



Foreign Assistance Matters: To the U.S. and the World

Foreign assistance has led to....

- **Less child mortalities:**
59% decrease from 1990-2022
- **Less AIDS-related deaths:**
69% decrease from 2004-2023
- **Less disease:**
smallpox has been defeated, polio has decreased 99%, and deaths from malaria in Africa were cut in half from 2000 to 2015
- **Less extreme poverty:**
from 2 billion people in 1990 (36% of population) to 712 million (9% of population) in 2022

Introduction

At World Vision, we strive to ensure girls and boys experience life in all its fullness - as we believe God intended. We place an emphasis on fostering child well-being across development and humanitarian contexts, helping them and their families to lift themselves out of poverty for good.

We intentionally partner with local actors as those best placed to identify the needs of their communities, ensuring long-term resilience so that outcomes are sustained long after we're gone. 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 build hope, dignity, and self-reliance — thereby reducing the need for future funding.

U.S. foreign assistance is less than 1% of the budget with a BIG IMPACT.



Why it matters to America

Our leadership

Foreign assistance is a **critical component of American democracy, diplomacy, and defense**, and it is directly tied to the health of our national economy, the well-being of our states, and the future of our security.

Though development and humanitarian challenges around the world are vast and complex, we believe they can be overcome with **American leadership and values**. America should be the primary ally and partner of choice around the world. According to a public poll from last year, **8 in 10 voters agree that the U.S. should play a leading or major role on the global stage.**



Our economy

Supporting freedom and opportunity for our global neighbors also 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.

In fact, some foreign assistance dollars **never leave the United States at all**—instead, going to U.S. businesses and farmers for the end benefit of a foreign population.

Our security

The broad range of U.S. foreign assistance programs also represent cost-effective ways to ensure global safety, security, and stability that do not require the U.S. to send troops overseas. In order to reduce our military footprint and engagement globally, “soft power” is vital.

As our country continues to be confronted by a diverse set of international challenges, including ongoing conflicts in Ukraine and the Middle East, increased migration at our Southern border, and the rise of authoritarian influence from China and Russia, **foreign assistance is an investment** that bolsters strategic alliances, combats extremism and instability, improves governance, and increases global stability.

CALL TO ACTION

By recognizing foreign assistance as an invaluable tool at our disposal, the U.S. can better respond to global needs and challenges that often have **far greater negative consequences if we fail to act**. When foreign assistance stops, our country not only loses influence - it also costs lives, harms our credibility as a trusted partner, and jeopardizes our national security.

Now is the time for the US government to take the lead on investing in long-term development - so that families are empowered to become resilient and no longer need our assistance in the future, and so our country remains safe and prosperous.

World Vision  worldvisionadvocacy.org

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. © 2024 World Vision, Inc.



Yessica's Story

Economic hardship and a sense of hopelessness once defined Yessica's life in Honduras. She worried she would not be able to earn a living for herself, let alone her aging grandmother. Through World Vision's farming and skill training programs, Yessica learned resilient farming techniques and began cultivating coffee and other crops. Now earning nearly twice the national average, Yessica is supporting her family and helping other farmers flourish in her community.

Scan to watch the full story.

