**FY25 SFOPS Cheat Sheet: Common Questions**

**How does this support the national security of the United States?**

Support for global health funding is a moral imperative and a national security imperative. Nearly every Secretary of Defense who has served post-9/11 has called on Congress to increase funding for global development projects. In 2023, 110 retired three and four-star generals [urged Congress](https://www.usglc.org/newsroom/over-100-former-3-and-4-star-military-leaders-urge-congress-to-strengthen-americas-national-security-toolkit-as-a-core-pillar-of-u-s-china-strategy/) to support robust funding for development and diplomatic tools, including USAID. They noted that investments in civilian diplomacy and development tools protect national security by fostering economic and political stability around the world. They also reduce conflict, fight hunger and disease, and are critical to the U.S.’s national security and economic well-being.

**How does this impact our state? / Why is this a good use of taxpayer dollars?**

The U.S. is a leader of global development and has supported proven, effective, and lifesaving global health programs for many years. These programs reduce poverty and suffering, increase the soft power and diplomacy of the U.S., and help create a more resilient, prosperous, and equitable world. By investing in global health, the U.S. is investing in the people and communities who will be a vital part of our global economy for years to come.

The world and global economy are becoming increasingly more interconnected and U.S. investments in global health and development can have a big benefit for people in our state. In 2023, our state exported $**XX billion** in goods to foreign markets. Increased trade bolsters the state economy and creates thousands of jobs. In **2023, XX companies** exported goods from our state – **XX percent** of these were small- and medium-sized enterprises.

* *Customize with facts from* [*ITA State Fact Sheets*](https://www.trade.gov/data-visualization/state-economy-and-trade-factsheets) *and* [*USGLC in Your State Tool*](https://www.usglc.org/in-your-state/)