

**ONE**

THE 2013  
**DATA**  
REPORT

**SPECIAL REPORT TRACKING  
DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE**

**UNITED STATES**

# UNITED STATES



## 2012 ODA (CHANGE 2011–12)

Global	<b>\$30.40BN (0.5%)</b>
Africa	<b>\$11.48BN (12.8%)</b>
SSA	<b>\$11.01BN (12.6%)</b>

## 2012 ODA/GNI

# 0.19%

## COUNTRY PROGRESS: 2011–12

Globally, United States development assistance increased by \$148 million between 2011 and 2012 (excluding debt relief), while proportionally the increases for Africa and sub-Saharan Africa were much larger. The US increased its development assistance to sub-Saharan Africa by \$1.23 billion between 2011 and 2012, representing a 12.6% increase, and its assistance to Africa as a whole by \$1.30 billion, an increase of 12.8%. Overall, more than one-third of all US development assistance went to sub-Saharan Africa. While disbursements to the frontline states of Afghanistan, Iraq and Pakistan, which were the largest bilateral recipients of US ODA in 2011,<sup>1</sup> were cut significantly in 2012, disbursements for US global health programs, much of which are spent in Africa, increased. Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya, and South Africa were the top African recipients of US bilateral development assistance in 2011.

Although it is not yet possible to examine sectoral breakdowns for 2012, in 2011, 26% of US development assistance was allocated to education, health, and population programs and 25% was allocated to other social infrastructure programs. An additional 16% was spent on humanitarian aid, and 10% funded economic infrastructure programs. The US has made progress on its commitment to increase the proportion of development assistance allocated to poor countries, yet this level is still relatively low. In 2010, 34% of US development assistance was channeled to least developed countries (LDCs), up from 24% in 2007.

US multilateral assistance increased by 30%, from \$3.78 billion in 2011 to \$4.91 billion in 2012. The US is a key donor to several multilateral mechanisms. In 2012, it pledged \$130 million to the GAVI Alliance, the first part of a \$450 million, three-year pledge. It also committed \$1.3 billion for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, of which \$953.6 million has been disbursed for 2012. The US continues to provide support to the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP), with contributions totaling \$475 million since 2010.

As part of the United States Agency for International Development's (USAID)'s reform program, known as USAID Forward, the agency is taking steps to focus its development cooperation on fewer partners. Currently, the US has programs in some 140 countries, 105 of which are considered significant partners, according to measures of resource concentration.<sup>2</sup> The US is continuing to scale back its programs to better concentrate resources on achieving significant results. More than half (52%) of US development assistance is allocated to the top 20 recipients. USAID has also pledged to channel 30% of its overall assistance through local entities in recipient countries by 2015. This shift will help build the capacity of local systems. USAID increased the amount of funding channeled through country systems from 9.7% in FY 2010 to 14.3% in FY 2012. In Africa, use of country systems increased by 3.2 percentage points over the same time period, to 10.2%. While this progress is encouraging, it must accelerate in order to meet USAID's commitment by 2015.<sup>3</sup>

