



## Emergency Funding for COVID-19 Global Response

While recent bipartisan leadership saw the passage of a [third emergency supplemental package](#), **less than half of 1 percent** of the total package was earmarked for international funding to fight COVID-19.

Admiral Stavridis (Ret.) and General Zinni (Ret.) said it best: "No matter how successful we are in fighting the threat of the COVID-19 pandemic at home, we will never stop it unless we are also fighting it around the world." The Borgen Project is especially concerned about the response in Africa, which carries 23 percent of the global disease burden but only accounts for 1 percent of global health expenditure.

An investment in global health security is an investment in U.S. national security. **That is why Congress must provide at least \$12 billion in the next emergency supplemental for the International Affairs Budget to fight COVID-19.** This funding is essential to U.S. leadership in combating the COVID-19 pandemic globally and to protecting the health, security and economic interests of all Americans.

### Breakdown of the Funding Request

- **Global Health Pandemic Response (at least \$4 billion)** - Additional resources would support USAID Global Health, \$1 billion for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria; Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance and a new Global Health Security Challenge Fund to improve the capability of low- and lower-middle- income countries with weak health infrastructure to detect and respond to COVID-19 and address future pandemic threats.
- **Emergency Economic Relief and Humanitarian Assistance (\$5 billion)** - As the virus spreads, the FAO warns of "a looming food crisis" for the world's most vulnerable. Already, the price of rice in Nigeria jumped more than 30 percent and food prices in Sudan tripled. In addition, Ghana has seen the cost of basic food products spike by as much as 33 percent. Aside from investing in food security as well as water, hygiene and sanitation programs, funding for economic and social support programs is also critical.
- **Ongoing Frontline Operational Response (\$3 billion)** - Additional funding would support the COVID-19 response at diplomatic facilities abroad; operating expenses to evacuate U.S. citizens and implementing a new USAID-managed emergency program to protect infrastructure essential to U.S. government programming.

### Additional Authorities

- Allow the State Department and USAID to transfer COVID-19 funds between accounts only to respond to the pandemic.
- Provide extended 6-month authority for 2-year FY19 and 1-year FY20 appropriated funds for the International Affairs Budget to ensure that agencies are able to invest resources wisely in this disruptive time.
- Ensure new funds are flexible, multi-year and multi-sectoral to allow for integrated programming and systems approaches.