

Stand Up for Aid Situation Report #4

March 13, 2025



83%

USAID programs terminated. Approximately 5,200 programs terminated and 1,000 programs remain.*



\$1.5 Billion

Payments owed to USAID contractors and grantees for work completed. Nearly **\$2 billion** total is owed to USAID and State implementers.**



\$100 Million

Foreign assistance funding dispersed between February 13 and March 10.***



Flow of Life-Saving Aid:
Minimal



Flow of USAID Payments:
Scattered

*Source: [X post](#) by U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio on March 10, 2025.

**Source: [Joint Status Report](#) as of February 26, 2025.

***Source: Defendants' [response](#) to supplemental materials.

Key Developments

- **Secretary Rubio announces 83 percent of USAID programs will be cancelled.** On March 10, Secretary Rubio [posted](#) on his personal X account that a 6-week foreign aid review was complete and 83 percent of programs—5,200 contracts and grants—are being cancelled and 1,000 retained. He stated that the intention is, in consultation with Congress, to administer the remaining programs more effectively under the U.S. Department of State. To date, the administration has not publicly shared a list of terminated or retained programs.
- **Court orders administration to not withhold payment for work completed prior to February 13.** On March 10, the US District Court for the District of Columbia issued a [Memorandum Opinion and Order](#) in the ongoing case between implementing partners and the administration regarding outstanding payments. The Memo orders the administration to: 1) not withhold payments for work completed prior to February 13; 2) not impound Congressionally-appropriated foreign aid funds; and 3) obligate funds that Congress appropriated for foreign assistance programs. The Memo also stated that the Court found it feasible for USAID to process roughly 300 payments per day. The parties will file a joint

status report by March 14 that appraises the Court of administration's compliance with the order.

- **USAID contractors and grantees begin to receive some payments while terminations continue.** Following the court ruling, several USAID partners report receiving payments for some outstanding invoices and requests for drawdowns on letters of credit for work completed prior to February 13. However, multiple partners report that they have yet to receive payments for all outstanding invoices or received only partial payments. On March 12, several partners also reported receiving new termination notices. While partners acknowledge that funding is starting to flow, the payment process and new terminations are contributing to continued uncertainty for the resumption of activities.
- **Administration moves forward with plans to realign foreign aid.** In recent weeks, the administration's plan to reduce the federal bureaucracy and realign foreign aid has continued to progress beyond USAID and U.S. Department of State administered awards. Following President Trump's signing of the Executive Order for [Commencing the Reduction of the Federal Bureaucracy](#) on February 19, the administration [effectively shutdown](#) the Inter-American Foundation and [took action to shut down](#) the US African Development Foundation.
- **Advocacy efforts aim to preserve foreign assistance.** In response to the administration's actions to realign foreign aid, advocacy groups, universities, and everyday Americans are adding their voice to the robust efforts to highlight the importance of preserving foreign assistance. On March 10, the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition and the broad international assistance community [launched](#) a #SaferStronger Week of Action in support of foreign aid programs. Arizona State University [published](#) an article highlighting the economic benefits USAID projects provide to the United States, and a number of local newspapers are publishing op-eds from concerned citizens.

Roadblocks and Systemic Challenges

Oversight, Administrative Actions, and Guidance

- On March 11, USAID's Office of Inspector General (OIG) sent a [memo](#) to U.S. Department of State Director of Foreign Assistance Pete Marocco, in his role as USAID Deputy Administrator, regarding the audit of the disposition of assets for terminated USAID awards. The announcement states that assets still in-country without active U.S. control are at risk of looting, terrorism, or being seized by other parties, making it crucial to address their status and management promptly. The OIG requested a list of USAID awards terminated between January 20 and March 11, as well as a list of USAID personnel in each region that can provide and speak to award documentation necessary to plan and perform the audits.

- USAID Acting Executive Secretary circulated an email instructing employees to empty classified safes and personnel document files on March 11. The American Foreign Service Association and Personal Services Contractor Association subsequently [filed](#) a motion for a temporary restraining order (TRO) due to concerns that USAID was not following requirements related to records administration and also destroying documents that could have relevance to court proceedings. On March 12, the government [opposed](#) the request for a TRO, stating that the destroyed documents were copies of documents from other agencies or derivatively classified documents with originally classified documents retained by another agency. The request was made in order to clean out the space formerly occupied by USAID staff in the Ronald Reagan Building.

