**Write to Congress: Prioritize Global Poverty in FY23 Appropriations**

As Congress looks at its spending plan for fiscal year 2023, it’s time to tell them what they should put at the top of the list. As a leader in global health and development, the United States must urgently aid recovery after the COVID-19 crisis in low-income countries. For example, we’ve seen setbacks in combatting the scourges of AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the first setbacks in decades. We must turn the tide. That’s where your work on the appropriations process comes in.

“Appropriation” is the act of setting aside money for a specific purpose. Annually, the U.S. Congress goes through the process of directing federal funding, or “appropriating” resources for the fiscal year to various programs, including international development programs supported by RESULTS. The graphic shows how the process works, and the tips below will help you influence spending decisions to continue the progress we are making:

**The key to being heard in this political climate is to show up early and often** to remind Congress that constituents care about fighting poverty and that every member of Congress can and should engage the spending process. Now is the time to tell Congress they should prioritize protecting and increasing funding for anti-poverty programs in global health for fiscal year 2023 (which officially starts on Oct. 1, 2022).

**Take Action:** 1)Ask your members of Congress to include our funding requests on the Global Fund, nutrition, and bilateral tuberculosis in their requests to the State and Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee. 2) Ask your members of congress to sign-on to corresponding “Dear Colleague” letters on these requests. For background on each of these issues, please review the FY23 [appropriations memos and letters](https://results.org/blog/fy23-appropriations-tell-congress-to-fund-the-fight-against-poverty/), each of which contains additional background and talking points. Unless your member of Congress has supported all of the issues in the past, select one or two issues you think your member is most likely to support.

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| **Summary of RESULTS’ FY23 Appropriations Requests** |
| **Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria** | * At least $2 billion
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| **Nutrition** | * $300 million within USAID Global Health
 |
| **Global Tuberculosis** | * $1 billion within USAID Global Health
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**Sample Letter to Member of Congress and/or Foreign Policy Aide in EPIC Format**

Consider organizing a group outreach activity by inviting RESULTS group members, Action Network members, and others who care about these issues to write to your congressional legislators. Find a sample meeting agenda here ([pdf version here](https://results.org/wp-content/uploads/2022-Action-Workshop-Agenda.pdf)).

Subject: Please take action on FY23 Global Health Appropriations

**Engage:** In partnership with developing countries, the U.S. has led the fight against hunger and poverty by investing in smart global development programs that improve health, education and building brighter futures.

**State Problem:** We know, however, that the COVID-19 pandemic has taken a toll on global health beyond the immediate effects of the virus. More children are malnourished, fewer people have had access to testing and treatment for diseases like AID, TB, and malaria. More people have died. According to the Global Fund, the pandemic has setback work on tuberculosis by more than 10 years.

**Inform:** The State and Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee (SFOPS) will soon be considering spending levels for global health for fiscal year 2023.

**Call to Action:** Will you please write and speak to the leadership of SFOPS, Chair XXX and Ranking Member XXX, and ask that they include the following funding levels in their FY23 spending bill?

* Select your requests from the chart above

This funding represents a compassionate and pragmatic global development request that will help mute the impacts of COVID-19 and drive future progress. In addition to saving lives and creating brighter futures, global development programs contribute to U.S. economic growth and boost our national security. Can I count on you?

Thank you, *name, address, phone number*.

**Additional resources,** if your group would like to explore the impact their advocacy has on global health: (not an exhaustive list). You can share your screen on Zoom.

* *Global Fund video options:* [*https://www.youtube.com/user/theglobalfund*](https://www.youtube.com/user/theglobalfund)
* *Video on childhood malnutrition:* [*https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k9eGX6LimIs*](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k9eGX6LimIs)
* *Story on tuberculosis:* [*https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/videos/nothabos-dream*](https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/videos/nothabos-dream)