USAID’S COVID-19 RESPONSE
ENDING THE GLOBAL PANDEMIC AND BUILDING BACK BETTER

The COVID-19 pandemic is reversing decades of development gains. Millions have already lost their lives as the virus rages on, and years of progress in improving lives and reducing poverty through development and economic assistance are under threat.
The United States is leading the global fight against COVID-19 to beat the pandemic, stem and recover from the pandemic’s widespread secondary effects, take steps to mitigate future pandemic threats, and build back better the U.S. and global economy.

The U.S Agency for International Development (USAID) works in more than 120 countries and has provided more than $9.6 billion\(^1\) to date in COVID-19 supplemental funding toward the fight against COVID-19, including efforts to address the social and economic effects of the pandemic. USAID works with partner governments and civil society to deliver and distribute vaccines, protect and train health workers, disseminate key public health information, deliver emergency food and critical humanitarian services and supplies, provide support in risk communication and community engagement, support infection, prevention, and control, strengthen continuity of basic services and social and economic support, and sustain education for millions of students.

**HOW USAID IS FIGHTING THE PANDEMIC**

USAID ensures that staff are able to work safely and effectively as they implement the U.S. COVID-19 Global Response and Recovery Framework (Framework) that was released by the White House on July 1, 2021. The Framework includes five objectives to end the pandemic and build back better:

- **Objective 1:** Accelerate widespread and equitable access to and delivery of safe and effective COVID-19 vaccinations
- **Objective 2:** Reduce morbidity and mortality from COVID-19, mitigate transmission, and strengthen health systems, including to prevent, detect, and respond to pandemic threats
- **Objective 3:** Address acute needs driven by COVID-19, mitigate household shocks, and build resilience
- **Objective 4:** Bolster economies and other critical systems under stress due to COVID-19 to prevent backsliding and enable recovery
- **Objective 5:** Prevent, detect, and respond to pandemic threats

**USAID INVESTMENTS IN FIGHTING THE PANDEMIC**

Below is a summary of funding provided by the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020 (COVID-19 Supplemental, P.L. 116-123), the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act, P.L. 116-136), and the FY 2021 Omnibus and COVID Relief and Response Act (Consolidated Appropriations Act, P.L. 116-260). This summary also includes USAID’s

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\(^1\) $9.6 billion of obligated funding doesn’t include ARP/HIV funds or ARP/HIV/Global Fund resources appropriated to the Department of State, prior year and repurposed funds.
obligated funds from the $11.5 billion\(^2\) (in Global Response) provided to the U.S. government through the historic American Rescue Plan Act (ARP, P.L. 117-2).

All figures below represent funding obligated by USAID as of January 3, 2022, and include illustrative examples of the activities this funding has supported.

**SUPPORT VACCINE ACCESS AND DELIVERY AND PUBLIC HEALTH RESPONSES TO THE PANDEMIC: OBJECTIVE 1 AND OBJECTIVE 2**

In support of the health system and public health components of Objectives 1 and 2 of the Framework, funding in this category focuses on a wide range of interventions to treat those ill with COVID-19 and to prevent further transmission among and across communities. This includes funding to support the delivery of more than 200 million Pfizer vaccine doses in 2021, with 800 million more planned in 2022. Examples of other activities supporting these objectives include:

- Vaccine procurement, distribution, and deployment
- Development of national vaccines strategies
- Increased oxygen capacity
- Strengthened supply chains
- Community mobilization, risk communication, and vaccine awareness campaigns
- Infection prevention and control in communities and health facilities, including through continuity of water, sanitation, and hygiene services
- Health workforce training
- Diagnostic test kit procurement, laboratory and diagnostics strengthening, and support for sample transport networks
- Support for genomic sequencing and surveillance activities

**AS OF JANUARY 3, 2022, USAID'S RELATED NET INVESTMENTS INCLUDE:**

- **$1.5 billion** in ARP funds, in addition to $2 billion from Gavi, to support the United States’ (June 2021) procurement of 500 million Pfizer doses for distribution through COVAX to up to 100 countries, including African Union Member States.
- **$414.5 million** in ARP funds to provide COVID-19 rapid responses for urgent healthcare needs and critical commodities and technical assistance in COVID-19 hotspots, including to India, and other countries in South Asia, South America, and Sub-Saharan Africa.
- **$400 million** in ARP funds to address the most urgent vaccine delivery and country readiness needs in low- and lower-middle-income countries and support developing countries in their continued efforts to mitigate the transmission of COVID-19 and reduce related morbidity and mortality.

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\(^2\) Total appropriated funds include: USAID $4 billion; State Department $5 billion; CDC $750 million; Department of Agriculture (Title II, food security) $800 million, and $930 million in unspecified funding jointly-managed by State and USAID.
● **$4 billion** in FY 2021 funding to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, to support the purchase of vaccines for donation through COVAX, as well as vaccine readiness activities to ensure that doses can be administered quickly and effectively in up to 92 low- and middle-income countries. Of this, $3.5 billion funds the procurement of vaccines and $500 million supports vaccine readiness and delivery.

● **$420.9 million** from the COVID-19 Supplemental to support critical health activities in more than 120 countries, including but not limited to: risk communication and community engagement; infection, prevention, and control; case management; surveillance; and laboratory and diagnostics strengthening.

**ADDRESS HUMANITARIAN RESPONSES AND EMERGENCY IMPACTS CREATED BY THE PANDEMIC: OBJECTIVE 2 AND OBJECTIVE 3**

In support of the emergency components of Objectives 2 and 3 of the Framework, funding in this category assists vulnerable populations in humanitarian and other fragile settings and supports interventions to mitigate COVID-19 related impacts. Examples of activities under these objectives include:

- Emergency food and nutrition assistance
- Improved disease surveillance and digital tools
- Dignity and hygiene kits
- Cash assistance
- Gender-based violence, child protection, and mental health services
- Continuity of basic services, such as primary and reproductive health, water and hygiene supplies, and shelter
- Continuity of critical information management, coordination, and logistics support to assist first responder access to hard-to-reach populations

**AS OF JANUARY 3, 2022, USAID’S RELATED NET INVESTMENTS INCLUDE:**

- **Nearly $1.9 billion** in ARP funds to prevent famine and mitigate food insecurity, support protection and gender-based violence programs, and strengthen critical public health initiatives to reduce transmission of COVID-19 in humanitarian settings.


**STEM AND RECOVER FROM DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC, DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS, AND GOVERNANCE IMPACTS OF COVID-19: OBJECTIVE 3 AND OBJECTIVE 4**

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3 The Consolidated Appropriations Act mandated that USAID make a contribution of $4 billion to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance.
To stem and recover from the secondary impacts of the pandemic, which have disproportionately affected women and girls, funding under Objectives 3 and 4 of the Framework bolsters economies and critical systems worldwide. Activities under these objectives include:

- Cash grants to support agriculture, livelihoods, and service sectors
- Business development assistance to small and medium enterprises, including those owned by people in vulnerable situations, such as Indigenous Peoples, and provision of micro-credit
- Support to civil society in conducting risk communication activities in their communities
- Adaptation of trade and investment tools to help businesses protect their investments
- Provision of personal protective equipment and hygiene supplies to enable those providing critical services to continue operating safely
- Support to learning institutions to adapt to digital learning environments

**AS OF JANUARY 3, 2022, USAID’S RELATED NET INVESTMENTS INCLUDE:**

- **$231 million** in COVID-19 Supplemental resources in every region and a variety of sectors. For example:
  - More than **$76 million** to help micro-, small-, and medium-enterprises (MSME) recover from the significant economic impacts of the pandemic through job-skills and resilience training and MSME innovation. Funds have also assisted MSME in navigating trade barriers and regulations.
  - More than **$26 million** to support democracy, rights, and governance and to prevent further democratic backsliding due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - More than **$21.6 million** to help mitigate the impacts of the pandemic on education and critical social services.
  - Almost **$11 million** to support migrants and other vulnerable populations in recovering from some of the secondary impacts of the pandemic, such as access to livelihoods, social services, and shelter.
  - More than **$8.7 million** to expand programs to counter trafficking in persons and build resilient individuals and households within vulnerable communities, including returning migrants, people with disabilities, marginalized groups, and indigenous communities.
TABLE 1: USAID COVID SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING SUMMARY BY ACCOUNT AS OF JANUARY 3, 2022
Table 1 provides a summary of funding provided by the COVID-19 Supplemental (P.L. 116-123), the CARES Act (P.L. 116-136), the Consolidated Appropriations Act (P.L. 116-260), and ARP (P.L. 117-2).

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* Funds were congressionally notified to the extent notification was required. Funds for disaster relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction do not require notification.

** PL 117-2 ESF is jointly managed by the Department of State and USAID. Therefore, a portion of the appropriated funding is or will be managed by State; those obligations are not reported here. PL 116-123 appropriated $250 million in the ESF account. Of this, USAID transferred $7 million in ESF-COVID funding to the USAID Operating Expenses (OE) Account. The Department of State will manage $11.9 million in ESF-COVID funding (of which, $11.2 million has been notified and $0.63 is unallocated). State’s obligations and disbursements are not reported here.

Note: $3.75 billion in ARP/HIV funds that were appropriated to the Department of State are not included in this table. State manages the $3.75 billion in ESF for HIV/AIDS/Global Fund programs. USAID only obligates the funds but S/GAC programs and manages these funds.