

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 29, 2021

The Honorable Chris Coons  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on State, Foreign  
Operations, and Related Programs  
Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, D.C., 20510

The Honorable Lindsey Graham  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on State, Foreign  
Operations, and Related Programs  
Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, D.C., 20510

Dear Chairman Coons and Ranking Member Graham:

We are writing to request that the State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Subcommittee continue funding United States' foreign assistance programs that strengthen U.S. alliances and prevent instability overseas by helping developing countries promote low-emission development, strengthen resilience to extreme weather and natural disasters, address climate change and combat tropical deforestation.

We urge the Subcommittee to provide appropriations for the following programs in Fiscal Year 2022:

- \$2 billion to the Green Climate Fund (GCF)
- \$64 million for the Montreal Protocol Multilateral Fund
- \$21 million for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and UN Framework Convention on Climate Change [International Organizations and Programs]
- \$232 million for international Sustainable Landscapes under Bilateral Economic Assistance
- \$354 million for Clean Energy programs under Bilateral Economic Assistance
- \$222 million for Adaptation programs under Bilateral Economic Assistance
- \$100 million for Multilateral Climate Change Adaptation Funds

We believe that U.S. leadership and support is critical to mitigate humanitarian, natural resource, and economic crises and advances U.S. economic and security interests abroad. These foreign assistance programs help vulnerable populations around the world become more resilient, secure, and strengthens U.S. partnerships and trust in a rapidly changing world. These programs also help developing countries make smart and sustainable energy decisions that reduce global greenhouse gas emissions and improve the stability of at-risk developing countries through improved energy security. Enhancing stability and energy independence in a changing global climate makes America safer.

Specifically, resuming United States' contributions to the Green Climate Fund would send a critically important signal of faith to our international partners that will help restore trust and cooperation among the international community that transcends international climate change

efforts. Projects funded by the Green Climate Fund leverage significant private capital. Continuing U.S. funding to the GCF will help ensure that the United States can maintain its influence on GCF programming as a Board member. We hope the Committee will support the Green Climate Fund in Fiscal Year 2022.

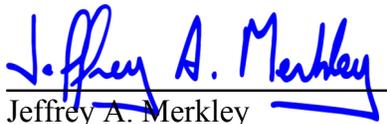
Similarly, the UNFCCC and IPCC are the premier fora for international, collaborative responses to, and improved global scientific understanding of, climate change. The Senate unanimously ratified the UNFCCC treaty in 1992, and the U.S. has pledged to remain engaged with the UNFCCC process under this administration to protect U.S. interests. The IPCC showcases the work of countless leading U.S. scientists, and its Nobel Prize-winning reports are essential to ensuring that climate policy remains grounded in fact.

Renewable energy programs support technological innovation that contributes cleaner air and increased energy access and security in developing countries, fulfilling Congress' vision of helping lift people out of poverty through access to reliable electricity by leveraging private sector and non-governmental investment. Adaptation programs reduce the impact of severe weather and natural disasters on critical infrastructure, agricultural productivity, and public health. Enhancing developing countries' ability to better prepare for disasters saves lives – and is vastly cheaper than responding to disasters once they have occurred. Finally, Sustainable Landscapes programs incent developing countries to reduce emissions and curb deforestation while addressing rural poverty and improving the way lands are managed and harvested – leveraging U.S. funding up to 39 times more funding from other donors.

The Senate Appropriations Committee has a bipartisan record of support for the GCF, UNFCCC, IPCC, and other climate, energy, and biodiversity programs. We urge you to continue these investments in FY22 by providing robust funding for these critically important programs and institutions in the State and Foreign Operations bill.

We appreciate your consideration of this important request.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey A. Merkley  
United States Senator



Benjamin L. Cardin  
United States Senator

/s/ Robert Menendez

---

Robert Menendez  
United States Senator



---

Mazie K. Hirono  
United States Senator

/s/ Tina Smith

---

Tina Smith  
United States Senator

/s/ Sheldon Whitehouse

---

Sheldon Whitehouse  
United States Senator



---

Tim Kaine  
United States Senator



---

Margaret Wood Hassan  
United States Senator



---

Cory A. Booker  
United States Senator

/s/ Kirsten Gillibrand

---

Kirsten Gillibrand  
United States Senator



---

Bernard Sanders  
United States Senator



---

Catherine Cortez Masto  
United States Senator



---

Elizabeth Warren  
United States Senator



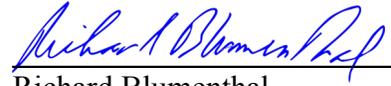
---

Jack Reed  
United States Senator

/s/ Martin Heinrich

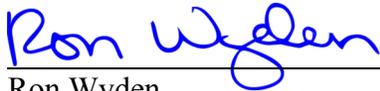
---

Martin Heinrich  
United States Senator



---

Richard Blumenthal  
United States Senator



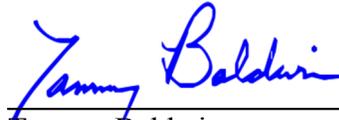
---

Ron Wyden  
United States Senator



---

Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senator



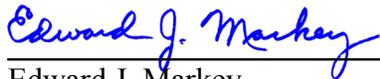
---

Tammy Baldwin  
United States Senator



---

Chris Van Hollen  
United States Senator



---

Edward J. Markey  
United States Senator



---

Christopher S. Murphy  
United States Senator



---

Sherrod Brown  
United States Senator



---

Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

/s/ Brian Schatz

---

Brian Schatz  
United States Senator



---

Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senator

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alex Padilla". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Alex" and last name "Padilla" clearly distinguishable.

---

Alex Padilla  
United States Senator