

Shaping a New Era of International Assistance

Since its founding in 2008, the Modernizing Foreign Assistance Network (MFAN) has been at the forefront of efforts to strengthen U.S. international assistance, navigating shifting political landscapes and transitions in leadership across Congress and the White House. We are the premier bipartisan coalition in Washington that rises above politics to identify what works – and what doesn’t – in development and humanitarian assistance. Guided by the principles of accountability and country ownership, we bring together diverse perspectives and translate expert insight into clear, actionable recommendations that make U.S. assistance more strategic, effective, and sustainable.

Our Mission

MFAN believes U.S. development and humanitarian assistance are essential tools for advancing peace and prosperity and America’s influence and strength. These investments not only save lives, they advance U.S. national interests, spur economic growth, strengthen alliances, and promote global stability. At a time of increasing complexity and constrained resources, we work with Congress, the Administration, and our partners to drive pragmatic reforms, strengthen oversight, and improve how assistance is designed, delivered, and measured. Through evidence-based policy and legislative solutions, we help ensure U.S. investments deliver meaningful results for communities around the world and value for U.S. taxpayers.

Our Policy Priorities

MFAN advances a focused set of reforms to improve the effectiveness of U.S. international assistance, including:

- Strengthening capacity and coordination across U.S. agencies
- Improving accountability and transparency
- Promoting locally led development and country capacity
- Mobilizing private-sector investment and development finance
- Reinforcing Congressional oversight

Our Members

Organizations

CARE
 Center for Global Development
 Catholic Relief Services
 Counterpart International
 FHI 360
 Friends of Publish What You Fund
 Give Directly
 IREX
 Mathematica
 One Acre Fund
 Oxfam
 Pact
 Partners In Health
 Plan International USA
 Publish What You Fund
 RTI International
 Save the Children US

Individuals

George Ingram
 Jim Kunder
 Jim Mazzarella
 Rob Mosbacher
 Les Munson
 Denise Namburete
 Larry Nowels
 Richard Parker
 Susan Reichle
 Jeff Sturchio
 Paul Weisenfeld



MFAN Hosts Congressional Staff Briefing - January 2026

Our Legacy & Impact:

MFAN’s approach – combining bipartisan engagement, technical expertise, and actionable recommendations – has delivered measurable policy and legislative impact:



- **Shaping the Future of U.S. Foreign Assistance Reform:** In March 2025, MFAN was the first organization to release recommendations on the State Department – USAID reorganization. We convened an ideologically diverse group of former Republican and Democratic officials, foreign policy experts, and leading development practitioners, culminating in the release of consensus principles and recommendations in July 2025 to guide the future of U.S. international assistance. In September 2025, we also published a landmark analysis identifying critical gaps in the State Department’s operational capacity, including staffing, technical expertise, and oversight systems, needed to effectively manage an expanded U.S. foreign assistance portfolio. In February 2026, MFAN released an operational roadmap to help the U.S. government implement government-to-government (G2G) assistance effectively, manage risks, and strengthen partner country systems.
- **Revitalizing Bipartisan Congressional Leadership:** In 2023, MFAN led the relaunch of the bipartisan Congressional Caucus for Effective Foreign Assistance, under the leadership of co-chairs Reps. Young Kim (R-CA) and Adam Smith (D-WA), restoring a key bipartisan platform for foreign assistance reform. Since then, we have hosted multiple congressional staff briefings in partnership with the Caucus on key topics such as aid accountability and transparency; innovation; Global Health-G2G assistance agreements; and reauthorization of the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC).
- **Influencing Landmark Bipartisan Legislation:** MFAN has played a critical role in shaping several major bipartisan foreign assistance bills, including the Foreign Aid Transparency and Accountability Act of 2016 (FATAA) and the Better Utilization of Investments Leading to Development Act (BUILD Act) of 2018, which established the DFC – fundamentally modernizing how the U.S. partners with the private sector to advance development. MFAN is working with congressional offices on authorizing legislation on the future of U.S. international assistance and provides ongoing input into appropriations and authorization bills, helping improve how assistance is designed, implemented, and evaluated.

“MFAN is a bipartisan coalition that translates expert insight into clear, actionable recommendations to strengthen U.S. development and humanitarian assistance. We elevate what works, address gaps, and promote the effective use of taxpayer resources.”
 – **Tod Preston, Executive Director, MFAN**