



## CONGRESSIONAL BULLETIN

November 8, 2011

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### HIGHLIGHTS

- **Join Us Thursday Morning!** Members and Congressional staff are cordially invited to attend a breakfast reception on **Thursday, November 10** from **10-11AM** in **SVC-203/202**, in the **Capitol Visitors Center**, hosted by USAID to coincide with a rare meeting of our worldwide Mission Directors, who are in Washington this week to operationalize the reforms set forth by **Administrator Shah**, which we have called **USAID Forward**. To RSVP, please call 202-712-0502 or email [acatella@usaid.gov](mailto:acatella@usaid.gov). To learn more about **USAID's 50th anniversary**, and to listen to messages from Secretary of State **Hillary Clinton** and former Secretary of Defense **Bob Gates** and several of our Mission Directors, please visit: <http://50.usaid.gov/meet-usaid/>.
- **First Sitting USAID Administrator Speaks at West Point:** On November 4, **Administrator Shah** traveled to the **U.S. Military Academy at West Point** to deliver remarks on the importance of civilian and military partnerships in furthering America's economic and security needs through diplomacy, defense and development. Click [here](#) to read Dr. Shah's remarks. USAID's newly released *Policy on the Development Response to Violent Extremism and Insurgency* can be accessed [here](#). Click [this link](#), or visit our [website](#), to watch **former Defense Secretary Gates** and **Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Admiral James "Sandy" Winnefeld** pay tribute to USAID and click [here](#) to read *Frontlines'* Magazine's interview with CENTCOM's **Lt. Gen. John R. Allen**.
- **USAID Expands Faith-Based Outreach:** **Dr. Shah** was pleased to visit with more than 12 representatives from the faith-based community during their visit to Washington D.C. last week. Dr. Shah's visit with the faith leaders, who represented a broad array of faith backgrounds, demonstrates an intensified effort to engage communities of faith as strong partners in USAID's mission. Click [here](#) to listen to Dr. Shah's remarks during a recent speech at World Vision headquarters emphasizing the central role of the faith-based community in addressing hunger, poverty and preventable disease.
- **Horn of Africa/ FWD Day is November 9:** Tomorrow (**Wednesday, November 9**) is "**FWD Day**" – a day to bring greater awareness to the ongoing famine, war, and drought (FWD) in the Horn of Africa, which is affecting more than 13.3 million people. USAID has partnered with the Ad Council to launch the [F.W.D. \(Famine, War, Drought\) campaign](#) – an effort designed to promote

public awareness and to enable the public to contribute directly to relief efforts. Thanks to the generosity of our partners, USAID has thus far dedicated approximately \$150,000 to this effort, leveraging an awareness campaign estimated at approximately \$3 million. Late last month, USAID officially launched the campaign through celebrity public service announcements (PSAs). In [this 30-second PSA](#), listen to **Chanel Iman, Uma Thurman, Josh Hartnett, and Geena Davis** speak about the crisis and the campaign to ask that people forward the facts. To learn more about the FWD campaign and how you can help, click [here](#). Several Members of Congress have recorded Public Service Announcements, which will be available on the FWD website this week. **Please contact Aysha House-Moshi at [ahouse-moshi@usaid.gov](mailto:ahouse-moshi@usaid.gov) or 202-712-5469 if your boss is interested in filming a Public Service Announcement on the crisis.** You can personally make a difference by taking part in FWD Day. Help us reach our goal Wednesday of 13.3 million “shares” on Facebook or Twitter—[FWD facts, FWD relief!](#)

- **Public-Private Partnerships Week:** Many thanks to all who joined us at USAID headquarters several weeks ago for [Public-Private Partnership Week](#), a series of events highlighting the strategic value of connecting private business and global development, which also marked the tenth anniversary of USAID’s “Global Development Alliance” (GDA) program. Since the creation of the GDA model ten years ago, USAID has forged more than 1,065 alliances, with more than 3,025 distinct partners. For every \$1 USAID invests, we leverage an average of approximately \$4 through the private sector. The events included presentations from **Administrator Shah**, Senior Advisor to the President **Valerie Jarrett**, as well as Executives from **Merck, Cargill, J.P. Morgan, General Mills, Mars, and Johnson & Johnson**. To read Administrator Shah’s remarks, please click [here](#).

