



March 20, 2020

The Honorable Nita Lowey  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Richard Shelby  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patrick Leahy  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairwoman Lowey, Ranking Member Granger, Chairman Shelby, Vice Chairman Leahy,

As some of the largest NGOs that implement and advocate for humanitarian, health, and development programs on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic in low- and middle-income countries, we thank you for your continued commitment to the health, safety, and welfare of people beyond our borders. The global health and economic crisis caused by the novel coronavirus will have extensive short- and long- term human and financial costs. U.S. leadership abroad is needed now more than ever, especially for the world's most vulnerable communities. Suppression and mitigation of the pandemic in developing countries is also central to ending the pandemic in the United States. In addition, we will need to address the secondary and tertiary effects this pandemic will create worldwide.

We ask that in addition to resources already provided in H.R. 6074 and other resources needed for multilateral response, Congress provides a minimum of \$1.5 billion in funding spread across Migration and Refugee Assistance, International Disaster Assistance, the Economic Support Fund, and USAID Global Health Programs to support bilateral programs best positioned to respond to this fast-evolving crisis globally. These funds are only a bridge between now and the coming months as a more complete picture of the pandemic unfolds. More funds will be necessary. We also request that you provide robust resources and necessary authorizations to the operating accounts at the Department of State and USAID. Please see our letter dated March 19, 2020 for a discussion of those authorizations.

This is the first time in the modern era that a pandemic is simultaneously striking the U.S. and our international partners, and we appreciate the significant overlapping challenges you are facing. Please reach out to us for any additional information you may require.

Sincerely,

Action Against Hunger

Alliance for Peacebuilding

Alliance for Middle East Peace



American Jewish World Service  
Basic Education Coalition  
Bread for the World  
CARE  
Catholic Relief Services  
Childfund International  
Feed the Children  
Food for the Hungry  
Global Health Council  
Global Water 2020  
Hellen Keller International  
Helping Hand for Relief and Development  
International Rescue Committee  
Institute of World Affairs  
HIAS  
InterAction  
International Eye Foundation  
IntraHealth International  
Islamic Relief USA  
Mercy Corps  
Nonviolent Peaceforce  
ONE  
Oxfam America  
PATH  
Peace Initiative Network  
Physicians for Peace  
ReSurge International  
Rural Education and Agriculture Development Organization (READO)  
Save the Children



Search for Common Ground

Solidarity Center

Water for South Sudan

World Learning

World Vision

Young-adult Empowerment Initiative