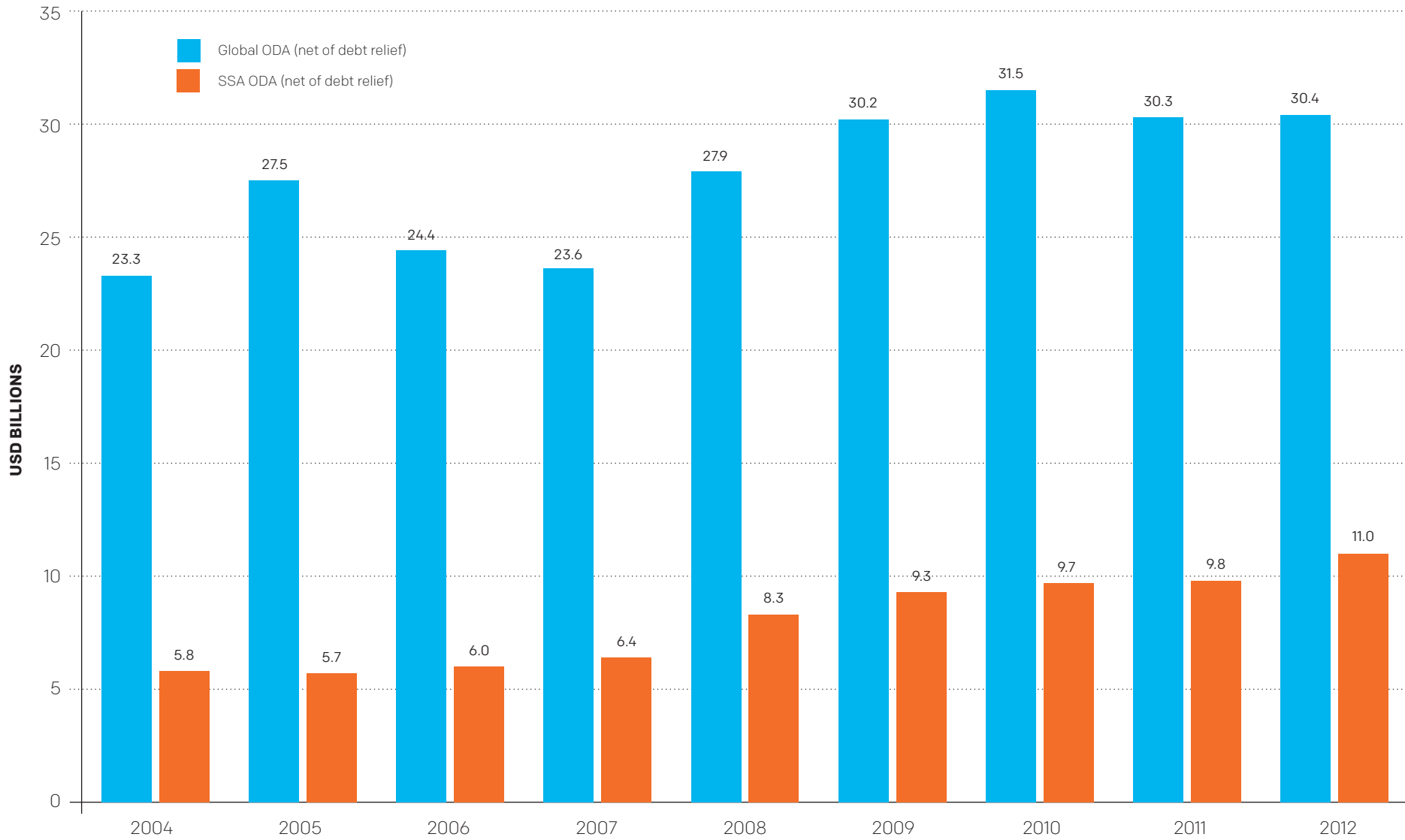
**FIGURE 1: US Official Development Assistance, 2004–12**

USD millions	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
<b>Global ODA</b>	23,506	32,252	26,319	23,680	28,110	30,391	31,573	31,352	30,460
<b>Debt relief</b>	207	4,733	1,866	113	232	186	28	1,096	56
<b>Global ODA (net of debt relief)</b>	23,299	27,520	24,432	23,567	27,878	30,205	31,545	30,256	30,404
<b>ODA/GNI (net of debt relief)</b>	0.17%	0.19%	0.16%	0.16%	0.18%	0.20%	0.21%	0.20%	0.19%
<b>Bilateral ODA</b>	19,384	29,536	23,668	20,543	24,939	26,536	27,655	27,577	25,551
<b>Multilateral ODA</b>	4,122	2,716	2,651	3,136	3,171	3,856	3,918	3,775	4,910
<b>Total Africa ODA</b>	6,846	6,300	7,965	6,993	9,123	9,810	9,947	11,225	11,515
<b>Africa debt relief</b>	125	113	1,703	34	212	175	21	1,049	36
<b>Africa bilateral ODA (net of debt relief)</b>	4,869	5,010	4,790	5,434	7,446	7,912	8,054	8,532	9,064
<b>Africa ODA (net of debt relief)</b>	6,721	6,187	6,262	6,959	8,911	9,634	9,926	10,177	11,479
<b>Total SSA ODA</b>	5,948	5,801	7,691	6,436	8,492	9,497	9,751	10,834	11,050
<b>SSA debt relief</b>	125	113	1,703	34	212	175	21	1049	36
<b>SSA bilateral ODA (net of debt relief)</b>	4,055	4,580	4,564	4,931	6,912	7,670	7,937	8,194	8,788
<b>SSA ODA (net of debt relief)</b>	5,823	5,687	5,988	6,402	8,280	9,322	9,729	9,786	11,014

Sources: OECD DAC Tables 1 and 2a and Preliminary Release (April 2013)

Note: Data is in USD millions (2012 prices).