## PUBLIC EVENTS AND NOTABLE DEVELOPMENTS

- **Vice President Biden Joins USAID in Celebrating Our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:** USAID was thrilled to host **Vice President Biden, Caroline Kennedy** (daughter of President Kennedy, who established USAID 50 years ago), and Grammy award-winning **Angelique Kidjo** at a celebration marking the Agency’s 50 year anniversary. Click [here](#) to watch an encore presentation of this event.
- **Center for Strategic International Studies (CSIS) Event:** USAID was pleased to be part of a recent [CSIS](#) event celebrating USAID’s 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, which featured **Dr. Shah** and former USAID Administrators **Andrew Natsios, Henrietta Fore, Peter McPherson, and Brian Atwood** (by video), and CSIS president **John Hamre**. Click [here](#) to watch a video of the event.
- **“Power of 1%” Launch at Newseum:** USAID Deputy Administrator **Donald Steinberg**, USAID Chief Economist **Steve Radelet**, Global Health Corps CEO and Co-Founder **Barbara Bush**, and singer **Mandy Moore** headlined a press conference at the Newseum in early October, titled “The Power of 1%” that showcased the return on investments in global health. The press conference was followed by a three-part discussion series that highlighted how U.S. investments in global health are saving lives, strengthening global economies, and protecting our national security. In [The Huffington Post](#), Singer-songwriter and actress **Mandy Moore**, a spokesperson for the global health organization Population Services International (PSI), wrote, “When our country invests in global health, we are doing the right thing. When USAID succeeds, we all benefit. We invest less than 1% of the federal budget in strengthening the health and economic development in other countries, and we get incredible results.”

- **Increasing Access to Water & Sanitation:** On October 27, USAID was privileged to be hosted by **Representatives Blumenauer** (D-OR), **Poe** (R-TX), and **Fortenberry** (R-NE) at a briefing for Members of Congress and staff on the importance of providing access to safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene to the developing world. The focus of the briefing was USAID's **Development Innovations Ventures' Water, Sanitation and Hygiene or "[WASH](#)" for Life Partnership**, which is currently accepting proposals. Click [here](#) for more information on the WASH for Life Partnership, and [here](#) for a statement from Sen. Durbin commending USAID and the Gates Foundation on this effort.
- **CDC/Morehouse College Atlanta Events:** **Administrator Shah** traveled to Atlanta last month to join **Dr. Thomas Frieden**, Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in discussing further collaboration in the area of health; to honor the **Chairman of Coca Cola** with an honorary award for Coca Cola's role in clean water processing; and to join **Senator Johnny Isakson (R-GA)**, to address students at **Morehouse College**.
- **Launch of USAID's Policy Framework:** USAID is proud to announce the release of our [Policy Framework 2011-2015](#), a document designed to provide our staff and partners worldwide with a clear sense of the Agency's core development priorities. The Policy Framework translates the President's Policy Directive on Global Development and Secretary Clinton's Quadrennial Diplomacy and Development Review (QDDR) into more operational principles and elaborates on the [USAID Forward agenda](#), which together provide a roadmap for how we will apply all of these principles in our work worldwide. This is the first in what will become a regular strategic exercise every four years, closely tracking the QDDR cycle.

## PERSONNEL

- The President has nominated **Earl Gast** as Assistant Administrator for USAID's Africa Bureau. The Agency is working with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to schedule a hearing on Earl's nomination.

## USAID IN THE NEWS

- [The New York Times](#) published an editorial supporting the budgets for the State Department and foreign aid. "Savings squeezed from the State Department and foreign aid — which together are less than a tenth of the basic Pentagon budget — would be a tiny share of the \$3.8 trillion federal budget. Yet the effects would be hugely damaging to American foreign policy."
- In an op-ed published in [The Washington Post](#), Bill Gates, Chairman of Microsoft, and co-chair of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, makes a compelling case for investing in development.
- In an op-ed published in [Politico](#), former USAID Administrators highlighted the success and value foreign aid has had over the past 50 years. "Using less than 1 percent of the U.S. budget annually, the American people have demonstrated their deepest values through USAID programs. Because of the efforts of the American people, more than 1 billion people now have safe drinking water, smallpox has been eradicated and tens of millions have been saved through USAID's famine relief efforts."
- In an op-ed published in [The Hill](#), Ret. USMC General Michael Hagee and Ret. USCG Admiral James Loy discussed the importance of maintaining a strong development program, including USAID, to address global challenges. "America cannot retreat from today's world, which is why military leaders from General Petraeus to Admiral Mullen have made clear that, in an era of

global threats, U.S. national security requires strong civilian partners working alongside the military.”

