

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2747

To catalyze market-based economic growth in developing countries, create opportunities for the private sector of the United States to effectively engage in foreign assistance programs, improve planning and coordination among relevant United States departments and agencies, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 25, 2017

Mr. YOHO (for himself, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. RUSH, Mr. THOMAS J. ROONEY of Florida, Mr. ELLISON, and Mr. POLIS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To catalyze market-based economic growth in developing countries, create opportunities for the private sector of the United States to effectively engage in foreign assistance programs, improve planning and coordination among relevant United States departments and agencies, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Economic Growth and
5 Development Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON UNITED STATES DEVELOP-**
2 **MENT ASSISTANCE.**

3 It is the sense of Congress that—

4 (1) United States development assistance—

5 (A) is most effective in countries with gov-
6 ernments that demonstrate a commitment to
7 the rule of law, human rights, investing in their
8 own people, combating corruption, and creating
9 a policy environment and legal framework that
10 enables trade, investment, and enduring eco-
11 nomic growth;

12 (B) is most likely to produce sustainable
13 results when it aligns with the development pri-
14 orities of the recipient country, creates opportu-
15 nities for growth lead by the private sector, and
16 complements rather than replacing government
17 investments in priority sectors through a trans-
18 parent and accountable system of domestic re-
19 source mobilization;

20 (C) should be guided by a unified strategy,
21 ambitious targets, and robust monitoring and
22 evaluation to ensure that it is efficient, effec-
23 tive, and results-oriented;

24 (D) should be targeted in recipient coun-
25 tries in a manner that—

26 (i) advances the rule of law;

1 (ii) builds and strengthens civic insti-
2 tutions and trade capacity;

3 (iii) addresses binding constraints to
4 market-based economic growth;

5 (iv) catalyzes private sector invest-
6 ment in key development areas, such as
7 utilities, infrastructure, agriculture, health,
8 and education;

9 (v) promotes transparency and ac-
10 countability among donors, governments,
11 and citizens; and

12 (vi) places recipient countries on a
13 trajectory toward graduation from foreign
14 assistance; and

15 (E) should prioritize and better coordinate
16 resources that support enhanced trade capacity
17 and facilitate fairer and more sustainable trade
18 with partner countries; and

19 (2) United States development finance pro-
20 grams, which mobilize private capital to achieve de-
21 velopment objectives and may soon outpace tradi-
22 tional grant-based assistance programs in terms of
23 total capital investments, should—

1 (A) be appropriately leveraged to com-
 2 plement, rather than replace, other forms of
 3 private capital;

4 (B) drive inclusive, enduring economic
 5 growth; and

6 (C) have stability and predictability by
 7 being provided a multi-year authorization.

8 **SEC. 3. INTERAGENCY MECHANISM TO COORDINATE**
 9 **UNITED STATES DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS**
 10 **AND PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENT.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall establish a
 12 primary interagency mechanism to coordinate United
 13 States development assistance programs carried out by
 14 Federal departments and agencies engaged in planning or
 15 providing such assistance overseas with the investment ac-
 16 tivities of the private sector.

17 (b) DUTIES.—The interagency mechanism estab-
 18 lished under subsection (a) shall—

19 (1) streamline the private-sector liaison, coordi-
 20 nation, and investment promotion functions of such
 21 Federal departments and agencies;

22 (2) facilitate the use of development and fi-
 23 nance tools across such Federal departments and
 24 agencies to attract greater participation in develop-
 25 ment activities by the private sector; and

1 (3) establish a single point of contact for enti-
2 ties in the private sector of the United States to
3 pursue partnership opportunities with such Federal
4 departments and agencies.

5 (c) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than one year after
6 the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually there-
7 after through 2022, the President shall submit to the
8 Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representa-
9 tives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Sen-
10 ate a report evaluating the progress of the interagency
11 mechanism in carrying out the duties described in sub-
12 section (b).

13 **SEC. 4. DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—The heads of Federal depart-
15 ments and agencies engaged in planning or providing
16 United States development assistance overseas shall en-
17 sure that—

18 (1) a rigorous analysis of the constraints to eco-
19 nomic growth and investment within a country re-
20 ceiving such assistance guides any development
21 strategy of the United States with respect to such
22 country; and

23 (2) the development strategies of the United
24 States are coordinated with activities carried out by
25 the private sector within countries receiving such as-

1 sistance, to the greatest extent practicable and ap-
2 propriate.

3 (b) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—Each analysis re-
4 quired under subsection (a)(1) shall include an identifica-
5 tion and analysis of—

- 6 (1) the constraints posed by inadequacies in
7 critical infrastructure, the education system, the rule
8 of law, the tax and investment codes, or the customs
9 or regulatory regimes in the recipient country; and
10 (2) the particular economic sectors, such as the
11 agriculture, transportation, energy, education, or fi-
12 nancial services sectors, that are central to achieving
13 economic growth in the recipient country.

14 (c) RESULTS.—The results of each analysis required
15 under subsection (a)(1) shall be—

- 16 (1) incorporated into any relevant development
17 strategy, as defined in subsection (d); and
18 (2) used to inform and guide the allocation of
19 resources by Federal departments and agencies en-
20 gaged in planning or providing United States devel-
21 opment assistance overseas.

22 (d) DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY DEFINED.—In this
23 section, the term “development strategy” means any glob-
24 al, sectoral, or country development strategy of the United
25 States and includes any integrated country strategy, re-

- 1 gional or functional strategy, country development co-
- 2 operation strategy, or mission strategic resource plan.

