



The largest alliance of U.S.-based international nongovernmental organizations focused on the world's poor and most vulnerable people.

November 3, 2017

Dear Budget Committee Members:

As members and partners of InterAction, the nation's leading advocate for international relief, global health, and development programs, we write to urge that you protect poverty-focused and lifesaving international assistance in any budget deal for FY 2018.

Investments in development, health, and humanitarian programs contribute immensely to U.S. national interests and fulfill America's deepest moral values. At less than 1% of the total U.S. budget, these programs build sustainability; fight global diseases; improve maternal and child health and nutrition; help smallholder farmers; educate children; provide access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene; support democracy and good governance; foster equitable growth; advance gender equality; strengthen civil society; empower women and girls; and protect all people from violence, exploitation, and trafficking.

We are concerned that the combination of budgetary pressures could result in cuts to global health, development and humanitarian accounts. In order to protect these valuable programs, we ask that you take appropriate action to ensure that International Affairs (Budget Function 150) spending is sustained at least at current levels.

Thank you in advance for helping to improve the lives of the world's poorest and most vulnerable populations.

Sincerely,

Action Against Hunger
American Jewish World Service
Basic Education Coalition
Better World Campaign
Bread for the World
CARE USA
Catholic Relief Services
ChildFund International

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Global Communities

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Concern Worldwide U.S.
Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund
Friends of the Global Fight Against AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
Global Communities
Global Health Council
Helen Keller International
HelpAge USA
InterAction
International Medical Corps
International Orthodox Christian Charities
International Rescue Committee
IntraHealth International
Jesuit Refugee Service/USA
Mercy-USA for Aid and Development
Norwegian Refugee Council USA
ONE
Oxfam
PAI
PATH
Refugees International
The Hunger Project
UNICEF USA
United Nations Association of the USA
U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants
Volunteers for Economic Growth Alliance
Women's Refugee Commission
World Vision