



# USAID Forward

American taxpayers rightfully demand government agencies deliver results. Over the last decade, Republican and Democratic Administrations have transformed the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) into a more effective, results-driven agency that ensures accountable and transparent foreign assistance.

As America's lead development agency for most U.S. foreign assistance, USAID is achieving results and ensuring that America's development investments are sustainable and maximized. From rigorous monitoring and evaluation to robust public-private partnerships, USAID is mobilizing the world around shared challenges, and leveraging taxpayer dollars to scale up successful projects efficiently and transparently.

Bipartisan leadership in Congress has been instrumental in pushing the reform agenda forward. Following the Electricity Africa Act becoming law earlier this year, two other important bills – the Foreign Assistance Transparency and Accountable Act and the Global Food Security Act – are closer than ever before to becoming law, which will institutionalize the government's new model of development, based on results and transparency.

## Roadmap Toward Accountability

- **Elevating development as central to our national security.** The Presidential Policy Directive on Global Development elevated development as a core pillar of U.S. national security and affirmed the Administration's pledge to rebuild USAID as the nation's lead development agency.
- **Setting strategic vision.** USAID created the Bureau of Policy, Planning, and Learning and Office of Budget and Resource Management and completed 60 out of 62 Country Development Cooperation Strategies to guide U.S. development investments.
- **Applying rigorous monitoring and evaluation.** USAID has conducted more than 1,000 evaluations by independent third parties since 2011 and reports that 98 percent of these evaluations have been used to shape and modify USAID policies.
- **Tracking country-by-country spending.** The online Foreign Assistance Dashboard posts aid budget data so policy makers and Americans can see exactly where and how their tax dollars are being spent.
- **Leveraging private resources.** USAID's Global Development Alliance has leveraged more than \$1.5 billion of private capital for development projects, and Development Credit Authority has doubled its total loan guarantees since 2011. For Power Africa, the initiative to bring electricity to sub-Saharan Africa, an initial \$7 billion commitment has leveraged more than \$20 billion in private sector commitments.
- **Prioritizing science and technology.** USAID has renewed its commitment to science and technology-based solutions that enable transformative change in the developing world. Through the U.S. Global Development Lab, USAID has fostered more than 420 development innovations, helping to transform the lives of more than 24.5 million people.
- **Strengthening local ownership.** USAID works with countries to create their own development strategies, ensuring they are committed to the development process and invest their own national resources to improve the lives of their citizens. Through Feed the Future, the U.S. is working with host governments to develop national agricultural development strategies that guide and ensure U.S. investments are sustainable.
- **Rebuilding internal capacity.** After the end of the Cold War, USAID saw a sharp decline in its ability to administer and monitor its programs through cuts in staffing. Starting with the Bush Administration's efforts to reverse the overall decline in Foreign Service Officers, USAID has increased its direct-hire staff from 1,947 in 2000 to 3,815 in 2014.

# Quotes



“Evaluation is a very powerful tool for holding ourselves accountable and making the case to the American public and the Congress that we are good and effective stewards of the tax-payer money.”

– USAID Administrator Gayle Smith, March 30, 2016



“Over the past five years, we have made difficult choices about where our work will have the greatest impact, shifting resources and personnel to better advance our mission of ending extreme poverty around the world.”

– Former USAID Administrator Rajiv Shah, April 10, 2014



“America’s ability to protect itself and advance its global interests often depends as much on its “softer” power as it does on our nation’s armed forces.”

– Former CIA Director General David Petraeus, April 30, 2013



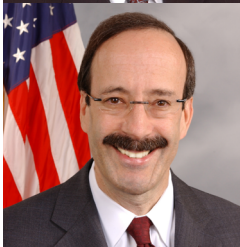
“If you don’t fund the State Department fully, then I need to buy more ammunition.”

– Former U.S. Central Command Commander General James Mattis, March 5, 2013



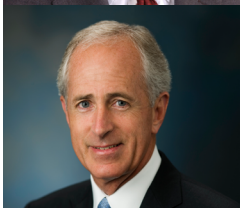
“From countering the threat of ISIS to combating pandemic diseases, foreign assistance can advance our national security at a modest price. It is important to ensure that all of these investments though – no matter their size – are efficient and effective.”

– Rep. Ed Royce (R-CA), March 15, 2016



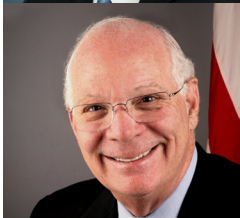
“We need to invest in diplomacy, development, and foreign assistance in order to tackle all of these challenges. We need to make the case that modest investments today – just over 1% of the federal budget – will pay back huge dividends for our security and prosperity tomorrow. And we need to show that American leadership is always a sure thing, because if we’re not doing this work around the world, no one else will.”

– Rep. Elliot Engel (D-NY), February 25, 2016



“With limited aid available, it is our responsibility to ensure American resources are used in the most effective manner possible.”

– Senator Bob Corker (R-TN), February 13, 2015



“U.S. leadership on foreign development, aid programs, and economic assistance is the global gold standard making impactful and positive changes throughout the world. But we must always demand the highest standards of transparency and accountability to ensure our foreign assistance efforts are making the most positive and meaningful impact in the communities we assist.”

– Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD), October 20, 2015