

July 9, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
House Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

We urge you to **oppose** the drastic cuts to Food for Peace Title II (P.L. 480) included in the FY2025 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies Appropriations Act. This proposal would reduce Food for Peace by more than 40% to just \$1 billion, threatening to end food aid for millions of people around the world in the midst of a global hunger and malnutrition crisis.

As many as 783 million people around the world are chronically, seasonally hungry, and more than 36 million people in just nine countries are facing emergency or worse levels of acute food insecurity and require immediate assistance. Women and children are disproportionately represented in these statistics, including 45 million children under the age of 5 who are wasted. **As the world faces a hunger crisis, now is not the time to endanger the lifesaving work of Food for Peace.**

Not only does Food for Peace respond to immediate hunger and malnutrition through critical assistance, including through the provision of high-quality U.S.-grown commodities, but it also addresses the root causes of hunger and malnutrition for children and their families. Every \$1 invested in resilience programs saves up to \$7 in future humanitarian response. In FY2022, Food for Peace reached 56 million people with emergency food aid and, for those out of immediate crisis, the tools to feed themselves. In this way, Food for Peace forms a crucial bridge between humanitarian and long-term development assistance.

Our organizations are proud to partner with the U.S. government to support and implement Food for Peace programs. Every day, we see how these programs relieve hunger and malnutrition and transform lives all around the world. It is essential that Food for Peace receive robust, consistent funding so that it can continue to meet emergency needs and help communities build self-sufficiency now and into the future.

Last year's drawdown of the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) to address global hunger does not replace Food for Peace programs. The CCC-funded effort has different authorities and funds new programs separate from Food for Peace. The CCC drawdown was intended to be additive to existing U.S. international food aid programs given the unprecedented hunger and malnutrition that far too many families are facing globally.

We urge you to oppose this disproportionate cut to Food for Peace, the United States' longest-running food aid program which has fought global hunger for 70 years, included in the FY2025 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies Appropriations Act when it comes before the Committee.

Sincerely,

Action Against Hunger
Alliance to End Hunger
Bread for the World
CARE
Catholic Relief Services
Food for the Hungry

InterAction
International Medical Corps
Islamic Relief USA
Mennonite Central Committee U.S
Mercy Corps
Nonviolent Peaceforce
Oxfam America
RESULTS
Save the Children
The ONE Campaign
Together for Girls
WaterAid
World Food Program USA
World Vision

CC: all members of the House Committee on Appropriations