**FIGURE 2: US ODA, Global and Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), 2004–12**



Sources: OECD DAC Table 1, Table 2a and Preliminary Release (April 2013)

Note: Data is in USD billions (2012 prices). ODA includes multilateral contributions (SSA multilateral imputations estimated by ONE for 2012) and excludes bilateral debt relief.

## AID EFFECTIVENESS

Publish What You Fund's 2012 'Aid Transparency Index' assessed five US government agencies and one program. The Index scores 72 organizations on their levels of transparency based on the public availability of information, where 100% is perfectly transparent. Scores for US agencies varied widely, from 70% for the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) to 24% for the Department of Defense. US agencies are gradually increasing the transparency of their aid. Compared with the previous year, five of the six agencies improved their scores, while the Department of State's 2012 score was relatively unchanged. The MCC stands out as the most transparent of the US agencies assessed, with a score of 70%. On the eve of the High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in 2011, the US became a signatory and committed to implement the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI), a common standard for publishing aid information that is comprehensive, open, and comparable. The Implementation Schedule, which outlines when and how the commitment will be met, was published in December 2012. Some US agencies have begun reporting to the Foreign Assistance Dashboard, which then converts the data into the required IATI format, but there is still much work to be done for all agencies to report comprehensive, timely, and useful information in the IATI format.

The US is a founding member of the Open Government Partnership (OGP), and served as a co-chair until April 2012. The OGP aims to promote transparency (including aid), increase civic participation, fight corruption, and harness new technologies to strengthen governance.<sup>4</sup>

Certain elements of the USAID Forward reform package were spurred by the Obama administration's commitment to openness. The 'USAID Forward Progress Report', released in March 2013, shows that, since 2011, 186 in-depth program evaluations have been

completed and made public. These evaluations have been used to make important decisions about resource allocation and selectivity, reducing the scale of programs where appropriate to better capitalize on opportunities to achieve real development results. Additionally, progress has been made on the commitment to utilize country systems to build capacity in developing countries. USAID has doubled the amount of mission funding invested in local governments, businesses, and NGOs in the past two years. The agency is also focusing more resources on public-private partnerships (PPPs) and the Development Credit Authority to encourage investment in local businesses.<sup>5</sup>

As a part of the reforms, USAID has sponsored 'Grand Challenges', which fund proposals from all over the world to help solve major development problems. 'The Making All Voices Count' initiative, in partnership with the UK's Department for International Development (DFID), the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), and the Omidyar Network, will fund proposals to help support and scale up research that will accelerate innovations to enable citizen engagement and government responsiveness.

## LOOKING AHEAD: 2013-15

Although the US has not made a commitment for overall development assistance spending, it has made pledges to support key sectors. The US has maintained its leadership in funding key health multilateral initiatives. In 2011, it pledged \$450 million to the GAVI Alliance for 2012-14. President Obama's FY 2014 budget requested \$1.65 billion for the Global Fund. The President's request maintains the level of support that the country gave in 2012 and sends a strong statement that, despite tight economic times, the US will continue to work towards an AIDS-free generation – a goal reiterated by President Obama in his 2013 State of the Union address.

In addition to these multilateral commitments, the US continues to support key sectors through domestic initiatives. Creating an AIDS-free generation is one of the three strategic areas of focus of the Global Health Initiative (GHI), created by President Obama in 2009 to strengthen US international health programs. US funding for health programs includes the US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). PEPFAR aims to prevent more than 12 million infections and treat more than six million people by the end of 2013.<sup>6</sup>

The US also remains committed to Feed the Future, its global hunger and food security initiative. In 2012, Feed the Future set aspirational five-year targets – to reduce the prevalence of poverty by 20% and the number of stunted children under five years by 20% in focus countries.<sup>7</sup>

In addition to supporting traditional development programs, there are a number of opportunities for the US to maximize the good that can be done with finite resources. The President's FY 2014 Budget request includes much-needed food aid reforms that would modernize the antiquated system of shipping American food abroad to alleviate emergency situations and deliver more development resources to food-insecure communities, ending the costly system of 'monetizing' food. The reforms would allow 45% of food assistance to be purchased locally, thereby supporting local farmers, or to be provided through cash vouchers. Through these more flexible and efficient mechanisms, the US will be able to reach up to an estimated four million more people annually, with the same food aid resources. The proposed reforms will also serve other development goals, helping to build local systems and reaching those in need in otherwise inaccessible areas.

