

KEY ASKS

- Support a **strong and effective International Affairs Budget funded at \$74.9 billion in FY24, including at least \$72.9 billion for the FY24 State-Foreign Operations Appropriations bill**, to advance America's security and economic interests at a time of growing global instability.
- Ensure the 118th Congress continues to **champion effective, accountable, and results-driven international affairs programs** that deliver a return on investment for American taxpayers.

KEY MESSAGES

- From competition with China to Russia's ongoing war in Ukraine to a global hunger crisis, now more than ever **U.S. leadership is needed to address an array of converging global threats** that have significant and increasing security and economic impacts here at home.
- **Global instability is affecting American families** from rising prices to supply chain disruptions – an acute reminder that what happens globally matters locally. The good news is that U.S. development, diplomacy, and foreign assistance programs are a proven investment in building a safer and more prosperous America.
- It is critical that **bipartisan Members of Congress and the Administration work together to ensure international affairs resources meet the realities on the global stage** and protect the security and economic interests of the American people.

TALKING POINTS

What's It Worth to Americans that the U.S. invests 1% of the total federal budget in diplomacy and development?

A SAFER, MORE SECURE AMERICA

- **FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE.** Top military leaders and veterans are the first to call for investments in diplomacy and development programs because they help stop threats before they reach our shores and keep U.S. servicemembers out of harm's way. In a recent letter to Congress, **18 former U.S. Combatant Commanders** warned that "shortchanging our investment in these critical tools is dangerous to our own national interests."
- **STRENGTHENING STABILITY.** **1 in every 4 countries** has populations facing severe hunger, exacerbating instability in hotspots around the world. U.S. foreign assistance is a critical tool to **prevent and reduce conflict** – helping stabilize fragile states, stem the drivers of food crises, and keep Americans safe at home.
- **COST-EFFECTIVE.** Every \$1 the U.S. spends to prevent conflict **saves an estimated \$16** in response costs – helping avoid more costly interventions in lives and taxpayer dollars.

AMERICANS' ECONOMIC SECURITY

- **EASING ECONOMIC DISRUPTION.** **One-third of all countries** around the world are expected to enter an economic recession in 2023. Strong U.S. leadership on the world stage is critical to **protect American jobs and grow America's economy** at a time of global economic uncertainty.
- **COMPETING WITH CHINA.** China's global influence has grown dramatically, surpassing the United States as the largest trading partner with many countries in Latin America and Africa and challenging America's strategic interests. America's international affairs agencies **help the U.S. effectively compete with China and counter its coercive practices** and actions that run counter to our values.
- **PROTECTING JOBS.** International trade supports **one in five jobs in the U.S.** and more than 95% of exporting companies are small and medium sized businesses. America's economic future is directly tied to the strength of global markets.

PROJECTING AMERICAN VALUES

- **SAVING LIVES.** 339 million people will need humanitarian assistance in 2023, a 25% increase from last year. America's development and diplomacy programs help save lives and alleviate suffering – strengthening global stability and showcasing the best of our nation's values.
- **PROTECTING FREEDOM.** Global freedom and democracy have declined for the 17th consecutive year. With authoritarianism on the rise, U.S. leadership to strengthen democratic resilience advances America's security by promoting more peaceful, just, and stable societies.
- **PROVEN RESULTS.** As we mark its 20th anniversary this year, PEPFAR has saved more than 25 million lives to date and built a global health infrastructure that supported the global response to the COVID-19 pandemic and prevented the 2014 West Africa Ebola outbreak from becoming a global contagion.

MOBILIZING ACTION AND MAXIMIZING IMPACT

- **LEVERAGING PRIVATE SECTOR RESOURCES.** Recognizing that nearly 90% of financial flows to the developing world come from private sources, America's international affairs agencies have prioritized public-private partnerships – leveraging public funds to catalyze private sector expertise and resources on global challenges such as food insecurity and power.
- **BRINGING PARTNERS TO THE TABLE.** America's leadership in support of Ukraine has mobilized international allies and partners and strengthened their commitment to supporting the Ukrainian people in defending their nation. With its recent commitments, the European Union and its member states are the largest contributors of financial assistance to Ukraine.
- **PRIORITIZING COUNTRY ENGAGEMENT.** With its focus on country-led development, the U.S. is a more reliable partner than China for countries seeking sustainable growth. Through Feed the Future, the U.S works with partner countries to develop better food security and nutrition policies and help them move from vulnerability to self-reliance.

BUILDING CONSENSUS ACROSS PARTY LINES

- **BIPARTISAN SUPPORT.** Democrats and Republicans in Congress have long supported strong funding for the International Affairs Budget and have worked together to ensure America's development and diplomacy programs are effective, accountable, and data driven.
- **REFORM-MINDED.** Over the past decade, Congress has passed more than 50 bipartisan bills to reform U.S. diplomacy and development programs on issues from food security to empowering women and girls to aid transparency.
- **UNITED FRONT.** It is a longstanding tradition for bipartisan Members of Congress to travel together abroad to advance U.S. foreign policy priorities and reinforce America's global leadership role. From the World Economic Forum to the Munich Security Conference and beyond, America is strongest when we stand together on the world stage.