

## Foreign Assistance Data Reporting Guide for ForeignAssistance.gov Users



**Peace Corps**

*This guide is intended to provide users with an overview of the foreign assistance data published to ForeignAssistance.gov for the Peace Corps. This guide is updated on an annual basis, with the last update occurring in September 2019. Any limitations to the agency-reported data are noted in Section 4 of this document*

### 1. Summary of Peace Corps Foreign Assistance Portfolio

As the official international service organization of the United States, the Peace Corps is a leader in international development and citizen diplomacy. For more than 50 years, the Peace Corps has tackled challenges that know no borders—from food security to pandemic disease, from climate change to gender equality and empowerment. Peace Corps Volunteers live in their communities of service and work at the grassroots level with host country governments and local leaders to develop community-driven, sustainable solutions that address challenges in agriculture, community economic development, education, environment, health, and youth development. When Volunteers return to the U.S., they share their stories and experiences, give back to their home communities, help strengthen international ties, and increase U.S. global competitiveness.

The Peace Corps has worked in 140 countries around the world to date. In each country, Volunteers use their skills and abilities to work on priorities established by the host country government and local communities, addressing changing and complex needs. Nearly all Volunteers' work falls into one of the following categories: Economic Development (includes Agriculture), Education and Social Services (includes Youth Development), Environment, and Health. Close to 220,000 Americans have served with the Peace Corps since its establishment in 1961. Led by a Director and Deputy Director appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, the Peace Corps is an independent federal agency.

Funding for these activities comes from the following accounts:

TREASURY ACCOUNT CODE	TREASURY ACCOUNT TITLE	TIMEFRAME REPORTED	REPORTED	% OF TOTAL FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PORTFOLIO
11X0100	Peace Corps, Funds Appropriated to the President	2010-Present	Yes	90%
19X1031	Global Health and Child Survival, State	2010-Present	Yes	8%
72X1021	Development Assistance, Agency for International Development, Funds	2010-Present	Yes	1%

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	Appropriated to the President			
Multiple	Multiple	2010-Present	Yes	1%

### 2. Data Source

The data for Peace Corps' spending by Country and Category on FA.gov is a combination of data from the Agency's financial system for spending by country and the Volunteer tracking system for programmatic information by country. The obligation and spending data reported in FA.gov is extracted from the general ledger budgetary accounts in Peace Corps' financial system. This data is tracked at the source by Appropriation, budget location, object class, and operational area, as described in Section 3 below. The data related to Category is not tracked at the source spending level, so this information is pulled from Peace Corps' human resources system which tracks Volunteer assignments in each country. Peace Corps' programmatic sectors are then mapped to the FA.gov Categories (Health, Education, Economic Development, etc.). The annual percentage distribution of Peace Corps Volunteers in each country across the FA.gov Categories is applied to the spending for each country for the resulting data.

The financial business applications used by Peace Corps to track and report this data are: Oracle Federal Financials, Hyperion Planning and Essbase, and Oracle Human Resources Management System.

### 3. Data Reporting

As Peace Corps Volunteers work around the world to accomplish the agency's mission, the Peace Corps' foreign assistance data shows financial data from each post and domestic office, disaggregated into the nine core operational areas that support its Volunteers:

- **Volunteer Recruitment and Placement** – All costs incurred for recruitment and placement of Peace Corps Volunteers.
- **Program Support** – All costs of operating Peace Corps headquarters, excluding Volunteer Recruitment and Placement, Office of Health Services, and Office of Safety and Security. Includes costs related to salaries and benefits, travel, rent, communications, printing, supplies, equipment, and computer/technical support.
- **Overseas Program Support** – All costs incurred overseas, or funded by headquarters offices, in direct support of overseas programs. Includes overseas staff salaries and support costs, leases, staff travel, communications, conferences, supplies, and equipment. Includes costs for

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- International Cooperative Administrative Support Services (ICASS), the program the U.S. government uses to provide and share the cost of a common administrative platform at overseas missions. Excludes training, medical, and security costs.
- **Direct Volunteer Support** – All costs incurred for direct support of Volunteers, including allowances, travel, supplies, and equipment. Excludes training and medical support costs.
  - **Volunteer In-Service Training** – All costs incurred for training Volunteers during their service, including language tutoring, workshops, and conferences.
  - **Volunteer Pre-Service Training** – All costs incurred for pre-service training, including pre-service training in the U.S., pre-departure staging costs, and pre-service training overseas.
  - **Volunteer Medical Support** – All headquarters and overseas costs associated with the medical support of Volunteers. Includes medical staff and care, staff and Volunteer medical-related travel, Volunteer medevac accompaniment travel, medical supplies, and distinct medical unit costs.
  - **Volunteer Safety and Security** – All costs directly associated with Volunteer and staff safety (preparedness and training) and the physical security of Peace Corps-leased properties. Includes costs of guard services, security staff, security-related travel, supplies, equipment, physical property upgrades, and the Office of Safety and Security.
  - **Other Development Activities** – Costs associated with activities funded under most reimbursable agreements

### 4. Data Reporting Limitations

- There are known data gaps in the data currently reported to ForeignAssistance.gov. The disaggregated (transactional level) data is not currently available due to the difficulty in extracting this data for reporting purposes. The transactional detail in Peace Corps' financial systems is in more than 70 foreign currencies. The general ledger, however, contains the aggregated data in US Dollars and is used for FA.gov reporting purposes. Limitations also exist because the granular level of the micro-purchases (via Agency Purchase Card program, cashier imprest fund, etc.) and Volunteer allowances is not available in a single system.
- Sector-specific data - The data related to Category is not tracked at the source spending level, so this information is pulled from Peace Corps' human resources system which tracks Volunteer assignments in each country. Peace Corps' programmatic sectors are then mapped to the FA.gov Categories (Health, Education, Economic Development, etc.) The annual percentage distribution of Peace Corps Volunteers in each country across the FA.gov Categories is applied to the spending for each country for the resulting data.