Bill to reopen government contains important aid-related legislation. By Helen Murphy, *Devex Newswire*, 13 Nov 2025

Time's up, shutdown

The U.S. House of Representatives **voted yesterday to reopen the government**, passing a stopgap funding bill through the end of January. While much of the tension around the bill was geared toward domestic issues, the final version includes a few development-related provisions worth paying attention to, my colleague Adva Saldinger tells me.

Some funding was appropriated to certain parts of the government for the whole year, including the <u>Department of Agriculture</u>, which includes **\$1.2 billion for the Food for Peace program** and \$240 million for the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program grants. That's down from fiscal years 2024 and 2025.

Embedded in that part of the legislation is a requirement that the secretary of agriculture and secretary of state "conduct an interagency review" within 60 days **to outline the process of transferring the Food for Peace program** from <u>USAID</u> to the Department of Agriculture. The jury seems to be out on whether that's a good idea and if the Department of Agriculture has the capacity to run the program.

The continuing resolution funding bill also **extends the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation's authorization** through the end of January, allowing it to continue operating as Congress works on a long-term extension. Additionally, it extends the tenure of the <u>Millennium Challenge Corporation</u>'s private sector board member through the end of 2026. MCC is required to have a private sector board member seated to have a quorum at its board meetings (the next one is in December), and Congress has been <u>unable or unwilling to approve new board members</u> in recent years.

Also in the bill: **Approval for EBRD's 2023 capital increase** and \$437 million to support it — something the multilateral development bank has been <u>eagerly awaiting</u>.