To continue increasing the selectivity of US development assistance, the President's FY 2014 budget request proposes reducing USAID's presence in

## TARGETING RESULTS

### Education

- USAID is working to produce meaningful, measurable improvement in student reading. By 2015, it aims to improve the reading skills of 100 million primary grade children.

### Food Security

- Feed the Future aims to reduce the prevalence of poverty by 20% and stunted children under five years by 20% in focus countries.
- Current modeling analysis based on national data indicate that these percentage reductions would translate into more than 10 million people no longer in poverty and one million children saved from stunting.

11 countries. Where recipient countries are able, the US will turn over greater responsibility for national programs, such as South Africa's HIV/AIDS program. The budget plan also proposes to triple the level of resources available for science, technology, and innovation, which will advance the agency's efforts to make evidence-based decisions in order to achieve better development outcomes.

ONE encourages the Administration and Congress to expedite the passage of legislation to enhance aid transparency, establish government-wide evaluation guidelines, codify recent reforms, and ensure the longevity of the US Foreign Assistance Dashboard.

The US is also leading the way in having passed legislation on the transparency of natural resource

revenues. On September 30, 2013, the US will become the first country to compel extractives companies registered on US stock exchanges to disclose payments made to governments for oil, gas, and mining activities. In August 2012, the US Securities and Exchange Commission voted to adopt the final rules implementing this provision. According to the rules, US-listed companies will be compelled to disclose payments annually. This legislation is a critical first step, and has already helped generate support for similar legislation in other jurisdictions. ONE will follow these pieces of legislation closely to ensure that laws are passed that will help citizens in resource-rich countries hold their governments accountable for investing revenues into development.

## ENDNOTES

1. The FY 2014 budget request significantly reduces funding for frontline states (Iraq, Afghanistan and Pakistan).
2. According to the Development Cooperation Directorate of the OECD, a donor relationship is “significant” when it provides to a country more than its global share of country programmable aid (CPA) and/or is among the top donors that cumulatively provide 90% of CPA to a country.
3. OECD. ‘Profile: United States’. [http://www.oecd.org/dac/US\\_DCR2012\\_21jan13\\_Part24.pdf](http://www.oecd.org/dac/US_DCR2012_21jan13_Part24.pdf)
4. Open Government Partnership. <http://www.opengovpartnership.org/>
5. USAID, ‘USAID Forward’. <http://www.usaid.gov/usaforward>
6. U.S. Global Health Initiative, ‘Results’. <http://www.ghi.gov/about/goals/index.htm>
7. USAID, 2012. ‘Feed the Future: Progress Scorecard’. [http://feedthefuture.gov/sites/default/files/resource/files/fff\\_scorecard\\_2012.pdf](http://feedthefuture.gov/sites/default/files/resource/files/fff_scorecard_2012.pdf)

*ONE is grateful to Development Initiatives for their assistance in the data collection and analysis for this report; particularly Daniel Coppard, Sarah Henon, Daniele Malerba, Tim Strawson, and Ian Townsend.*



## **Offices**

### **Berlin**

Luisenstraße 40  
10117 Berlin  
Germany

### **Brussels**

3rd Floor  
Rue d'Idalie 9-13  
1050 Brussels  
Belgium

### **Johannesburg**

Silverstream Office Park  
Main Building, 1st Floor  
10 Muswell Road South  
Bryanston, Johannesburg  
South Africa

### **London**

151 Wardour Street  
London, W1F 8WE  
United Kingdom

### **New York**

49 W. 27th Street  
Floor 3  
New York, NY 10005  
United States

### **Paris**

47 rue du Montparnasse  
75014 Paris  
France

### **Washington, DC**

1400 Eye Street NW  
Suite 600  
Washington, DC 20005  
United States

**ONE.ORG**