

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 6, 2026

The Honorable Mario Diaz-Balart
Chairman
House Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on National Security, Department of
State, And Related Programs
HT-2, Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Lois Frankel
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on National Security, Department of
State, And Related Programs
2305 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Diaz-Balart and Ranking Member Frankel:

As you work to assemble the National Security, Department of State, and Related Programs (NSRP) Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2027, we urge you to include robust bilateral and multilateral funding for critical international environment accounts that have addressed critical development and humanitarian needs, and strengthen U.S. economic, foreign policy, and national security interests, making America safer, stronger, and more prosperous.

U.S. foreign assistance—in the form of bilateral and multilateral funds for international environmental challenges—promotes economic growth and underpins commercial diplomacy. This critical funding promotes global stability and security, alleviates global poverty, ensures significant cost savings by promoting resilience and disaster preparedness, protects U.S. investments in international development, creates trade and economic opportunities for U.S. businesses and workers in renewable clean energy sectors. This funding also protects tropical forests and other critical ecosystems, strengthens the U.S.'s strategically important partnerships with its allies, and enhances global health, food, and water security efforts. National security experts recognize the danger that large-scale environmental changes pose and the negative impacts on the U.S.'s economic, humanitarian, and development interests abroad. Again and again, where the U.S. withdraws from international issues, global competitors like China step in to fill the void—painting the U.S. as unresponsive to developing countries' needs. Indeed, at a time of increasing global fragmentation, those who seek to strengthen their own hand by driving a wedge between the U.S. and our partners around the world are doubling down on this cynical and calculated narrative. To ensure the U.S.'s relationship with its allies, and to stabilize supply chains as well as to strengthen local capacity, Congress must do all that it can to fund bilateral and multilateral programs that address these environmental challenges worldwide.

These programs have produced real, measurable benefits, while also leveraging substantial sums in co-financing from other donors. For instance, thanks to tailored U.S. foreign assistance, millions people across the world have been able to use weather and climate data to manage and adapt to the impacts of extreme weather events, allowing communities to better respond to them and saving lives in those communities in the process. U.S.-backed international climate finance programs are also incentivizing developing countries to curb deforestation while addressing rural poverty and improving the way that lands are managed and harvested—leveraging every dollar of U.S. funding with up to 39 times more funding from other donors. Other U.S.-backed initiatives have mobilized more than 30 dollars for every one U.S. dollar spent to strengthen and expand

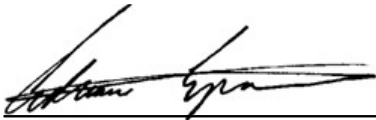
overseas energy programs.

Indeed, investment in developing countries' energy infrastructure is expected to exceed 30 trillion dollars over the next 25 years—and a small investment of U.S. funds can help shape that enormous market for decades to come. These programs build resilience to drought, flooding, and other extreme weather events, while also stewarding tropical forests and other critically important and species-abundant landscapes and seascapes. In doing so, these programs strengthen American alliances, prevent food and water scarcities and—importantly—bolster U.S. national security in the process. By continuing U.S. leadership on international environmental efforts in FY2027, this Congress can ensure U.S. pre-eminence in tackling critical issues, while driving ambition among other governments and harnessing the power of markets to generate further investments.

Lastly, in many cases, these programs have benefitted from years of bipartisan support under both Republican and Democratic administrations and Congresses. As such, we strongly urge you to include robust funding for both bilateral and multilateral environmental program accounts in the FY2027 NSRP appropriations bill. These programs represent a small fraction of the U.S.'s overall foreign contributions budget, yet they provide outsized benefits to the U.S. through targeted foreign assistance investments that not only bolster our strategic partnerships around the world, but ultimately make America safer, stronger, and more prosperous.

We appreciate your consideration of this important bipartisan request.

Sincerely,



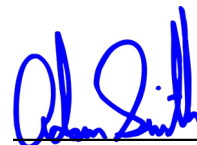
Adriano Espaillat
Member of Congress



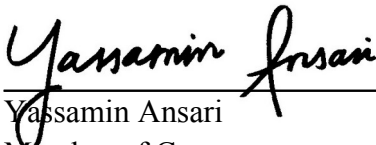
Diana DeGette
Member of Congress



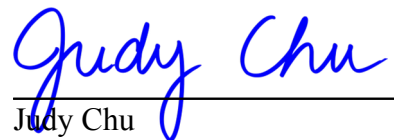
Bill Foster
Member of Congress



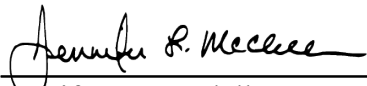
Adam Smith
Member of Congress



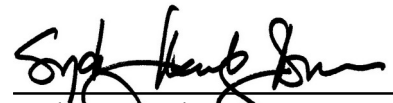
Yassamin Ansari
Member of Congress



Judy Chu
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Jennifer L. McClellan
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Sydney Kamlager Dove
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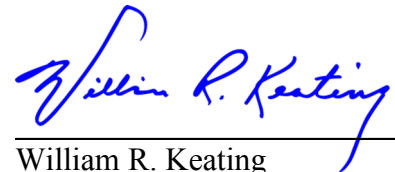
Melanie Stansbury
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Nanette Diaz Barragan
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Dina Titus
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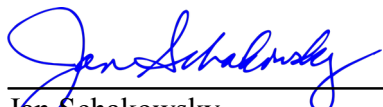
William R. Keating
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Sean Casten
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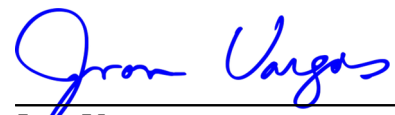
Jan Schakowsky
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Juan Vargas
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Chellie Pingree
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