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# USAID'S COVID-19 RESPONSE ENDING THE GLOBAL PANDEMIC AND BUILDING BACK BETTER

The COVID-19 pandemic is reversing decades of development gains. Millions have already lost their lives as the virus rages on, and years of progress in improving lives and reducing poverty through development and economic assistance are under threat.



The United States is leading the global fight against COVID-19 to end the pandemic, stem and recover from the pandemic's widespread secondary effects, take steps to mitigate future pandemic threats, and build back better the U.S. and global economy.

The U.S Agency for International Development (USAID) works in more than 120 countries and has provided over \$8.7 billion in FY 2021 and COVID-19 supplemental funding toward the fight against COVID-19, including efforts to address the social and economic effects of the pandemic. USAID works with partner governments and civil society to deliver vaccines and enable vaccine distribution, protect and train health workers, disseminate key public health information, deliver emergency food and critical humanitarian services and supplies, support continuity of basic services and social and economic support, and sustain education for millions of students.

## HOW USAID IS FIGHTING THE PANDEMIC

USAID ensures that staff are able to work safely and effectively as they implement the U.S. COVID-19 Global Response and Recovery Framework that was released by the White House on July 1, 2021. The Framework includes five objectives to end the pandemic and build back better:



**Objective 1:** Accelerate widespread and equitable access to and delivery of safe and effective COVID-19 vaccinations



**Objective 2:** Reduce morbidity and mortality from COVID-19, mitigate transmission, and strengthen health systems, including to prevent, detect, and respond to pandemic threats



**Objective 3:** Address acute needs driven by COVID-19, mitigate household shocks, and build resilience



**Objective 4:** Bolster economies and other critical systems under stress due to COVID-19 to prevent backsliding and enable recovery



**Objective 5:** Prevent, detect, and respond to pandemic threats

## USAID INVESTMENTS IN FIGHTING THE PANDEMIC

Below is a summary of funding provided by the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020 (COVID Supplemental, P.L. 116-123), the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act, P.L. 116-136), and the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (P.L. 116-260). This summary also includes USAID's obligated funds from the **nearly \$11 billion provided** to USAID and the U.S. Department of State by the historic American Rescue Plan Act (ARP, P.L. 117-2).

All figures below represent funding obligation by USAID as of August 9, 2021 and include illustrative examples of the activities this funding has supported.

## **SUPPORT VACCINE ACCESS AND DELIVERY AND PUBLIC HEALTH RESPONSES TO THE PANDEMIC: OBJECTIVE 1 AND OBJECTIVE 2**

In support of the health system and public health components of Objective 1 and Objective 2, obligated funding in this category assists with a wide range of interventions to treat those ill with COVID-19 and to prevent further transmission, both in health facilities and in communities. Examples of activities supporting these objectives include:

- Vaccine procurement, distribution, and deployment
- Development of national vaccines strategies
- Increased oxygen capacity
- Strengthened supply chains
- Community mobilization, risk communication, and vaccine awareness campaigns
- Infection prevention and control in communities and health facilities, including through continuity of water, sanitation, and hygiene services
- Health workforce training

### **AS OF AUGUST 9, 2021, USAID'S RELATED NET INVESTMENTS INCLUDE:**

- **\$420.5 million** from the *COVID Supplemental* to support critical health activities in over 120 countries, including, but not limited to: risk communication and community engagement, infection prevention and control, case management, surveillance, and laboratory and diagnostics strengthening.
- **\$4 billion** in *FY 2021* funding<sup>1</sup> to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance to support the purchase of vaccines for donation through COVAX, as well as vaccine readiness activities to ensure that doses can be administered quickly and effectively in up to 92 low- and middle-income countries. Of this, \$3.5 billion supports the procurement of vaccines and \$500 million supports vaccine readiness and delivery.
- **\$1.5 billion** from the *ARP*, in addition to \$2 billion from the commitment to COVAX, to support the purchase of 500 million Pfizer doses for donation through COVAX in up to 100 countries, including African Union Member States, which the United States committed to purchase in June 2021.
- **\$272 million** from the *ARP* to respond to COVID-19 hotspots around the world through the provision of critical commodities and technical assistance. This includes assistance to India, and other countries in South Asia, South America, and Sub-Saharan Africa.

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<sup>1</sup> The *Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021* (P.L. 116-260) mandated that USAID make a contribution of \$4,000,000,000 to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance.

