



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

June 4, 2013

Dear House Agriculture Subcommittee Members,

Thanks to Congress' strong support for Food for Peace, U.S. food assistance programs made an enormous difference in the lives of fifty-three million people in 2012. We, and the communities we serve around the world, thank the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee for this strong commitment.

Yet in a world in which nearly 870 million people – one in every eight – grapple with the challenge of hunger on a daily basis, and millions more will be caught in emergency need because of drought or conflicts in places like Syria, it is imperative that we maintain strong funding for Food for Peace and do what we can to stretch that funding further.

We therefore request that you support these critical Food for Peace programs and appropriate no less than \$1.5 billion in the FY 2014 Agriculture Appropriations bill. At the same time, we urge you to work with the Administration to find efficiencies and reforms that would enable those dollars to reach more of the world's hungry people.

We recognize preferences expressed in Congress that food aid reforms in the FY14 budget not alter existing Committee jurisdictions. This approach ensures that the purposes and authorities for U.S. food aid remain authorized.

Within these parameters, we strongly encourage you to grant increased flexibility to use cash resources alongside commodities within Title II in the FY14 budget, consistent with an appropriate balance between emergency and non-emergency programs. Increasing cash resources can remove the need for "monetization" – the practice of re-selling U.S. commodities abroad in order to finance Food for Peace's highly effective development programs – while enabling greater efficiency and impact across the entire U.S. food aid program.

Beyond the FY14 cycle, we also urge Congress to continue to work with the Administration to find additional ways to advance efficiencies and reforms that would enable U.S. food assistance resources to reach more of the world's hungry people.

Supporting Food for Peace programs saves millions of lives and continues long-standing U.S. political and moral leadership efforts to combat global hunger. We thank you in advance for your support in funding these important lifesaving activities, and your consideration of improving their flexibility.

Sincerely,

President and CEO
Samuel A. Worthington

Chair
Neal Keny-Guyer
Mercy Corps

Vice Chair
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Save the Children

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Lutheran World Relief

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International Medical Corps

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Solidarity Center

J. Ron Byler
Mennonite Central Committee
U.S.

Nan Dale
Action Against Hunger US

Pape Gaye
IntraHealth

Cindy Hallberlin
Good360

George Hamilton
Institute for Sustainable
Communities

Susan Hayes
ReSurge International

W. Douglas Jackson
Project C.U.R.E.

Sarah Kambou
ICRW

Arthur Keyes
International Relief and
Development

Elizabeth MacNairn
Handicap International USA

Ruth Messinger
American Jewish World
Service

Jonathan Quick
Management Sciences for
Health

Farshad Rastegar
Relief International

Jonathan Reckford
Habitat for Humanity

William S. Reese
International Youth
Foundation

Tessie San Martin
Plan USA

Alison Smith
InsideNGO

Kathy Spahn
Helen Keller International

Adam Weinberg
World Learning

David Weiss
Global Communities

1. Action Aid USA
2. American Jewish World Service
3. Bread for the World
4. CARE USA
5. Catholic Relief Services
6. Church World Service
7. Counterpart International
8. The Episcopal Church
9. Helen Keller International
10. InterAction
11. International Relief & Development
12. Lutheran World Relief
13. Mercy Corps
14. NCBA CLUSA
15. Oxfam America
16. Presbyterian Church (USA)
17. Relief International
18. Save the Children
19. Winrock International
20. World Food Program USA
21. World Vision

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