- [Bloomberg Government](#) highlighted increased USAID participation in public-private partnerships. [Devex](#) reported on USAID’s public-private partnership week and the important role businesses can play in development. In the article, Devex highlighted Administrator Rajiv Shah’s economic growth speech. “I’m talking about helping support the work of markets that can deliver profits and create opportunities for women, minorities and the poor,” Shah said. “In short, we must embrace a new wave of creative, enlightened capitalism.”

There was extensive recent coverage on the **Horn of Africa**:

- USAID Administrator Dr. Rajiv Shah was interviewed on [Fox 5 News](#) to discuss the launch of the new Public Service Announcements highlighting the [FWD Campaign](#). [Advertising Age](#) also wrote an article on the videos that feature Dr. Jill Biden, Uma Thurman, Josh Hartnett, Geena Davis and Chanel Iman.
- Administrator Shah’s travel to Ethiopia and Kenya to visit areas affected by the drought and announcement of an additional \$127 million in aid to help reach 1.5 million Ethiopians on behalf of the American people was covered by the Associated Press, [Foreign Policy’s “The Cable”](#) blog, and [Voice of America](#).
- USAID’s FWD (Famine, War, Drought) Horn of Africa public awareness campaign was covered by [Federal News Radio](#) and [The Huffington Post](#), including an [op-ed](#) written by Administrator Shah and an [article](#).
- The [Associated Press](#) reported that countless lives have been saved as a result of interventions to stop famine spreading throughout the Horn of Africa.

USAID Development efforts were also highlighted:

- [The Christian Science Monitor](#) published a story about one of USAID’s partners that is connecting mobile phone users with aid and relief workers in the Middle East. The article explains how text messaging is enabling development workers to learn what’s happening in the region and give out information on where people can find aid. The use of mobile phones in development is on the rise, as phones can now be used as ATM cards and can also send weather alerts rural farmers.
- In a blog posted on [ABC News’ website](#), Administrator Shah calls on readers to take the Million Moms Challenge, which aims to help mothers and newborns around the world who are at high-risk of complications and death during the first 48-hours of childbirth.

## HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE UPDATE

USAID provides life-saving humanitarian assistance throughout the world. Below are links to the latest fact sheets describing our work:

- Central America floods [fact sheet](#) #3, dated October 24, 2011
- Horn of Africa drought [fact sheet](#) #5, dated November 3, 2011
- Pakistan floods [fact sheet](#) #4, October 28, 2011
- Southeast Asia floods [fact sheet](#) #2, dated November 1, 2011
- Turkey earthquake [fact sheet](#) #1, dated November 2, 2011
- Yemen complex emergency [fact sheet](#) #1, dated November 3, 2011

## DEVELOPMENT LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE (DLI) UPDATE

USAID has hired 733 new Foreign Service officers under the Development Leadership Initiative (DLI) — a multi-year effort launched under the Bush Administration with strong, bipartisan support from Congress — to enhance the Agency’s capability to effectively deliver U.S. foreign assistance and to increase its overseas presence. USAID’s priority in the coming year of the DLI is in hiring applicants in the following backstops: Contracting Officers (BS-93), Agriculture Officers (BS-10), and Controllers (BS-04). Opportunities in other specialties will continue to be available but in more limited numbers. To learn more about the DLI, including opportunities for employment, click [here](#). Check for the currently advertised positions.

*We welcome your input and want to make sure that this newsletter is useful to you. Please reply to [USAIDCongressionalBulletin@usaid.gov](mailto:USAIDCongressionalBulletin@usaid.gov) to give us feedback on what you’d like to see more (or less) of in future editions.*

*A listing of our Legislative Affairs team members is available [here](#). Please let us know how we can be of assistance to you in the future.*

For more information about USAID's programs, please visit: [usaid.gov](http://usaid.gov). To read our blog, see [blog.usaid.gov](http://blog.usaid.gov).

The American people, through the U.S. Agency for International Development, have provided economic and humanitarian assistance worldwide for nearly 50 years.

