

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND USAID FY 2017 BUDGET



“... American leadership in the 21st century is not a choice between ignoring the rest of the world ... or occupying and rebuilding whatever society is unraveling. Leadership means a wise application of military power, and rallying the world behind causes that are right. It means seeing our foreign assistance as a part of our national security ...”

President Barack Obama

In this year’s State of the Union Address, President Barack Obama described a “smarter approach” to sustaining and strengthening America’s place as the pre-eminent force for peace, prosperity, and progress across the globe. The President called for a “patient and disciplined strategy that uses every element of our national power” to promote the safety, prosperity, and overall wellbeing of the American people at a turbulent time in a complex world.

The 2017 State Department and USAID budget request of \$50.1 billion proposes targeted investments in international programs that will defeat terrorist organizations such as ISIL and al-Qaida; mitigate climate change; promote America’s economic interests; combat hunger and epidemic disease; respond to humanitarian emergencies and peacekeeping missions; secure our people and facilities overseas; and much more.

Advancing Security, Confronting New Threats and Global Challenges

- Stabilizes communities liberated from ISIL in Syria and Iraq; disrupts ISIL’s financing and recruitment; discredits ISIL propaganda; and supports a political solution to the Syrian civil war.
- Addresses humanitarian needs around the world, including helping internally displaced persons, refugees, and others affected by conflict or natural disasters.
- Provides critical support for Ukraine and surrounding countries in Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia to counter Russian aggression through foreign assistance and public diplomacy.
- Enables the United States to meet both assessed and voluntary contributions to the United Nations and other international organizations, as well as enhance the ability of other countries to participate in peacekeeping and stability operations.

“...the money we devote to international programs...amounts to just one percent of the total federal budget, but it may well define the majority of the history written about our era.”

Secretary of State John Kerry

Promoting Prosperity, Health, and Development

- Continues meeting the growth in demand for passports and visas through revenue gains from consular fees and surcharges, which support a range of activities critical to U.S. border security, including services for American citizens overseas, passport issuance, visa adjudications, and fraud prevention.
- Provides critical funding for effective global health programs, including supporting an AIDS-free generation through the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), ending preventable child and maternal deaths, and a focus on the President’s Malaria Initiative (PMI) designed to end the scourge of malaria.
- Aligns resources and activities to strengthen U.S. alliances and partnerships with emerging powers, promotes regional economic cooperation, and lays the ground work for implementation of the Trans-Pacific Partnership.
- Supports sectors fundamental to development and economic growth, including food security, trade, education for children and adolescent girls, clean water, and conservation of natural resources.

Our People, Our Platforms, and Our Global Engagement

- Sustains ongoing operations and strategically invests in new positions for the Administration, and for the Quadrennial Diplomacy and Development Review (QDDR) priorities such as climate change, enhancing Freedom of Information Act processing, cybersecurity, counterterrorism, and intelligence and research.
- Enhances Worldwide Security Protection including Diplomatic Security operations, IT network and infrastructure protection, medical support at selected posts, and emergency planning and preparedness.
- Counters misinformation about U.S. society and policies, which are critical around the world, but particularly for the Center for Global Engagement’s efforts to counter-ISIL and other extremist groups.