



# US FOREIGN ASSISTANCE REFORM



**Decades of foreign aid from the US to Africa have yielded marginal results, prompting Congress to call for a re-write of the Foreign Assistance Act.**

## WHY ?

Why do US Foreign Assistance policies need to be reformed? What's wrong with the current system?

**The guide for US foreign aid program and policy is the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961— written 48 years ago in the context of post-WWII development issues.**

**The process of foreign aid disbursement is currently in disarray—with responsibilities divided between USAID, the Dept. of Defense and the Dept. of State**

**Foreign assistance is often given to short-term projects with little concern for sustainability**

**The current system has no mechanism for monitoring and evaluation of programs, leading to ineffective spending**

## WHO?

Who will be working on the reforms?

- **Representative Howard Berman, Chair of the House Committee on Foreign Relations**
- **Senator Robert Menendez, Chair of Senate Subcommittee on International Development and Foreign Assistance, Economic Affairs, and International Environmental Protection**
- **Various think tanks and NGOs and the Modernizing Foreign Assistance Network (MFAN) will have an active role in making policy recommendations to lawmakers**

## WHEN?

When will the reforms be complete?

**Both the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee and the House Committee on Foreign relations have recently convened hearings , calling on witnesses for advice about effective reform. However, the reform process itself has moved quite slowly, and is currently in the very beginning stages.**



Created by:



