Over the past two decades, Republican and Democratic Administrations and Members of Congress have enacted bipartisan, game-changing reforms at agencies like USAID to ensure foreign assistance programs are more transparent, accountable, and data-driven. Agencies and initiatives such as the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC), the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), Feed the Future, and Prosper Africa are examples of these reforms at work. Below are key principles that have driven reforms in recent years:

▪ **Ensuring Transparency and Rigorous Monitoring and Evaluation**: In 2016, Congress passed the [Foreign Aid Transparency and Accountability Act](https://www.foreignaidtransparency.org), institutionalizing reforms that make U.S. foreign assistance more impactful, transparent, and data-driven. Thanks to Congressional leadership, nearly 100% of foreign assistance is now available to view online at [ForeignAssistance.gov](https://foreignassistance.gov), allowing Americans to see exactly where their tax dollars are going. Similarly, this past year, [Results for America](https://www.resultsforamerica.org) awarded USAID a perfect score for its evidence-based evaluation policy and its performance management system.

▪ **Prioritizing Country Engagement**: New programs in food and climate resilience require country buy-in plans and reforms, ensuring the long-term sustainability of programs. Through [Feed the Future (FTF)](https://www.feedthefuture.gov), for example, the United States is working with host governments to develop national agricultural development strategies that ensure U.S. investments are sustainable. In 2022, FTF was expanded to eight new target countries in Africa to address global hunger, increasing investments in country-level capacity and resilience.

▪ **Leveraging Private Resources**: New public-private partnerships have catalyzed taxpayer dollars. Over the next five years, the [Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment](https://www.p3partnership.org) will mobilize $200 billion in public and private financing to provide quality infrastructure in low-income countries. Further, since it was founded in 2019, [Prosper Africa](https://www.prosperafrica.gov), the U.S. government’s private sector initiative to promote market opportunities in Africa, has helped close 800 deals across 49 countries for an estimated $65 billion in exports and investments.

▪ **Emphasizing Return on Investment**: Humanitarian, development, and food assistance are cost-effective tools to prevent and reduce conflict and to grow the economy. For every $1 the U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA) invests in its programs, it generates $136 in U.S. exports. More broadly, for every $1 the United States spends to prevent conflict, it saves $16 in response costs. It is cheaper to invest early.

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**SPOTLIGHT: MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORPORATION**

The [Millennium Challenge Corporation](https://www.mcc.gov) (MCC) is an innovative and independent U.S. foreign assistance agency that provides time-limited grants to reduce poverty through economic growth and strengthen institutions to support global stability and enhance American interests.

Created by the U.S. Congress in 2004, the MCC is a uniquely bipartisan organization that has led the charge on how to deliver the smartest and most impactful U.S. foreign assistance by focusing on evidence-based policies, country-led solutions, and transparent results. In 2022, the MCC was ranked the world’s most transparent bilateral donor for its commitment to transparent operations, public accountability, and data-driven decision making.

MCC’s results framework has served as a model for aid effectiveness by focusing on learning and accountability. With its emphasis on both interim and long-term impacts through independent evaluations, the MCC is a champion of transparent results reporting. In nearly two decades, the MCC has signed 38 long-term contracts with 29 countries, worth more than $14 billion and benefitting 190 million people worldwide.