TEN REASONS TO ADVOCATE FOR U.S. FOREIGN ASSISTANCE

IT’S LESS THAN 1% OF OUR FEDERAL BUDGET.
The U.S. allocates less than 1% of our federal budget to humanitarian relief and development assistance. While this is a relatively small amount of our national budget, this funding is critical to combating extreme poverty in developing nations.

IT FUNDS CRITICAL PROGRAMS THAT REACH THE POOR & VULNERABLE.
U.S. foreign assistance goes toward curbing global hunger and malnutrition, improving access to clean water, promoting improved agriculture and food security practices, and humanitarian relief in times of natural disasters and conflict.

OUR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PARTNERS WITH FAITH ORGANIZATIONS TO PROVIDE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE.
Foreign assistance reaches people partly through government agencies, such as USAID. But often foreign assistance is implemented in partnership with faith-based, humanitarian relief and development organizations, including Food for the Hungry.

IT MAKES A BIG IMPACT AND IS COST EFFECTIVE.
Incredible progress has been made in decreasing poverty thanks in part to American foreign assistance. For example: rates of global poverty have been cut in half since 1990 and preventable deaths of children under the age of 5 have decreased by 56%.

FOREIGN ASSISTANCE IS A NON-PARTISAN ISSUE.
Parties from both sides of the aisle support U.S. foreign assistance programming because it exemplifies America’s moral and humanitarian leadership around the world. It’s also vital to our country’s national security and economic interests.

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IT MAKES AMERICA A FORCE FOR GOOD IN THE WORLD.

Foreign assistance is a small way the American people demonstrate good will among those suffering from crippling poverty, conflict, and disasters. It also helps vulnerable communities identify their own long-term solutions.

FOREIGN ASSISTANCE IS IMPORTANT TO OUR NATIONAL SECURITY.

80% of food insecure countries are also fragile states. Strong and effective foreign assistance programs help stabilize hostile regions. This makes vulnerable individuals less susceptible to joining violent extremist groups.

IT’S IMPORTANT TO OUR ECONOMIC INTERESTS AND THE GLOBAL ECONOMY.

Today, 95% of the world’s consumers live outside the U.S. International trade supports 41 million American jobs. Many former U.S. aid recipients are now key American trading partners and allies, such as France, Belgium, Austria, Italy, Spain, and Greece.

CUTTING OR ELIMINATING FOREIGN ASSISTANCE WILL NOT BALANCE THE BUDGET.

Since less than 1% of the budget goes toward foreign assistance. Even if it was eliminated altogether, it would have little to no impact on reducing the deficit. However, it would have devastating consequences to the most vulnerable around the world.

YOUR VOICE MATTERS FOR FOREIGN ASSISTANCE!

There is no direct constituency for the poor and voiceless around the world, so foreign assistance is often subject to deep and disproportionate cuts. Click here and with a few easy steps, let your Members of Congress know you support U.S. foreign aid.

Please take a moment to contact your representatives in Congress at http://www.fh.org/write