

**Court win for AID's implementing partners, Devex, 14 Feb 2025**

### **Stop-stop-work**

In [a major legal victory for USAID implementing partners](#), a federal judge ruled late last night that the Trump administration **must reverse its stop-work order on existing foreign aid programs**, which had gone into effect Jan. 24 pending a 90-day review of those programs.

It means funding for hundreds of contractors and NGOs is supposed to be restored.

“Defendants have not offered any explanation for why a blanket suspension of all congressionally appropriated foreign aid, which set off a shockwave and upended reliance interests for thousands of agreements with businesses, nonprofits, and organizations around the country, was a rational precursor to reviewing programs,” the order says.

The temporary restraining order issued in a pair of lawsuits brought by [USAID](#) and [U.S. State Department](#) implementers — both NGOs and contractors — will **require the government to immediately stop any suspensions** or pauses that are preventing the obligation or disbursement of foreign assistance funds for contracts, grants, cooperative agreements, loans, or other awards that existed prior to Jan. 19, my colleague Adva Saldinger writes.

“This ruling is a vital **first step toward restoring U.S. foreign assistance programs**,” says Elisha Dunn-Georgiou, president and CEO of the [Global Health Council](#), in a statement. “It clears the path for organizations to resume their life saving work.”

**What is still unclear** is what will happen with the more than 800 contracts that were terminated in recent days. The parties in the case will meet Friday to file a status report and propose a preliminary schedule for the next phase of the case.

**Read:** [Judge orders Trump administration to unfreeze existing aid programs](#)