Dole International Food for Education Program**
- » To continue critical work to save the lives of mothers and children:
  - \$665 million in funding for the **International Family Planning** account to protect women’s and children’s health and reduce poverty through voluntary family planning and healthy timing and spacing of pregnancies
  - \$984 million in funding for the **Maternal and Child Health** account to help end preventable child and maternal deaths globally







## Changing the face of mother and child mortality

According to the United Nations, more than 5,500 women die in pregnancy and childbirth each year in Bangladesh. That's 8 percent of total deaths among women of childbearing age, and many of these deaths are preventable with the right interventions.

To make matters worse, 32 out of every 1,000 children born in Bangladesh will die before their fifth birthday. Women and children in southwest Bangladesh face many risks that increase their vulnerability, including unsafe water, sanitation, and hygiene conditions, and reduced access to proper healthcare facilities and information.

But Nobo Jatra—a five-year program funded by USAID and implemented by World Vision and Winrock International in partnership with the World Food Program and the government of Bangladesh—is starting to change all of that. At the Chunkuri Community Clinic, mothers can now receive thorough pre- and postnatal care in a clean, up-to-date government facility, rather than having to pay more and travel farther to a private clinic. Additionally, their newborns are now monitored during their first few years to ensure they're growing and thriving. Many of the mothers receive regular household visits from one of Nobo Jatra's community health organizers, who help the mothers learn to better care for their children.

"Children are now healthier than before," says the clinic's health assistant, Subal Mondal. "Child death was frequent before. And mothers are healthier, too. There was stillbirth and miscarriage, but in the last five years, this has changed."



Local mothers, teachers, health workers, and other community members had a role in making this happen: Through Nobo Jatra's Citizen Voice and Action advocacy component, a Chunkuri citizen group advocated to the government for significant improvements to their clinic. Before, there wasn't safe drinking water at the clinic and the plaster walls were chipping away. Now there are improved latrines, private breastfeeding spaces, better equipment, and even new tile on the walls.

The program's name, Nobo Jatra, translates to "new beginning." And thanks to USAID, mothers and their children in southwest Bangladesh can have a healthy new beginning of their own.

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. © 2021 World Vision, Inc.



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