USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

DELIVERING

HIGH IMPACT DEVELOPMENT

Message from the USAID Administrator

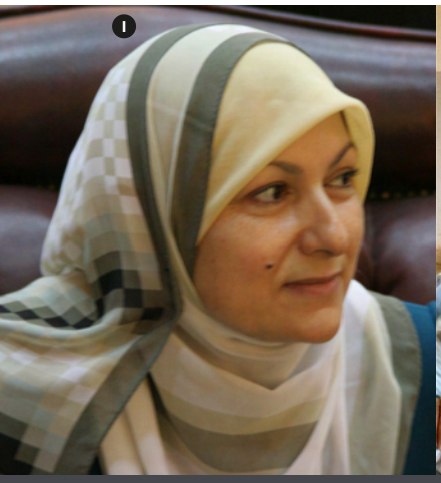
USAID finds itself at a unique moment of opportunity. A powerful consensus has formed at the highest levels of the U.S. government that development is vital to the shared interests of an interconnected world. The scale and complexity of the challenges we face are daunting—a billion people live in hunger and the threats posed by climate change are growing—but the tools, resources and capacity to solve these big problems have never been greater. USAID is prepared to respond.

We take on these challenges with great confidence because our success lies in the hands of the talented, dedicated men and women who serve at USAID. The United States is admired around the world for its innovation and early adaption of technological breakthroughs to help the world's poor. Successes such as the Green Revolution, global immunization programs, and famine relief are testament to USAID's leadership in this regard. We also hold ourselves to higher standards of partnership and accountability. We invest in monitoring to better understand program performance and make midcourse corrections when needed, to ensure our work helps the most people who are most in need. Especially during these tough economic times, it is imperative that we demonstrate how we use precious tax dollars to achieve lasting results.

This brief report summarizes where we work, what we do, and with whom we collaborate. We welcome your interest and invite you to examine our website, www.usaid.gov.

Rajiv Shah
USAID Administrator

Cover: Afghan children pump clean water from a new community well in Kabul.
PHOTO: ROMEO GACAD / AFP



USAID assists the central government in Iraq in applying international standards.
PHOTO: BEN BARBER / USAID

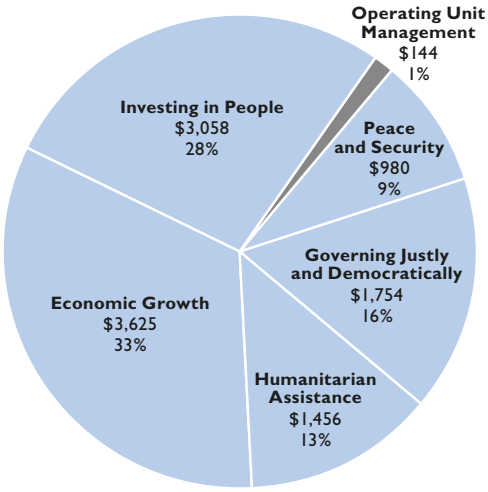
Children from Behenjy village, Madagascar, learn to read and speak English through a USAID-funded interactive radio program.
PHOTO: NATHALIE LOUGE / EDC

Where Does USAID's Money Go?

USAID delivered $11 billion in new assistance during FY 2009 on programs in more than 88 countries, mainly through its missions around the world. The following two charts present how USAID funds were distributed in terms of program objectives.

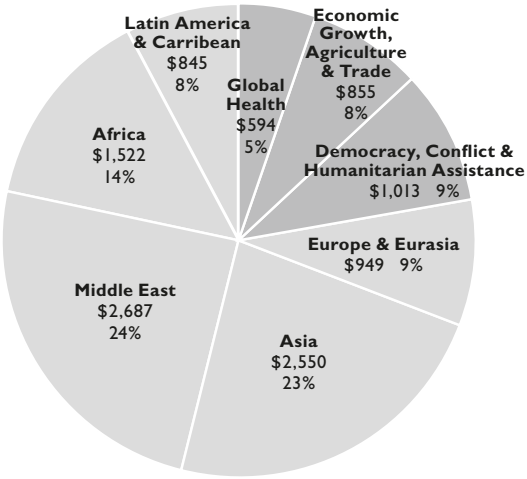
Net Cost of Operations

Dollars in Millions



Geographic Regions & Technical Areas

Dollars in Millions



Agency Accomplishments and Focus

Supporting Stronger Democratic Institutions: USAID strengthens effective democracies through justice and civil society programs. In Bosnia-Herzegovina, USAID supports court administration reforms to dramatically improve the efficiency and transparency of the municipal court system. In Iraq, USAID assists the central government in reforming internal operations and systems, implementing best practices and lessons learned, and applying international standards. In Lebanon, USAID provides leadership training to youth in Al Villat, a mixed Lebanese-Palestinian community, so they can initiate community improvements and serve as role models for civic responsibility. In FY 2009, over 117,000 justice sector personnel and domestic election observers were trained in 61 countries, many of them in emerging democracies.

A farmer picks coffee near Ciudad Bolivar, Colombia.
PHOTO: RODRIGO ARANGUA / AFP

This Malawian villager uses credit from her savings and loans group to increase her crop production. PHOTO: I-LIFE

Building Sustainable Systems to Meet Human Needs: USAID helps nations improve the well-being and productivity of their citizens, and assists in building sustainable capacity to provide services that meet the people's needs. In Pakistan, USAID addresses the country's lack of quality obstetric care by renovating and establishing clinics, distributing medical supplies, educating the public, and training traditional birth attendants and midwives. ❷ In Madagascar, USAID works with the Ministry of Education to provide the country's community-based teachers with ongoing training through interactive radio instruction. In the past two years, 82% of the children in targeted areas of sub-Saharan Africa received a complete set of immunizations of the diphtheria-pertussis-tetanus vaccine, ensuring that the next generation of children are protected against diseases that kill thousands.