## **ADDRESS HUMANITARIAN RESPONSES AND EMERGENCY IMPACTS CREATED BY THE PANDEMIC: OBJECTIVE 2 AND OBJECTIVE 3**

In support of the emergency components of Objective 2 and Objective 3, obligated funding in this category assists people in displaced persons settings and in other communities experiencing complex crises. Examples of activities supporting these objectives include:

- Emergency food and nutrition assistance
- Improved disease surveillance and digital tools
- Dignity and hygiene kits
- Cash assistance
- Gender-based violence, child protection, and mental health services
- Continuity of basic services, such as primary and reproductive health, water and hygiene supplies, and shelter
- Continuity of critical information management, coordination, and logistics support to assist first responder access to hard-to-reach populations

### **AS OF AUGUST 9, 2021, USAID'S RELATED NET INVESTMENTS INCLUDE:**

- **\$558 million** from the *COVID Supplemental* and the *CARES Act* to respond to acute COVID-19 related humanitarian impacts and mitigate transmission of COVID-19 in humanitarian settings.
- **\$1.3 billion** from the *ARP* to prevent famine and mitigate food insecurity, support protection and gender-based violence programs, and strengthen critical public health initiatives to reduce transmission of COVID-19 in humanitarian settings.

## **STEM AND RECOVER FROM DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC, DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS, AND GOVERNANCE IMPACTS OF COVID-19: OBJECTIVE 3 AND OBJECTIVE 4**

To stem and recover from the secondary impacts of the pandemic, which have disproportionately affected women and girls, obligated funding in this category bolsters economies and critical systems worldwide. Activities in support of these objectives include:

- Cash grants to support agriculture, livelihoods, and service sectors
- Business development assistance to small and medium enterprises, including those owned by people in vulnerable situations, such as Indigenous Peoples, and provision of micro-credit
- Support to civil society in conducting risk communication activities in their communities
- Adaptation of trade and investment tools to help businesses protect their investments
- Provision of personal protective equipment and hygiene supplies to enable critical services to continue operating safely
- Support to learning institutions to adapt to digital learning environments

**AS OF AUGUST 9, 2021, USAID'S RELATED NET INVESTMENTS INCLUDE:**

- **More than \$230 million** in *COVID Supplemental* resources in every region and a variety of sectors. For example:
  - More than **\$26 million** to support democracy, rights, and governance and to prevent further democratic backsliding due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - More than **\$21 million** to help mitigate the impacts of the pandemic on education and critical social services.
  - More than **\$70 million** to help micro-, small-, and medium-enterprises (MSME) recover from the significant economic impacts of the pandemic through job-skills and resilience training and MSME innovation. Funds have also assisted MSME in navigating trade barriers and regulations.
  - Almost **\$9 million** to support migrants and other vulnerable populations in recovering from some of the secondary impacts of the pandemic, such as access to livelihoods, social services, and shelter.

## TABLE I: USAID COVID FUNDING SUMMARY BY ACCOUNT AS OF AUGUST 9, 2021

Table I provides a summary of funding provided by the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020 (COVID Supplemental, P.L. 116-123), the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act, P.L. 116-136), Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (P.L. 116-260) and the American Rescue Plan Act (ARP, P.L. 117-2), as of August 9, 2021.

ACCOUNT	ACT	APPROPRIATED	OBLIGATED
USAID Operating Expenses (OE)	P.L. 116-123	\$95,000,000	\$68,845,595
	P.L. 117-2	\$41,000,000	\$0
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$136,000,000</b>	<b>\$68,845,595</b>
USAID Global Health Programs (GHP-USAID)	P.L. 116-123	\$235,000,000	\$235,000,000
	P.L. 116-260	\$4,000,000,000	\$4,000,000,000
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,235,000,000</b>	<b>\$4,235,000,000</b>
Emergency Reserve Fund	P.L. 116-123	\$200,000,000	\$185,540,142
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$200,000,000</b>	<b>\$185,540,142</b>
International Disaster Assistance (IDA)	P.L. 116-123	\$300,000,000	\$300,000,000
	P.L. 116-136	\$258,000,000	\$258,000,000
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$558,000,000</b>	<b>\$558,000,000</b>
Title II	P.L. 117-2	\$800,000,000	\$440,826,115
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$800,000,000</b>	<b>\$440,826,115</b>
Economic Support Funds (ESF) <sup>2,3</sup>	P.L. 116-123	\$250,000,000	\$230,970,312
	P.L. 117-2	\$4,925,000,000	\$3,024,189,590
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,175,000,000</b>	<b>\$3,255,159,902</b>

<sup>2</sup> ESF is jointly-managed by the Department of State and USAID. Therefore, a portion of the appropriated funding is or will be managed by State; those obligations are not reported here.

<sup>3</sup> ARP funding managed by the Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance includes amounts that have been committed to implementing partners but not yet fully obligated. Once funding is committed BHA partners may immediately begin programming by requesting a Pre-Authorization Letter (PAL).