



April 6, 2026

The Honorable Lindsay Graham
Chairman
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on
State, Foreign Operations, and Related
Agencies
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Brian Schatz
Ranking Member
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on
State, Foreign Operations, and Related
Agencies
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Graham and Ranking Member Schatz:

As the Senate Appropriations Committee and its Subcommittees engage in the process to allocate Fiscal Year 2027 funds through the State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, the Alliance to End Hunger and its below-signed members respectfully request that you provide needed funding for global food security and nutrition programs funded through the bill. We know and understand that the subcommittee is facing serious fiscal restraints this year, and it is critical that any program seeking funding prove its effectiveness. Evidence and history have demonstrated that U.S. Government-sponsored international food security programs are not only effective at reducing hunger and malnutrition, but also at building agricultural livelihoods that enable communities to save, invest, and engage in global trade that benefits American producers. Compared to other potential USG interventions, food security programming produces significant value in achieving desired results at relatively low cost.

The effectiveness of USG food security responses is critical right now, as the world experiences significant food security crises caused by both war and weather. Although a ceasefire is in place, Gaza was devastated by months of warfare between Israel and Hamas that caused the fastest deterioration of food security in history. A civil war in Sudan has displaced large numbers of people from the capital. These people are now not only homeless, but also desperate for food in a country that is difficult to access even in normal times. In some countries, such as Haiti, the rule of law has become so strained that humanitarian food distribution is disrupted by violent gangs. Places that have always struggled with food insecurity, including Ethiopia and Mali, are continuing to face droughts and floods that exacerbate human factors such as armed conflict.

In this environment, it is essential that the U.S. Government continue to fulfill its role as a leader in food and nutrition security by fully funding the food security programs included in the State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs appropriations bill. We request that programs be funded at the following levels, which represent flat funding compared to spending in the last fiscal year:

- The Nutrition account, which is included in the larger Global Health Programs account, focuses on the first 1,000 days of a child's life, between conception and their second birthday. The account supports interventions that evidence has shown to be successful, including prenatal vitamins for pregnant women, breastfeeding support for new mothers, vitamin A supplementation for young children, and Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Foods (RUTFs) for children suffering from severe, acute malnutrition. Early detection of stunting and the provision of therapeutic foods can prevent progression to wasting, which requires more expensive treatment. **We are requesting \$165 million for Nutrition within Global Health Programs.**
- The Global Food Security Strategy is implemented through the Feed the Future program, which enables American agricultural innovation and expertise to be shared with partner countries so they can improve their own agricultural productivity, enhancing the resilience of those communities to future crises. Although all but one of the Feed the Future Innovation Labs were idled during the stop-work order last year, the State Department has begun accepting applications to restart the program. In places where it is not feasible to send U.S. commodities, Feed the Future provides a venue to share American agricultural expertise and know-how. **We are requesting \$720 million for the Global Food Security Strategy, with \$175 million of that allocated to international agricultural research and development, and \$72 million reserved for operation of the Feed the Future Innovation Labs.**
- The IHA account is a merger of the International Disaster Assistance (IDA) and Migration & Refugee Assistance (MRA) accounts, which were funded at a combined level of \$8.71 billion in FY25, before they were merged. IHA funds humanitarian assistance in response to natural disasters, conflict, and emergencies, all of which have increased significantly in recent years due to both short and long-term factors. IHA has become an account of last resort in funding USG responses to emergencies, and we expect the level of need to continue to be high in coming fiscal years. **We are requesting \$5.5 billion for the IHA account.**
- The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) invests in agribusinesses operated by farmers in rural areas, in order to improve their agricultural productivity and connect them to the private sector. By providing loans to

agricultural communities, IFAD creates local jobs and addresses the root causes of food insecurity. **Congress allocated \$54 million to IFAD in its 2026 funding bill, which was signed by the President, and we request flat funding of \$54 million be allocated again this year.**

The American leadership role in fighting global hunger and malnutrition cannot be replaced nor recreated. The scale of investments made by the U.S. Government in this sector has the power to induce action by host country governments and partners that can improve food security in those countries. These investments also benefit American economic and national security interests by reducing the need for humanitarian or military response, and utilizing American-produced agricultural commodities and expertise in programming.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Signed:

Bread for the World

Cantera Partners

Church World Service

Congressional Hunger Center

Cultivating New Frontiers in Agriculture (CNFA)

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Global Child Nutrition Foundation (GCNF)

Human Appeal USA

Islamic Relief USA

World Renew