Fostering Broad-Based Economic Growth: USAID works to empower private entrepreneurs, workers, and enterprises to take advantage of expanding opportunities in a global economy. ❸ In Colombia, small farmers, previously involved in illicit crop production, are gaining access to wider markets for legal products such as coffee and cacao. In FY 2009, USAID targeted development of 93,777 hectares and exceeded this goal by nearly 25%, allowing more farmers and their families opportunities at local markets. ❹ In Malawi, USAID helps to improve the lives of rural women and increases their food security by pooling funds through village savings and loan groups. This allows women to work together to purchase and grow the foods they need, strengthening not only individuals, but communities. In FY 2009, 19 new Development Credit Authority guarantees with an additional $316 million in private financing were used to help micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises gain access to commercial sources of capital.

Responding to Humanitarian Crises: In FY 2009, USAID responded to 57 disasters in 46 countries, providing more than $754 million to help those in need. In all cases, USAID responded within 72 hours of declared disasters. In addition, USAID built local capacity and expertise to prepare for disasters, and to mitigate and respond to the impact of disasters. To date, USAID has provided nearly $103 million in ❺ assistance to internally displaced persons affected by the conflict in Pakistan—including emergency relief supplies for more than 570,000 people. In 2010, USAID led the U.S. Government's emergency response to the massive humanitarian crisis in Haiti and is transitioning these efforts to assist in the country's long term development goals.

Displaced Pakistanis receive their evening meal at a camp in Mardan, Pakistan, on May 20, 2009. USAID provides humanitarian assistance to civilians affected by the conflict.
PHOTO: TARIQ MAHMOOD / AFP

Since 1961, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) has been the principal U.S. agency providing assistance to countries to facilitate a better, safer, and more prosperous world. The agency's work is focused on improving lives and fighting poverty, expanding human rights and economic opportunities, building democratic institutions and improving governance; and in the process, advancing U.S. foreign policy to enhance American prosperity and security.

USAID addresses this broad array of development challenges and humanitarian needs from its Washington, DC headquarters and through more than 80 missions throughout the world. USAID implements its programs through partnerships with other U.S. government agencies, civil society organizations, universities, private voluntary organizations, businesses, international development organizations, and the development programs of other governments throughout the world. Coordination with a cross-section of stakeholders ensures that the collective efforts of the development community are effective, mutually reinforcing and generate real results.

In FY 2009, USAID invested over $11 billion in programs throughout the world. USAID emphasizes systematically and rigorously learning from the experiences of implementing development programs, and shares that knowledge with partners in order to ensure smart, targeted investments to programs have the highest impact on the most people.

USAID's global capacity to innovate, build systems and solve problems is unparalleled. It is made possible by more than 4,000 development professionals, more than half of whom are citizens of the countries USAID serves.

USAID's unique humanitarian mission reflects the generosity of the American people and their dedicated investment to improve the lives of millions worldwide. USAID is committed to using effectively the resources entrusted to it and to informing the public of its work and achievements.

Partnerships and USAID's Engagement

USAID carries out most programs through non-governmental organizations, contractors, foundations and other groups. USAID development practitioners play a critical role in ensuring the effectiveness of these programs. USAID programs are designed in the field to ensure they are adapted to meet local needs and are based on the best possible evidence. USAID missions oversee the program implementation, evaluate impact and effectiveness, and ensure compliance with best practices. Learning from experience is a top priority of USAID, and steps are regularly taken to share lessons throughout USAID, with implementing partners and with organizations such as the UN, the World Bank, and other country aid agencies to ensure aid effectiveness.

Agency Partners Include:

- Private Voluntary Organizations (PVOs): nonprofit charitable, scientific, educational, or service groups—most are U.S.-based. Examples include CARE, Save the Children, Catholic Relief Services, and World Vision.
- Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs): nonprofit groups based abroad. Examples include Guatemala's Genesis Empresarial, and the Forum for African Women Educationalists.
- Public International Organizations (PIOs): organizations of governments. Examples are UN agencies and the World Bank.
- Contractors: private companies, organizations and individuals that supply commodities or services.
- Cooperatives: organizations owned by and operated for the benefit of those using its services. Examples include Land o' Lakes, National Cooperative Business Association, World Council of Credit Unions.

New Partnerships: The Global Development Alliance

USAID established the Global Development Alliance (GDA) in 2001 to harness the power of partnerships in producing meaningful change and bring to bear innovative strategies that can lead to a world of mutual prosperity. In GDA activities, USAID partners with companies, foundations and others to stimulate economic growth, address health and environmental issues, and expand access to education and technology in the developing world. Since 2001, USAID has formed more than 680 alliances with 1,700 partners to leverage more than $9 billion in combined public and private resources. More than just philanthropy or corporate social responsibility, the GDA model of partnership relies upon market-based solutions to advance broader development objectives. When successful, the resulting alliances are both sustainable and have greater impact providing opportunity for social and economic growth.

U.S. Agency for International Development
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20523
Tel: (202) 712-0000
Fax: (202) 216-3524
www.usaid.gov

May, 2010