



June 2, 2025

The Honorable Mario Diaz-Balart,
Chairman
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
National Security, Department of State,
and Related Programs
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Lois Frankel
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
National Security, Department of State,
and Related Programs
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Diaz-Balart and Ranking Member Frankel:

As your Subcommittee works to allocate funding for the Fiscal Year 2026 National Security, Department of State, and Foreign Operations Appropriations Act, the Alliance to End Hunger and its below-signed members respectfully urge you to provide urgently needed funding for global nutrition and food security programming. Specifically, we are seeking \$165 million for Nutrition within the Global Health Programs account, which supports prevention and treatment of acute malnutrition including Ready-to-Use-Therapeutic Foods (RUTF), \$960 million for the Global Food Security Strategy (including \$180 million for international agricultural research and development), \$4.78 billion for International Disaster Assistance (IDA), and \$54 million for the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). These figures represent flat funding with FY24 and FY25.

As you know, the Subcommittee has a long history of support for these programs, which have successfully reduced global hunger and enabled beneficiaries to build their own food and nutrition security.

We understand that the Subcommittee is facing serious fiscal constraints, with restricted allocations to fund programs. However, the programs funded through these accounts are not only effective at improving nutrition and food security globally, but are also incredibly efficient and cost-effective for the American taxpayer. It is essential that as the USG confronts global crises in a more resource-restricted environment, it continues to fund nutrition and food security programs that provide an outsize “bang for the buck” in achieving their desired results.

Conflicts and their resultant effects on access to food continued to drive hunger and global food insecurity in 2024. Violent gangs in Haiti took over the country’s capital and restricted humanitarian food distribution. Civil war in Sudan displaced residents of Khartoum, who

are now not only homeless, but also suffering from acute food insecurity. Gaza witnessed the fastest deterioration of food security in history. Extreme weather has caused drought, famine, and the loss of agricultural livelihoods in places like Ethiopia and Myanmar.

It is critical that the U.S. government continue its historic leadership in addressing global food and nutrition security by maintaining its investments in food security accounts funded through the National Security, Department of State, and Foreign Operations appropriations bill. Through these accounts, we will address not only the effects of hunger and malnutrition, but also invest in prevention of such hunger and malnutrition.

The Nutrition account under Global Health Programs focuses on the first 1,000 days between pregnancy and the child's second birthday. Programs that improve access to prenatal micronutrient supplements and provide support to mothers to breastfeed can help prevent women and children from becoming malnourished in the first place. Early detection of stunting and access to therapeutic foods can save lives and prevent children from becoming wasted, which requires more expensive and intensive treatment to address.

The Global Food Security Strategy, which is implemented through the Feed the Future program, assists more than 40 vulnerable countries reduce hunger, poverty, and malnutrition while making them more resilient to recurrent crises. Through this program, American agricultural innovation and expertise is shared to improve global agricultural productivity, which enhances the resilience of these communities and addresses the root causes of hunger, malnutrition, and poverty. USAID has stated that in areas where Feed the Future is implemented, it is estimated that 23.4 million more people live above the poverty line, 3.4 million fewer children are stunted, and 5.2 million fewer families are hungry.

The International Disaster Assistance (IDA) account funds critical humanitarian assistance in response to natural disasters, conflict, and other unanticipated emergencies.

Humanitarian needs have dramatically increased globally in recent years, caused by both short-term natural disasters and long-term shifts in rainfall and drought patterns. Moreover, the IDA account has become an account of last resort for funding USG global responses, and we expect it to face increased funding demands in forthcoming fiscal years. Given these factors, robust funding for IDA is critical.

IFAD's mission is to invest in rural people and agri-businesses to enable them to improve their own food security and nutrition as well as enhance their own incomes. The USG committed \$162 million over three years for IFAD, and we believe it is critical that \$54 million be allocated in FY2026 to fulfill that obligation.

The U.S.'s leadership role in fighting global hunger and malnutrition remains critical, as its investments have the scale necessary to induce actions by local governments and partners that can improve food security. Moreover, investments in these programs not only alleviate global hunger, but also support American economic and national security interests. As the data have demonstrated, wherever hunger and malnutrition are found, instability persists.

Thank you for your serious consideration of this request.

Signed:

1890 Universities Foundation

Bread for the World

Cantera Partners

Church World Service

Congressional Hunger Center

Cultivating New Frontiers in Agriculture (CNFA)

Edesia Nutrition

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Global Child Nutrition Foundation (GCNF)

GrainPro, Inc.

Islamic Relief USA

One Acre Fund

Opportunity International

Rise Against Hunger

World Food Program USA