

OPEN LETTER FROM 140 ORGANIZATIONS  
SUPPORTING THE INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS BUDGET

November 1, 2013

The Honorable Patty Murray  
United States Senate  
154 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Murray:

As you look to the budget decisions before you over the coming weeks, we write to urge you to protect lifesaving humanitarian assistance and poverty-focused development programs and to replace sequestration with a balanced deficit-reduction plan. Discretionary spending, and the International Affairs Budget in particular, has already received drastic cuts in recent years. Congress must not further reduce funding for programs that demonstrate our nation's commitment to alleviate extreme poverty and ensure our economic growth and our national security.

Through U.S. efforts to combat poverty around the globe, we have made incredible strides in the last several decades to help people improve their lives and create a more stable, prosperous, and peaceful world. In the last two decades, the number of chronically hungry people in the world has fallen by a third; child deaths have been cut by 47%. Nearly 6 million people receive lifesaving antiretroviral treatment due to PEPFAR programming. More than 100 million children receive a set of basic immunizations each year, and tens of millions more receive supplemental immunizations against polio, measles, and other killer diseases. And, throughout that period, the U.S. has played a leading role in providing humanitarian relief, from the 2004 Asian tsunami to the deepening Syrian humanitarian crisis, where an estimated 6.8 million people require life-saving aid.

However, sequestration is taking a harsh toll on international aid programs around the world. Experts predict that HIV/AIDS treatment for over 162,000 people will not be available. Two million fewer people will have access reduced or denied to lifesaving food aid. Over 2.7 million fewer children annually will have access to quality primary school education. We must put an end to these unrealistic and ill-conceived cuts and replace them with a balanced and deliberate deficit-reduction plan.

Congress must now enact a responsible FY2014 budget that replaces sequestration with a balanced plan that recognizes the significant cuts already made to discretionary programs and to the international affairs budget in particular. We urge you to protect lifesaving humanitarian assistance and poverty-focused development programs and to replace sequestration with a balanced deficit-reduction plan.

Sincerely,

1. ACDI-VOCA
2. ACTED USA
3. Action Against Hunger
4. ActionAid USA
5. Adeso - African Development Solutions
6. Adventist Development and Relief Agency International (ADRA)
7. All Hands Volunteers
8. Alliance for Peacebuilding
9. AME-SADA
10. American Jewish World Service
11. American Refugee Committee
12. Americas Relief Team
13. AMREF
14. Basic Education Coalition
15. Bethany Christian Services Global, LLC
16. Better World Campaign
17. The Borgen Project
18. Bread for the World
19. Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation
20. CARE USA
21. Center for Women Policy Studies
22. ChildFund International
23. Church World Service
24. CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation
25. Concern America
26. Concern Worldwide US
27. Conference of Major Superiors of Men
28. Congressional Hunger Center
29. Convoy of Hope
30. Creative Learning
31. Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation
32. Episcopal Relief & Development
33. FirstWorks International
34. Food for the Hungry
35. Freedom from Hunger
36. Friends of the Global Fight Against AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
37. Friends of UNFPA
38. Global Business Solutions, Inc.
39. Global Communities
40. Global Health Council
41. Global Links
42. The Global Network for Neglected Tropical Diseases
43. Global Rights: Partners for Justice
44. Global Washington
45. GlobalSolutions.org
46. GrainPro Inc.
47. Habitat for Humanity
48. Haiti Outreach Ministries
49. Hands for Haiti
50. Heartland Alliance International
51. Heifer International
52. Helen Keller International
53. Humane Society International
54. The Hunger Project
55. IMA World Health
56. INMED Partnerships for Children
57. Institute for Sustainable Communities
58. InterAction
59. International Center for Research on Women (ICRW)
60. International HIV/AIDS Alliance USA
61. International Housing Coalition
62. International Medical Corps
63. International Orthodox Christian Charities
64. International Relief & Development
65. International Relief Teams
66. International Rescue Committee
67. International Women's Anthropology Conference
68. International Youth Foundation
69. IntraHealth International
70. Islamic Relief USA
71. John Snow, Inc.
72. The Joint Council on International Children's Services
73. Juarez & Associates, Inc. (J&A)
74. Leadership Conference of Women Religious
75. Leonarda's Home of Hope Inc.
76. Life for Relief and Development
77. Living Water International

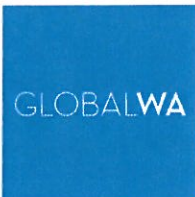
78. Lutheran World Relief
79. Management Sciences for Health
80. Maryknoll Office For Global Concerns
81. Medical Care Development International
82. Medical Teams International
83. Mennonite Central Committee U.S. Washington Office
84. Mercy Corps
85. Mercy-USA for Aid and Development
86. Missionary Oblates USP
87. Moroccan American Forum for Relief and Development
88. National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd
89. National Association of Social Workers
90. National Peace Corps Association
91. NCBA CLUSA
92. Nuru International
93. One Acre Fund
94. Oxfam America
95. Pan American Development Foundation
96. Panagora
97. PATH
98. Pathfinder International
99. Pax Christi USA
100. Plan International USA
101. Planned Parenthood Federation of America
102. Plant With Purpose
103. Population Action International
104. Population Communication
105. Population Services International (PSI)
106. Presbyterian Church USA
107. Project C.U.R.E.
108. Project Concern International (PCI)
109. Public Health Institute
110. Refugees International
111. Relief International
112. RESULTS
113. ReSurge International
114. Save the Children
115. SBAIC
116. Self Help Africa
117. Sierra Care Inc
118. Sojourners
119. Solidarity Center
120. Stop Hunger Now
121. Trickle Up
122. U.S. Fund for UNICEF
123. U.S. International Council on Disabilities
124. United Church of Christ Justice and Witness Ministries
125. United Methodist Church, General Board of Church and Society
126. United Nations Association of the USA
127. United to End Genocide
128. WASH Advocates
129. Washington Global Health Alliance
130. Water for South Sudan, Inc.
131. WaterAid
132. Waterlines
133. Women for Women International
134. Women Thrive Worldwide
135. Women's Refugee Commission
136. World Concern
137. World Education, Inc.
138. World Food Program USA
139. World Learning
140. World Renew



FRIENDS OF UNFPA



PARTNERS FOR JUSTICE

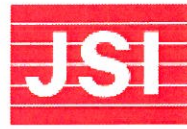




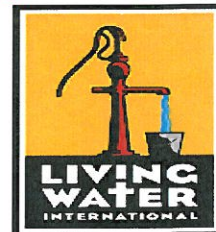
International Housing Coalition  
Supporting Housing for All in a Rapidly Urbanizing World



INTERNATIONAL RELIEF TEAMS



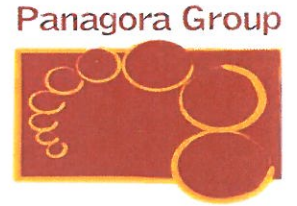
John Snow, Inc.



Lutheran World Relief  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LASTING PROMISE



Sisters of the Good Shepherd  
The National Advocacy Center



A POWERFUL VOICE FOR LIFESAVING ACTION



General Board of CHURCH & SOCIETY of The United Methodist Church



