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Study: Aid reductions imperil millions of lives



A new study by Barcelona Institute for Global Health and other organizations warns abrupt cuts to development aid by major donor countries could cause up to 22.6 million additional deaths in developing countries by 2030, including 5.4 million children under 5. SODIQ ADELAUN/REUTERS

Cuts threaten decades of global health progress

Andrea Shalal
REUTERS

WASHINGTON – Abrupt cuts to development aid by major donor countries could cause up to 22.6 million additional deaths in developing countries by 2030, including 5.4 million children under 5, according to a new study by the Barcelona Institute for Global Health (ISGlobal) and other organizations.

The warning comes as the United States, Britain, Germany and France have each reduced development aid for the first time in nearly three decades and are planning further cuts in 2025. The ISGlobal study said continued cuts could reverse decades of progress in global health and poverty reduction.

The global health research center’s

A severe reduction would involve cuts of up to 25% in the poorest countries and 28% in sub-Saharan Africa. A mild scenario with less severe cuts could result in 9.4 million preventable deaths, including 2.5 million children under 5, they said.

report, a copy of which was viewed by Reuters, examined data from 93 low- and middle-income countries to estimate the impact of further reductions in official development assistance (ODA) in 2025, on top of sharp cuts over the past five years.

It concluded that a severe reduction in that assistance would lead to 22.6 million additional deaths, includ-

ing 5.4 million children under 5, by 2030, significantly higher than the research institute had estimated in a previous study that focused on U.S. cuts.

The authors modeled both a severe and a mild scenario for future aid cuts, along with one that would have maintained 2023 funding levels.

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Human rights and development experts have warned that President Donald Trump’s moves to dismantle USAID and sharply cut its development aid – moves that have been mirrored in other countries – will cause increases in preventable deaths.

The study released on Nov. 17 by a coalition of health and development organizations builds on previous re-

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Tariff rebate checks uncertain

Hannah Hudnall and Marina Johnson
Peoria Journal Star
USA TODAY NETWORK

President Donald Trump announced in a Nov. 9 Truth Social post that millions of Americans would receive \$2000 checks from the success of tariffs.

“People that are against Tariffs are FOOLS!” the president wrote. “We are now the Richest, Most Respected Country In the World, With Almost No Inflation, and A Record Stock Market Price. 401k’s are Highest EVER. We are taking in Trillions of Dollars and will soon begin paying down our ENORMOUS DEBT, \$37 Trillion.”

“A dividend of at least \$2000 a person (not including high income people!) will be paid to everyone,” Trump said.

But will Americans really see these checks? And if so, when? Here’s what we know.

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International enrollment declines at universities

Schools cite concern over visas, travel restrictions

Christopher Cann
USA TODAY

The number of international students newly enrolling in U.S. universities plummeted this fall as foreign-born students navigate visa restrictions and other hurdles imposed by the Trump administration, according to figures released Nov. 17.

The study, conducted by the non-partisan Institute of International Education, said new international student enrollments declined by 17% this year – the largest drop in more than a decade, not including the pandemic.

The study sampled over 800 higher

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