

MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH AND NUTRITION

Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 Requests for Foreign Operations Subcommittee Leadership

House Foreign Operations Leadership
Rep. Kay Granger (R-TX), Chair
Rep. Nita Lowey (D-NY), Ranking Member

Senate Foreign Operations Leadership
Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-VT), Chair
Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC), Ranking Member

THE PROBLEM

- **6.6 million children under 5 years old die annually** – 3.1 million from malnutrition – mostly in developing countries
- **800 women die every day** from causes related to pregnancy and childbirth – 99% of the nearly 300,000 maternal deaths each year occur in developing countries
- The poorest women and children continue to lack basic, life-saving health services and modern public health improvements
- Most Americans think we spend 10 – 25% of our federal budget on foreign aid – in fact **the U.S. invests less than 1%** on poverty-focused assistance
- Without urgent and intensified action to improve maternal health and child nutrition, progress on hunger and poverty alleviation will be harder and costlier to achieve

THE OPPORTUNITY

- **The leading causes of death in young children are almost entirely preventable or treatable** through early interventions like access to micronutrients, exclusive breastfeeding, and immunizations
- Improved nutrition has enormous macro-economic impact, **increasing GDP by 3% annually** through greater workforce productivity and health care cost savings
- A 2013 study in the Lancet showed that the quality of a person’s nutrition early in life – particularly during the 1,000 days between a woman’s pregnancy and her child’s second birthday – can determine the future course of the child’s health, educational attainment, and lifetime earning potential
- 80% of maternal deaths are caused by complications during pregnancy and childbirth – **investments in quality facilities and skilled care before, during and after birth can prevent many of these deaths**
- U.S. investments have helped halve maternal mortality in the past 20 years, and reduce child mortality by 70% over the past 50 years – **increased investments now are necessary** for progress to continue

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Talk with or write to the Foreign Operations Subcommittee Leadership to express your support for funding for Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition

FY15: Allocate \$800 million for Maternal and Child Health (MCH)
FY15: Allocate \$200 million for Nutrition within global health programs

MCH and Nutrition Funding History

Fiscal year	FY11	FY12	FY13 Cont. Resolution	FY14 Omnibus	FY15 Request
<i>MCH Funding Level</i>	\$549 million	\$605.6 million	\$627.3 million*	\$705 million	\$800 million
<i>Nutrition Funding Level</i>	\$90 million	\$95 million	\$95 million*	\$115 million	\$200 million