

# Recommendations from Global Washington

## The Global Development Sector in Washington State:

Washington’s global development sector is becoming an international force. Academic, business, philanthropic and nonprofit leaders from across the state are making crucial contributions to global health, poverty alleviation, the environment, and global education.

- » Washington’s global development organizations work in 144 countries across 5 continents
- » Nearly 200 Washington-based nonprofits work on global development issues
- » 3,181 full time employees worked on global development activities at foundations and nonprofits in 2007
- » Global health is a \$4 billion sector in Washington State, generating \$143 million in tax revenue annually for state and local governments
- » More than 4,000 volunteers support Washington’s global development nonprofits
- » Washington businesses and nonprofits contributed more than \$48 million to global development activities in 2008

**U.S. foreign assistance is not effectively addressing the needs of the developing world.** To guide improvements in global development policy, Global Washington wrote *Global Development through Aid, Partnerships, Trade and Education*. This report features recommendations to improve U.S. global development policy based on the four principles of aid effectiveness, which Global Washington developed in consultation with experts from Washington State:

- 1. Transparency and Accountability:** Information on strategy, goals and spending is clear and readily available to U.S. taxpayers and international beneficiaries.
- 2. Consolidation and Coordination:** Efforts are not duplicative and meet articulated goals. Non-aid policies, such as defense and trade, complement aid goals.
- 3. Local Ownership:** Aid is driven by local priorities, builds local capacity and promotes local economies.
- 4. Targeting:** Aid is directed at reducing poverty in the communities most in need.

Global Washington is a broad-based membership association which promotes and supports the global development sector in Washington State. Composed of a variety of organizations from myriad sectors—including non-profit organizations, foundations, businesses, government and academic institutions--its members work collectively to build a more equitable and prosperous world. As a regional organization located far away from the D.C. Beltway, Global Washington is uniquely able to offer fresh perspective on global development issues through its member organizations who are making important contributions to the field.

Global Washington convened 45 local experts representing the non-profit, business, government, and academic sectors to propose recommendations on four topics: Aid; Trade and Development; Public-Private Partnerships; and Global Education. This cross-sector, collaborative approach brought together individuals who rarely work together on these issues, and improved the quality of our recommendations. The results of this collaboration can be seen in our report, *Global Development through Aid, Partnerships, Trade and Education: Recommendations from Global Washington*.

In the course of our discussions on U.S. global development policy, the four working groups came up with the following overarching recommendations:

- » Global Washington’s four principles of aid effectiveness should be used as a policy framework
- » Policies in other sectors like trade and energy policy should align with development goals
- » Information about programs, policies, and budgets needs to be expanded and made more clear
- » More flexible funding is needed to promote cross-sector collaboration

MAIN RECOMMENDATIONS	
<b>AID</b>	Implement a national global development strategy to clarify the goals of foreign assistance for a coordinated, “whole-of-government” approach.
<b>TRADE</b>	Consider development objectives when making trade policy – this means better access for developing countries to the U.S. market coupled with more coordinated trade capacity building assistance.
<b>PARTNERSHIPS</b>	Streamline the process for partnering with the U.S. government so that more businesses, especially small businesses, can engage in public-private partnerships.
<b>GLOBAL EDUCATION</b>	Support policies that promote study-abroad, international research collaboration, and language learning.

## Global Engagement in Washington State

The Pacific Northwest has evolved into a robust center of global activity, and several internationally-engaged companies, foundations, universities, and nonprofit organizations call Washington State home. Local organizations actively work to improve the economic, social and environmental conditions in the developing world, and their diverse programs include: direct service delivery, capacity building, education and training, research, advocacy, product development, and corporate citizenship and philanthropy. Together, the global development sector in Washington State forms a strong constituency for effective investments in aid.

### Nonprofit Organizations: On the Ground, Creating Change

With tens of thousands of employees working in over 100 countries, international nonprofit organizations headquartered in Washington State are on the front lines of global development, uniquely positioned to offer valuable insights on how best to improve the design, implementation and assessment of foreign assistance programs. Ranging from established organizations founded in a post-war context like World Vision to more recently formed groups launched in the new millennium like Water 1st International, Washington State organizations represent a dynamic combination of learned experience and fresh innovation.

### Philanthropy: Mobilizing Unprecedented Resources

Washington State is home to many philanthropic organizations that work toward international development. Some examples of these organizations include: the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; the McKinstry Charitable Foundation, Seattle International Foundation, Amazon Partnerships Foundation, Laird Norton Family Foundation, and Pura Vida Create Good. Also, many Washington State businesses, both large and small, engage in international corporate philanthropy.

### Grassroots Engagement & Giving

Ordinary citizens across Washington State are themselves engaged in advocacy and philanthropy, lending their voices and dollars to combat poverty and disease across the globe. Individuals work together to make a difference in the world through organizations such as Pangea, RESULTS, and Rotary International, which have many active chapters in the state. There are also a plethora of student organizations on college campuses, and Washington State ranks third in all time Peace Corps Volunteers – for every 1,000 residents, 5 people from the state currently serve overseas as Peace Corps Volunteers.

### Public-Private Partnerships: Working Together for More Effective Results

Many Washington State businesses and organizations partner with government entities to implement creative programs that would otherwise not be possible. In a public-private partnership, the private sector organization provides resources beyond a financial investment, adding value in an area where it has a comparative advantage. For example, Microsoft works with government, commercial banks, and NGOs in its “Partnerships for Technology Access” program, implementing cohesive programs that provide software (“e-government” solutions), computers, subsidized

## Convergence around Climate Change: The Intersections of Trade, Aid and Development

The urgent need to adequately address the harmful effects of climate change epitomizes the shared global development challenges of the 21st century — demonstrating how it is in our individual and collective interest to work together to confront common threats whose causes and consequences know no borders. Moreover, the challenge of climate change illustrates how trade, aid, and global education policies can work in harmony to achieve mutually beneficial goals.

