Global Health Works: Why U.S. Investments are Important

Bipartisan support and investment for global health is smart domestic and international policy.

Global health & foreign assistance investments work!

- Foreign assistance is about one percent of the total U.S. budget. This includes global health, humanitarian relief, democracy and governance, WASH, disaster assistance, agriculture development, and education.
- Cutting the foreign assistance budget will have no effect on the U.S. budget, but it will cost lives.
- The U.S. is the leader in global health and should continue to be perceived in that way.

Why should we support investments in global health?

- We are in sight of an AIDS-free generation and ending preventable child and maternal deaths.
- We are curbing infectious diseases such as malaria and TB and within reach of eradicating diseases such as polio, measles, and Guinea worm.
- We are building health systems to be self-sustainable and able to combat longstanding and emerging health threats.
- We are building healthy communities that are self-reliant and more economically stable.
- Cuts to global health programs actually end up costing us more: it will cost more in the long run to catch up to the progress that could have been made if the budget is not maintained.
- Global health programs and services are often integrated in a way that leverages and maximizes U.S. investments and increases efficiency and effectiveness. Reducing funding for even a single program likely would have ripple effects for other global health investments.

Global health investments yield positive returns.

- Global health programs are some of the most critical, cost-effective, and greatest successes of foreign aid.
- For such a small portion of the U.S. budget, global health investments deliver results such as ending infectious diseases, helping families and communities prosper, building sustainable health systems, and combating longstanding and emerging health challenges.

Global health investments have a strong, measurable impact.

- Global health investments create jobs here at home.
- The U.S. is at the forefront of research and development and innovation, making us competitive globally.
- Diseases know no borders: we are all at risk to the spread of disease. Strong health systems improve our security from both biological and other threats.
- Investments build economies, leading to new international trade partners.

Global health investments strengthen the U.S. economy and security.

Take Action!

Be an advocate: support U.S. global health investments and foreign assistance.

- Contact your Members of Congress
- Write letters to the editors of local media
- Spread the word in your community

Tell them:

- You support maintaining our foreign assistance and global health investments.
- Foreign assistance and global health investments are critical for the leadership role of the United States around the world.
- Americans consistently support global health and development assistance funding and they see it as a moral imperative to help others.

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