Program Updates

- **Continued questions around payments.** On March 10, InterAction, the leading alliance of international NGOs and partners in the United States, issued a [statement](#) acknowledging the court ruling for the administration to honor existing payment obligations through February 13. However, the alliance noted that it remained deeply concerned regarding the termination of 83 percent of USAID awards. Some partners report they have begun receiving payments, although payment amounts are subsets of their total invoices.
- **Lack of clarity on program termination status remains.** Media circulated a [list](#) of approximately 5,800 terminated USAID awards; however, the list has not been verified by the administration, and a list of the 5,200 terminations announced by Secretary Rubio on March 10 has not been released. As such, the full programmatic scope of the terminations is not yet available. Furthermore, on March 12, several USAID partners received termination notices for programs that previously had their terminations rescinded or had not yet been terminated. Also on March 12, a partner reported that it had not yet had terminations rescinded for programs covered under the life-saving assistance waiver.
- **The program terminations and personnel actions have minimized the Agency's operational capacity to respond if a disaster or global health outbreak occurs.** USAID's Bureau for Global Health had approximately 900 staff based in Washington, D.C., prior to January 20. As of March 12, 67 staff remained—including 15 staff members who received reduction in force notices and whose last day with the Agency is on April 24. USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA) has also had a significant staff reduction, urban search-and-rescue agreements cancelled, and logistics contracts terminated, significantly limiting the Agency's ability to deploy a Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) or deliver life-saving commodities. If requested, the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD)—which USAID can draw upon for logistics support during a disaster—would be ill fitted to support humanitarian operations without USAID technical guidance and coordination with implementing partners. USAID and DoD coordination has been critical during several large-scale disasters, including hurricanes in the Caribbean. The Atlantic hurricane season runs from June 1 to November 30.

- **People’s Republic of China steps in to fill foreign aid vacuum.** Several USAID partners highlight the gap left by the termination of life-saving assistance and the need for the international community to seek new or enhance existing partnerships to provide urgently needed support. On March 11, China’s Permanent Representative to the United Nations Fu Cong [called upon](#) donors to expand humanitarian assistance and economic cooperation for Afghanistan citing the pause in aid by major traditional donors. Representative Cong also stated that China has always been action-oriented in supporting Afghanistan and stands ready to work with all sides.

Humanitarian Assistance

- In Haiti, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) [reports](#) that clashes between armed groups and police are intensifying, displacing more than 24,000 people since February 14. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) estimates that more than 180,000 people are living in more than 140 displacement sites. The suspension of U.S. funding has forced organizations to suspend the distribution of safe drinking water to displacement camps, where people are surviving on one litre of water per day—well below the international emergency standard recommending 15 liters of safe drinking water per person per day. The Migration Policy Institute [reports](#) that the United States has long been a top destination for Haiti migration, driven by political instability, persecution, frequent economic crises, natural disasters, and the collapse of government functions amid widespread gang violence.
- Several USAID partners report the impact that the sudden termination of programs is having around the world on their ability to continue operations, including in countries that have been top national security priorities for the U.S. government. Save the Children [posted](#) an urgent immediate call for support in response to cuts to foreign aid budgets, which forced the organization to immediately stop life-saving work. Save the Children [highlights](#) that the organization has suspended lifesaving programs for malnourished children in Afghanistan, Gaza, Somalia, and other countries worldwide. An estimated 131 million children live in areas experiencing acute food security crises.
- The UN World Food Program (WFP) [reports](#) that life-saving food and nutrition assistance for 2 million crisis-affected people in Central Sahel and Nigeria will halt in April without urgent funding. WFP’s Regional Director for Western Africa states highlighted concerns related to consequences of inaction, noting the direct link between food security and national security.

Global Health

- On March 11, The Economist [published](#) an analysis of which countries are most affected by U.S. foreign aid funding cuts to global health. The analysis conducted by the Centre for Global Development (CGD) identified 37 countries where U.S. foreign assistance is

equivalent to at least 10 percent of governments' health spending—including 10 countries where it constitutes more than 50 percent. The report highlights an overreliance on American aid and other donors in supporting basic health functions and the need for countries to restructure their health systems. CGD identified 26 countries that will be most impacted by the realignment of U.S. foreign aid, highlighting Afghanistan as a country at high risk of debt distress that will be challenged to replace aid as political instability, poverty, and low domestic health spending have created dependency. While the analysis states that there are no clear alternatives to replace U.S. foreign aid, the article highlights a UN World Health Organization (WHO) statement that China sees U.S. aid withdrawal as a significant opportunity to forge alliances.

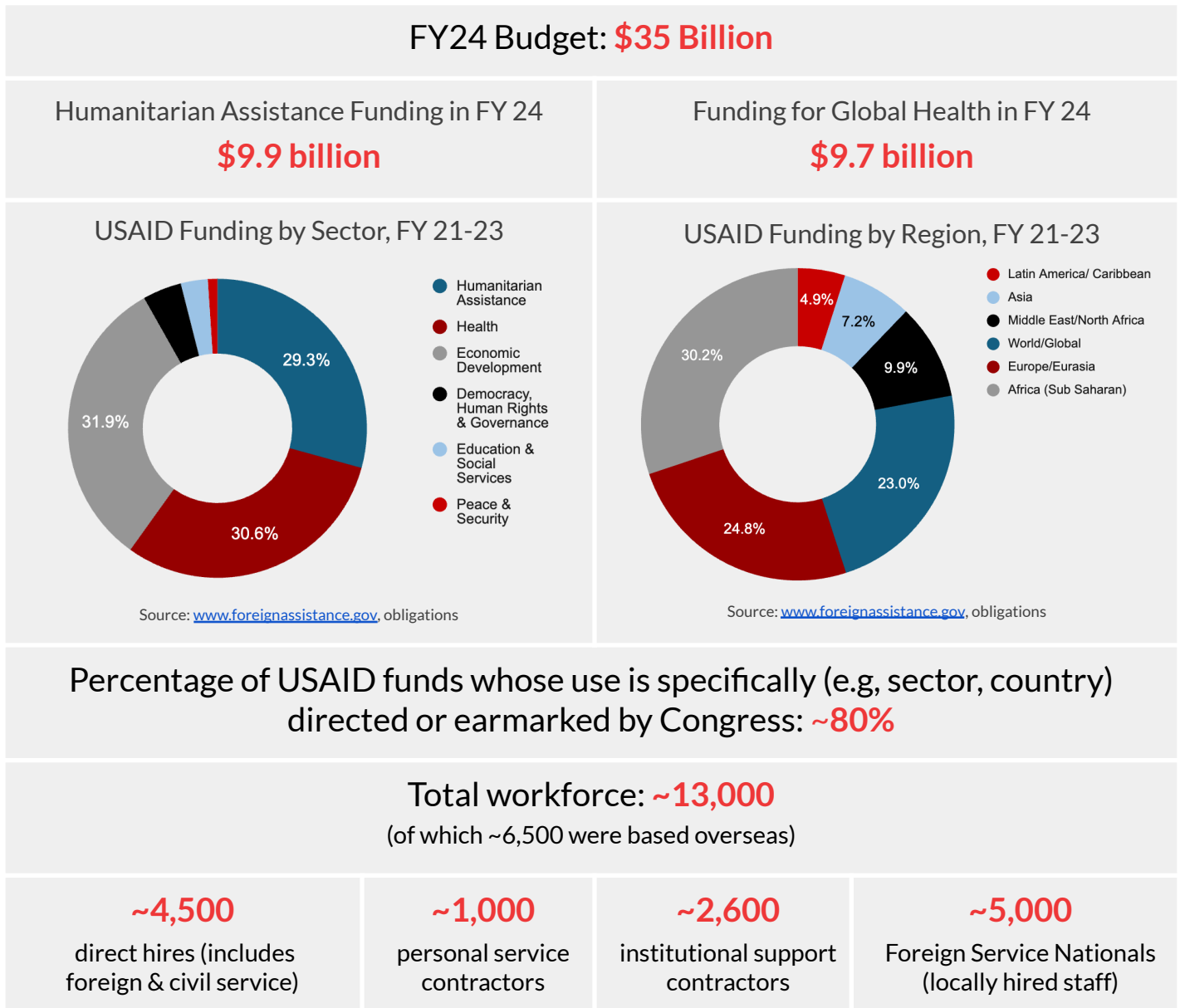
- On March 12, UNAIDS [reported](#) that an increasing number of U.S.-funded implementing partners have received notices that their awards have been terminated. In some cases, these notices have led to the closure of HIV services that had previously been allowed to operate under terms of waivers. Many national AIDS responses impacted by the freezing or termination of U.S. funding are prioritizing the continuation of antiretroviral therapy for people living with HIV, including the procurement of life-saving antiretroviral medicines. Despite these measures, there have been reports of panic and hoarding of medication among people living with HIV. The funding freeze and now terminations have particularly impacted HIV prevention, testing, and support services for populations at high risk of infection as these activities have not been identified as life-saving despite being a critical component of stopping the spread of HIV.

Background: The Dismantling of USAID and Termination of Vital Programs

- On January 20, U.S. President Donald Trump issued an [Executive Order 14169 on Reevaluating and Realigning United States Foreign Aid](#). The Executive Order included a 90-day pause in United States foreign development assistance.
- On January 24, Secretary Rubio paused all new foreign assistance obligations for an 85-day review period. On January 29, Secretary Rubio approved an [Emergency Humanitarian Waiver to the Foreign Assistance Pause](#). However, a directive for USAID staff to refrain from external communications outside of those necessary to implement the pause, administration actions that have terminated staff or placed nearly the entire USAID workforce on paid administrative leave and inaccessibility to Phoenix resulted in significant challenges to implementation despite the waiver. On March 10, Secretary Rubio declared that the review had been completed, and 5,200 awards would be terminated and 1,000 retained. [Note: See accompanying timeline graphic for additional details on the foreign aid review.]
- In recent weeks, a number of affected organizations have filed legal challenges to the administration's actions. [Just Security](#) continues to track legal challenges to the administration's actions, including efforts to dismantle USAID.

- [USAID Stop-Work](#) had confirmed more than 14,200 people across 46 U.S. states and Washington, D.C., had lost their jobs and more than 59,600 people had lost their jobs globally as of March 6 due to the stop work orders on contracts and suspensions of cooperative agreements. These numbers will likely rise in the coming days as terminations remain ongoing. USAID Stop-Work currently estimates that job losses may reach 52,000 American and 100,000 global jobs.

USAID By the Numbers (Before January 20, 2025)



To be added to the distribution list or if you have additional information to share regarding the dismantling of USAID, please contact: standupforaidinfo@gmail.com

The next Situation Report will be distributed o/a March 20, 2025.