As a major contributor to global warming, the United States has an obligation to substantially reduce its greenhouse gas emissions. Global Washington recommends that the U.S. government commit to achieving these reductions and promote the domestic

development of the clean energy technologies required to do so. Policies could include the provision of financial and other types of incentives, including export and investment promotion activities of the Export-Import Bank, the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, and the Trade and Development Agency. Combined with a national strategy on emissions and global climate change, these incentives will help catalyze greater U.S. innovation in green technology and transfer of this technology to low and middle income countries through the global market.

Market-based solutions, however, will not be enough to make green technology available to many low income countries. Recognizing that poor communities in these countries are particularly vulnerable to the destructive



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financing, and technical assistance in developing countries. Microsoft, Starbucks, PATH, and Global Partnerships are just some examples of Washington State institutions that have engaged in such public-private partnerships.

## Global Education: the Future of Global Engagement

Washington's state and local government organizations, corporations, primary and secondary schools, community colleges, and institutions of higher learning place a high value on global cultural competence. There are many examples of innovative programs in this area throughout the state. Universities and colleges in the state have excellent international education programs, including the University of Washington, Washington State University, Cascadia Community College, Pacific Lutheran University, and Seattle University. Seattle Public Schools has five international schools at the

elementary and middle school level that feature language immersion programs. The Washington State Coalition for International Education brings together individuals and organizations committed to expanding international education for students throughout the state at all grade levels, from pre-kindergarten through graduate school. There are also companies and nonprofit organizations that support international education, such as iLEAP, Microsoft, and Boeing.

## Fair Trade Companies: Promoting More than the Bottom Line

Washington has a vibrant fair trade community, including retailers of clothing, handicrafts and food products, as well as producers of goods from chocolate to sports equipment. Washington is known for its many organizations that support fair trade coffee, including groups like Bainbridge Omoetepe, Tony's Coffee, Café Ladro, and Grounds for Change.

The above overview does not provide an exhaustive list of Washington State organizations engaged in global development. For a more comprehensive list, please view the Global Washington Directory online at [globalwa.org/?page\\_id=91](http://globalwa.org/?page_id=91). Also, please see our full recommendations paper, *Global Development through Aid, Partnerships, Trade and Education*, for a greater selection of examples.

effects of global climate change, which threaten to undermine hard-earned development gains, Global Washington recommends that the United States fund mitigation and adaptation programs to moderate adverse impacts and help other countries achieve sustainable reductions in their own emission levels. These funds should be a supplement to rather than a substitute for other development activities. By stimulating domestic production of green energy technologies, fostering international research and education, and expanding U.S. foreign assistance to include technical assistance and financial support for reducing emissions in low income countries, U.S. trade and aid policies can work synergistically to address one of the most pressing issues of this century.



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## Global Washington Recommendations

	TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY	CONSOLIDATION & COORDINATION	LOCAL OWNERSHIP	TARGETING
<b>FOREIGN AID AND DEVELOPMENT POLICY</b>	Develop a national development strategy that aligns with the U.N. Millennium Development Goals. Make information about this strategy, its goals and budget available to the public.	Give USAID autonomy from the Departments of State and Defense so it may effectively oversee the national development strategy. Align policies in other sectors (such as defense and trade) with the goals in this strategy.	Deliver aid according to the priorities of the recipient government. Use and develop local resources as much as possible, including: in-country staff; local contractors to implement programs; and the recipient government's own financial management and procurement systems.	Target aid to countries and communities most in need.
<b>TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT</b>	Make trade preference programs more transparent by streamlining them: expand product coverage and simplify rules of origin for all countries that are eligible for trade preferences. Implement a system of monitoring and evaluation for trade capacity building.	Improve policy coherence between trade and development by considering development outcomes in U.S. trade policy including trade agreements, tariff policy, and export promotion.	Base trade capacity building assistance on the stated needs and priorities of developing countries. Implement a process for countries to document their needs and priorities.	Provide duty and quota free access to the U.S. market for the most poor and vulnerable countries.
<b>PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS</b>	Develop and articulate a vision for public-private partnerships as part of the national global development strategy. Establish a central clearinghouse to publicize opportunities for collaborating with the U.S. government.	Develop a manual of principles and best practices for all government agency partnerships, to standardize partnering with the U.S. government across agencies.	Strengthen local consultation in the determination of partnerships.	Structure partnerships differently according to the situation in different countries — e.g. in the determination of partners, and the degree of risk absorbed by government and non government partners.
<b>GLOBAL EDUCATION</b>	Include global education as a priority in U.S. foreign aid policy. Improve metrics for measuring success in global education. Reduce the complexity of export control regulations to encourage research collaborations with foreign students in key scientific areas.	Improve coordination among all government agencies, including the U.S. Departments of Education, State, Defense, Homeland Security, and USAID, in designing and implementing programs to support global cultural understanding, including foreign language learning.	Increase funding for institutional capacity-building efforts that encourage greater levels of global cultural competence. Increase resources for initiating and managing cutting-edge global education programs based on partnerships with foreign universities, schools, governments, and NGOs.	Continue efforts to ensure flexible visa access to enable students from abroad to study in the United States. Support final passage and timely implementation of the Simon Act, to expand the number of students studying abroad.

For more detail on the recommendations, see the full recommendations paper, *Global Development through Aid, Partnerships, Trade and Education*.

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