

2025 Current Fiscal Year Report: Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid

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1. Department or Agency

Agency for International Development

2. Fiscal Year

2025

3. Committee or Subcommittee

Advisory Committee on Voluntary
Foreign Aid

3b. GSA

Committee No.

164

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

09/23/2024

6. Expected Renewal Date

09/23/2026

7. Expected Term Date

02/25/2025

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

Yes

8b. Specific Termination Authority

8c. Actual Term Date

02/25/2025

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Terminate

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

No

10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority

Agency Authority

12. Specific Establishment Authority

Action Memorandum

13. Effective Date

01/21/1999

14. Committee Type

Continuing

14c. Presidential?

No

15. Description of Committee

Non Scientific Program Advisory
Board

16a. Total Number of Reports

No Reports for
this Fiscal Year

17a. Open

0

17b. Closed

0

17c. Partially Closed

0

Other Activities

0

17d. Total

0

Meetings and Dates

No Meetings

Current Next
FY FY

18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00 \$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00 \$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$0.00 \$0.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00 \$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00 \$0.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00 \$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00 \$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00 \$0.00
18c. Administrative Costs (FRNs, contractor support, In-person/hybrid/virtual meetings)	\$0.00 \$0.00
18d. Other (all other funds not captured by any other cost category)	\$0.00 \$0.00
18e. Total Costs	\$0.00 \$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.00 0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The Committee's purpose is to advise the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), other government agencies, and the private voluntary (PVO) and non-governmental (NGO) community on foreign assistance policy and programs in which the U.S. Government and PVOs/NGOs interact. The Committee also provides information and counsel to the PVO community on issues of concern regarding their

relationship with USAID and other agencies, as well as fosters public interest in the field of voluntary foreign aid. ACVFA advises the USAID Administrator and others through deliberations on key issues at the Committee's public meetings, as well as through the work of its subcommittees.

The Committee has several active working subcommittees that research and discuss the issues that are brought before the public in order to develop recommendations for the Agency. The subcommittees are organized on the basis of key issues that correspond with USAID's priorities and important crosscutting themes. ACVFA disseminates information to the PVO/NGO community and increases public awareness and understanding of foreign assistance through its public meetings.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The membership includes individuals who work in private voluntary organizations (PVOs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs), philanthropic and other foundations, private businesses, think tanks, and universities. All have expertise in international development, key issue areas, the role of the non-governmental sector, and public/private partnerships, and represent diverse segments of the U.S. public. The membership is diverse in demographics, geography, experience, and area of expertise, which are important criteria in recruitment.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

ACVFA's public meetings are usually held at least once per year. In FY24, there was one public meeting in February 2024. The meeting agenda address relevant topics on pressing global issues.

The large attendance at ACVFA meetings reflects the public's interest in and usefulness for these meetings. ACVFA is an important source of objective feedback and external engagement on timely issues and a broad range of programmatic and technical issues related to U.S. foreign assistance policies and programs.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

The ACVFA provides expert, relevant, and objective advice to USAID and the U.S. government on matters related to international development and foreign assistance. The Agency Administrator and other leadership use the Committee as a sounding board and source of advice and recommendations regarding USAID policies, programs, and priorities. The Committee's public meetings serve as an established forum for a constituency of PVOs and NGOs, as well as the general public, to receive information about and participate in the Agency's decision-making process. The ACVFA provides analysis of foreign assistance issues, and makes recommendations for use not only by USAID, but by other government agencies, Congress, and the PVO/NGO community. The Committee's recommendations have resulted in greater understanding of and improvements in the working relationship between USAID and its partners as well as organizational and programmatic improvements at USAID.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

N/A

21. Remarks

N/A

Designated Federal Officer

Karen Vargas Deputy Director for Public
Engagement

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Clifton, Nicole	05/17/2023	05/17/2025	President	Representative Member
Laugharn, Peter	01/31/2024	01/31/2026	President and CEO	Representative Member
Wittes, Tamara	05/17/2024	01/31/2026	President	Representative Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 3

Narrative Description

The Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid (ACVFA) provides feedback on USAID's key initiatives including global food security and climate change, inclusive development and localization, private sector engagement, and democracy and anti-corruption.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if
Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

NA

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cost Savings Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Cost Savings Comments

The ACVFA does not review specific projects or agency initiatives whereby a cost-saving analysis would occur.

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

42

Number of Recommendations Comments

After each public meeting, the Committee publishes minutes that reflect the meeting's proceedings and discussions, as well as the comments and recommendations for further discussion among the Committee members. The committee also regularly provide feedback and recommendations to the Agency on its priority goals and objectives, including in areas such as food security, climate change, democracy & anti-corruption, inclusive development, and private sector engagement.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

25%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

USAID takes under advisement the recommendations of the Committee, but full implementation is impacted by outside circumstances (budget, inter-agency processes for approval, and the nature of the Agency's work overseas).

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

25%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

USAID takes under advisement the recommendations of the Committee but full implementation is impacted by outside circumstances (budget, interagency processes for approval, and the nature of the Agency's work overseas).

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

Feedback is provided via the public meeting questions and answers sessions as well as during preparatory work undertaken by the Committee prior to the public meeting.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

NA

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

NA

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Online GSA FACA Web Site



Publications



Other



Access Comments

N/A