



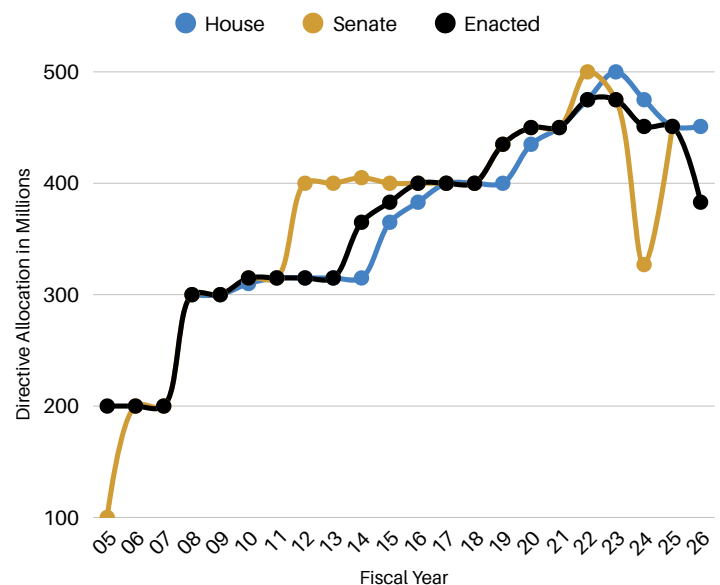
20 YEARS OF BIPARTISAN SUPPORT FOR WATER SECURITY, SAFE DRINKING WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

The United States has been a global leader in global water security, including safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) for two decades. Beginning with the **bipartisan *Water for the Poor Act of 2005***, and continuing with the ***Water for the World Act of 2014***, which passed Congress unanimously, the United States is one of the only countries in the world that has legally required WASH to be a component of its foreign policy.

Since 2005, Congressional appropriations to WASH have steadily increased, under both Republican and Democratic leadership. These funds have impacted millions of lives around the world. A sub-directive requires 50% to be spent in sub-Saharan Africa where the need is greatest.

Since 2008, the United States has reached 76 million people with access to safe drinking water and 56 million with a safe latrine.

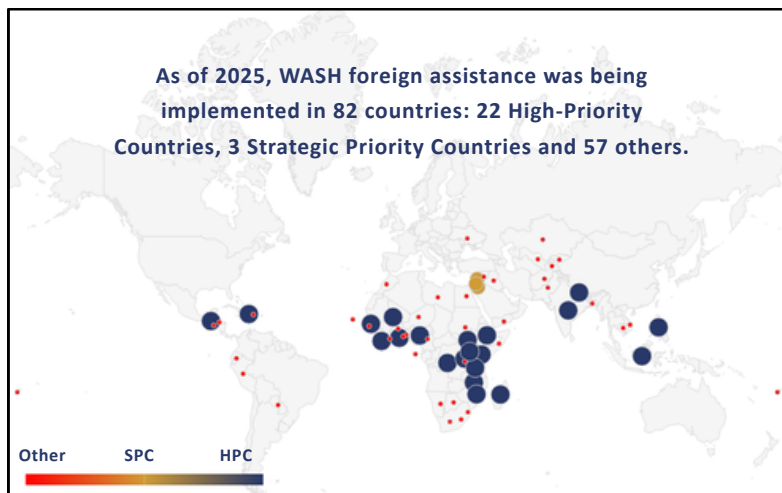
Water Directive Funding History



About the *Water for the Poor Act*:

The *Water for the Poor Act (WFTP)* made WASH a U.S. foreign policy priority; authorized assistance for durable WASH services that reach those with greatest need and assistance that prepares partner countries to manage their own water and sanitation systems; and required a strategy and designation of high-priority countries (HPCs). WFTP also linked water security to drinking water, providing for programs that protect source water.

WFTP clearly states Congressional intent: drinking water, sanitation and hygiene programs that “promote good health, economic development, poverty reduction, women’s empowerment, conflict prevention, and environmental sustainability.”



WFTP and WFTW programs provide water and sanitation infrastructure and support to ensure durability and lasting benefits of American investments, like helping utilities collect user fees and do regular maintenance. These laws also promote efficient and responsible implementation by requiring transparency, consultation, and accountability.

In contrast to emergency WASH, long-term durable WASH advances economic growth and global health security. The Water Directive, which cannot be spent on short-term humanitarian WASH, is a key tool for programs focused on maternal and child health and nutrition, HIV and AIDS, jobs creation and livelihoods, agriculture and food security, the environment, regulation and trade promotion, and more. The U.S. National Intelligence Community has determined that global water security is a key national security consideration for the United States. WASH protects the health, safety, prosperity and security of Americans at home and around the world.

About the *Water for the World Act*:

The *Water for the World Act (WFTW)* built on *WFTP* by requiring ***specific criteria*** for use in designating HPCs: overall need for WASH, deaths from diarrhea among children under five years old, and the opportunity to accelerate educational and economic opportunity by providing WASH.

WFTW also requires a ***whole-of-government U.S. Global Water Strategy (GWS)***, that puts equal weight on development and diplomacy appointees, to be revised every 5 years through 2027. The current GWS has agency-specific plans for 14 Federal departments and agencies and 22 HPCs.

Finally, WFTW requires increased ***WASH capacity***. In addition to WASH ***experts in all HPCs***, it requires a ***Global Water Coordinator*** to oversee programs and partnerships under the GWS. Together, these staff ensure water security and WASH programs are technically sound, well monitored, cost-effective, meeting people's basic needs and advancing the interests of the United States.