

HOW AMERICA WINS IN THE WORLD: U.S. GLOBAL HEALTH LEADERSHIP



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U.S. global health leadership is among the highest-return investments the U.S. government makes—for American security, American prosperity, and American influence in the world:

U.S. global health programs are some of the most effective tools in America’s national security arsenal. These cost-effective investments keep Americans safe by stopping outbreaks before they reach our shores; bolstering our influence abroad; protecting U.S. jobs and supply chains; and delivering measurable results in saving lives and reducing human suffering.

The importance of U.S. global health investments extends beyond humanitarian goals; it is a strategic imperative. In the past two years alone, U.S. global health initiatives helped contain nearly 250 outbreaks—from cholera to mpox to measles—across more than 40 countries. When Rwanda detected and contained a Marburg outbreak in 2024 largely on its own, it drew directly on the laboratory systems, disease detectives, and surveillance infrastructure that two decades of U.S. investment had built. That is effective global health assistance in action: American investment creating the conditions that enable our partners to protect both themselves and others.

The stakes for America are clear: Right now, a new Ebola outbreak is surging in the DRC and Uganda that has no approved vaccine. With the World Cup taking place in the U.S., it will be critical to get this under control before we welcome the world. While much work lies ahead, the U.S. government has since mobilized more than \$112 million in bilateral international assistance for the Ebola response.

GLOBAL HEALTH LEADERSHIP: AN AMERICAN SUCCESS STORY

Americans across the country, bipartisan lawmakers, and Presidents from both parties agree that U.S. investment in combating HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria, along with other vital health programs, is in America's national security and economic interests. The U.S. has built a portfolio of proven, accountable, results-driven programs:

- **PEPFAR** –The President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) has saved over 26 million lives and has enjoyed support from policymakers and presidents for over 23 years. President Trump has set a goal of ending mother-to-child transmission of HIV by the end of his second term, a goal that depends directly on PEPFAR’s continued success.
- **The Global Fund** – the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria is a multilateral financing mechanism that pools contributions from governments, the private sector, and philanthropies to fund frontline health programs in more than 100 countries. Every U.S. dollar committed to the Global Fund is matched 2x by other donors. The Global Fund has procured more than \$3.5 billion in goods and services from U.S. companies since 2010.
- **Gavi** – Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, has immunized over 1.1 billion children worldwide since its founding in 2000, saving an estimated 19 million children’s lives and contributing to global stability by catalyzing \$250 billion in economic benefits. Over the next five years, Gavi projects that it will immunize 500 million more children and prevent 8 million deaths. Gavi is the world’s leading purchaser of U.S.-produced vaccines, delivering a return of nearly \$4 in U.S. exports for every \$1 invested in the last five years.

- **PMI** – The President’s Malaria Initiative (PMI) has built critical infrastructure for disease surveillance and rapid outbreak response, strengthening health security across Africa and Asia to contain diseases like Ebola and Marburg before they reach the U.S. Reducing malaria cases by 90% by 2030 could increase international trade by \$80.7 billion and boost exports from top economies like the U.S. by \$3.9 billion.

PROTECTING AMERICANS AT HOME AND ABROAD

By stopping diseases before they cross our borders and building healthier, more stable societies, the U.S. bolsters its security and reaps economic dividends:

- From 2001 to 2021, U.S. support to counter Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) globally prevented 8.9 million deaths. Fourteen countries have eliminated at least one of these tropical diseases, reducing dependence on aid and improving economic productivity in key partners, including Indonesia, Ghana, Colombia, and Mexico. This vital work has also reduced the risk of NTD transmission to American communities, particularly the U.S. Gulf states, where the humid climate increases the likelihood of these diseases spreading.
- Over the last 25 years, targeted U.S. investments in maternal and childhood health programs have cut in half the number of childhood deaths globally, to under 5 million per year, and reduced maternal mortality by about 40%. Every dollar invested in maternal and child health yields an estimated return of \$166 in economic benefits, related to better health and improved productivity.

AMERICA FIRST GLOBAL HEALTH STRATEGY

In September 2025, the Trump Administration released the America First Global Health Strategy, setting out a new framework for U.S. global health engagement. Secretary of State Marco Rubio described the vision for this framework as "a future where we stop outbreaks before they reach our shores, enter strong bilateral agreements that promote our national interests while saving millions of lives, and help promote and export American health innovation around the world."

- The strategy is now being implemented through more than 30 bilateral health cooperation agreements with partner countries, representing a combined commitment of more than \$20 billion over five years, with roughly a third co-invested by partner countries themselves—a concrete step toward the burden-sharing goal that the Administration has made central to its approach.

BUILDING ON A BIPARTISAN FOUNDATION

Bipartisan Members of Congress have long championed U.S. global health leadership and been instrumental in creating and sustaining many of the most game-changing programs, from PEPFAR to the Global Fund. Congress continues to reaffirm America’s global health leadership through consistent funding—as demonstrated in the FY26 appropriations cycle—legislation to strengthen impact, and robust oversight to ensure funds are spent transparently, effectively, and as Congress intended. In a strong show of support for these programs, bipartisan Members protected PEPFAR and maternal and childhood health programs from the rescissions package in July 2025.