Timeline of U.S. Water and Foreign Assistance
2005–2022

2005

Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act of 2005 signed into law.
Made the provision of safe water and sanitation a specific objective of U.S. foreign assistance. Read more.

2008

Joint U.S. Department of State and USAID Framework lays out guiding principles for U.S. foreign assistance in the water sector.

2011

USAID Administrator appoints the first Global Water Coordinator.
Oversees the development and implementation of an Agency water strategy, USAID water programming, and coordinates with other U.S. government agencies and Mission staff.

2013

Provides implementation guidance for the Strategy, establishes criteria to prioritize countries for water and sanitation assistance, and identifies performance indicators and specific funding parameters. Read more.

2014

First Agency Water and Development Strategy released.
Articulates USAID’s approach to save lives and advance development through improvements in water and sanitation programs, and through sound management and use of water for food security. Read more.

2015–2016

President submits first U.S. government Global Water Strategy to Congress.
USAID co-leads the development of the first whole-of-government Global Water Strategy, as required by the Water for the World Act, that addresses water and sanitation, water resources management, and transboundary issues. USAID submits an Agency-specific Plan, as well as 16 High-Priority Country Plans, in support of the Strategy. Read more.

2017

USAID Water Strategy priority country programs initiated.
A new generation of water and sanitation programs launched across USAID high-priority countries in Africa and Asia, designated according to the criteria in the Water for the World. Read more.

USAID reaches:
- 3.6 million with improved water services
- 3.2 million with improved sanitation services.
USAID introduces **two new standard indicators** related to measuring the number of water and sanitation sector **institutions strengthened** and the value of new **funding mobilized** to the water and sanitation sectors.

**USAID reaches:**
- 6.5 million with improved water services
- 7.3 million with improved sanitation services.

**USAID mobilizes:**
- $12 million in new funding to the sector.

**USAID reaches:**
- 5.1 million with improved water services
- 3.3 million with improved sanitation services.

**USAID mobilizes:**
- $12 million in new funding to the sector.

**USAID reaches:**
- 5.4 million with improved water services
- 6.3 million with improved sanitation services.

**USAID mobilizes:**
- $142 million in new funding to the sector.

**USAID reaches:**
- 3.9 million with improved water services
- 4.1 million with improved sanitation services.

**USAID mobilizes:**
- $216 million in new funding to the sector.

**Vice President Kamala Harris Launches White House Action Plan on Global Water Security,** marking the first high-level policy directive to the full U.S. government on global water and sanitation challenges. *Read more.*

**Refreshed 5-year U.S. government Global Water Strategy released** by USAID and the Department of State and includes contributions from 14 Federal departments and agencies. *Read more.*

**By 2027, USAID aims to:**
- Provide 22 million people with improved or new access to water
- Provide 22 million people with improved or new access to sanitation
- Mobilize $1 billion for water security, sanitation, and hygiene
- Improve the performance of 1,000 water security institutions in 30 countries