

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7738

To require the integration of climate-resilience considerations into all development work of the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 23, 2020

Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Mr. ROONEY of Florida, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. MOORE, Mr. GRJALVA, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Mr. CASE, Mr. TRONE, and Mr. COHEN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To require the integration of climate-resilience considerations into all development work of the United States, 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 “Climate-Resilient
5 International Development Optimization Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. CLIMATE-RESILIENT INTERNATIONAL DEVELOP-**
2 **MENT.**

3 (a) INCORPORATING CLIMATE RESILIENCE INTO
4 INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.—

5 (1) DIRECT INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
6 PROGRAMS AND INVESTMENTS.—The head of each
7 agency with direct international development pro-
8 grams and investments shall carry out the following:

9 (A) Incorporate climate resilience consider-
10 ations into agency decision making to—

11 (i) assess and evaluate climate-related
12 risks to and vulnerabilities in agency strat-
13 egies, planning, programs, projects, invest-
14 ments, overseas facilities, and related fund-
15 ing decisions, using best-available climate-
16 change data, tools, and information, in-
17 cluding such data, tools, and information
18 identified or developed by the Working
19 Group established under subsection (b)(1);
20 and

21 (ii) adjust strategies, planning, pro-
22 grams, projects, investments, and related
23 funding decisions of the agency, including
24 the planning for and management of over-
25 seas facilities, based on the assessments
26 and evaluations referred to in clause (i).

1 (B) Collaborate with the heads of other
2 agencies with direct international development
3 programs and investments, as appropriate, to
4 share knowledge, data, tools, information,
5 frameworks, and lessons learned in incor-
6 porating climate-resilience considerations into
7 agency strategy, planning, programs, projects,
8 investments, and related funding decisions, in-
9 cluding the planning for and management of
10 overseas facilities.

11 (C) Work with other countries, as appro-
12 priate, to—

13 (i) identify climate-related risks;

14 (ii) incorporate climate-resilience con-
15 siderations into international development
16 assistance efforts performed by the agency;
17 and

18 (iii) identify knowledge, practices,
19 tools, and data of such other countries and
20 multilateral organizations that can be used
21 by the United States to improve the activi-
22 ties described in clauses (i) and (ii).

23 (D) Support the efforts of countries that
24 are recipients of international development as-
25 sistance, especially those vulnerable to climatic,

1 weather, and other forms of disruption caused
2 by global climate change, to integrate climate-
3 resilience considerations regarding how to use
4 resources (including the countries' own national
5 resources and those provided by the United
6 States, other countries, and multilateral enti-
7 ties) into national, regional, and sectoral devel-
8 opment planning and action.

9 (E) Support the efforts of multilateral en-
10 tities and other countries in developing and re-
11 ceiving access to knowledge, practices, tools,
12 and data related to identifying climate-related
13 risks and incorporating climate-resilience con-
14 siderations into development programs.

15 (F) Monitor the implementation of sub-
16 paragraphs (A) through (E).

17 (2) DEVELOPMENT THROUGH MULTILATERAL
18 ENTITY PARTICIPATION OR REPRESENTATION.—The
19 head of each agency that participates in a multilat-
20 eral entity shall, as appropriate, carry out the fol-
21 lowing:

22 (A) Encourage the multilateral entity to—
23 (i) assess and evaluate climate-related
24 risks to and vulnerabilities in the strate-
25 gies, planning, programs, projects, invest-

1 ments, and related funding decisions of the
2 entity, using best-available climate-change
3 data, tools, and information, including
4 such data, tools, and information identified
5 or developed by the Working Group; and

6 (ii) adjust the strategies, planning,
7 programs, projects, investments, and re-
8 lated funding decisions of the entity, as ap-
9 propriate, based on the assessments and
10 evaluations referred to in clause (i).

11 (B) Collaborate with the multilateral entity
12 and share with the agencies represented on the
13 Working Group under subsection (b)(3)(B) and
14 other stakeholders the knowledge, data, tools,
15 information, frameworks, and lessons learned
16 from the entity in incorporating the climate-re-
17 silience considerations into strategies, planning,
18 programs, projects, investments, and related
19 funding decisions.

20 (C) Encourage the multilateral entity—

21 (i) to support the efforts of countries
22 to integrate climate-resilience consider-
23 ations into national, regional, and sectoral
24 development planning and actions; and

1 (ii) to promote the development of and
2 access to knowledge, practices, tools, and
3 data needed for such efforts.

4 (D) Learn from the skills, practices, data,
5 and tools of the multilateral entity and other
6 countries and incorporate such lessons into
7 United States-led development missions.

8 (E) Monitor the implementation of sub-
9 paragraphs (A) through (D).

10 (b) WORKING GROUP ON CLIMATE-RESILIENT
11 INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.—

12 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in
13 the Department of the Treasury a Working Group
14 on Climate-Resilient International Development (in
15 this section referred to as “Working Group”).

16 (2) MISSION AND DUTIES.—The Working
17 Group shall carry out the following:

18 (A) Support each agency with direct inter-
19 national development programs and investments
20 by—

21 (i) identifying, as appropriate, the
22 need for new data, tools, and information
23 from the data, tools, and information de-
24 scribed in subsection (a)(1)(A)(i) to be de-
25 veloped by the agency working with a

1 science and security agency or entity to ad-
2 vance the development of such agency;

3 (ii) identifying approaches for adjust-
4 ing strategies, planning, programs,
5 projects, investments, and related funding
6 decisions described in clause (ii) of sub-
7 section (a)(1)(A) in response to the find-
8 ings of climate-risk assessments described
9 in clause (i) of such subsection;

10 (iii) facilitating the exchange of
11 knowledge, data, tools, information, frame-
12 works, and lessons learned in assessing cli-
13 mate risks to and incorporating climate-re-
14 siliency considerations into strategies, plan-
15 ning, programs, projects, investments, and
16 related funding decisions of the agency de-
17 scribed in subsection (a)(1)(A); and

18 (iv) developing methods for tracking
19 and reporting on actions to institutionalize
20 climate-resilient development approaches,
21 including performance metrics and meth-
22 odologies for assessing climate-related risks
23 and making cost-benefit analysis.

24 (B) Support each agency with direct inter-
25 national development programs and investments

1 by identifying ways each such agency may work
2 with multilateral entities and other countries to
3 receive, share, and review best practices to fa-
4 cilitate advancement of climate-resilient devel-
5 opment policies.

6 (C) Support each agency with direct inter-
7 national development programs and investments
8 by identifying ways each such agency may share
9 with multilateral entities and other countries, as
10 appropriate, and make publicly available to the
11 extent possible, data, tools, and information
12 used pursuant to subsection (a)(2)(A)(i).

13 (D) Promote interagency collaboration, in-
14 cluding through joint training.

15 (E) Identify and develop, as appropriate,
16 guidelines for incorporating considerations of
17 climate-change risks and climate resilience into
18 agency strategies, plans, programs, projects, in-
19 vestments, and related funding decisions de-
20 scribed in subsection (a)(1)(A).

21 (F) Identify and assess, as appropriate, ex-
22 isting climate-change data, decision-support
23 tools, and information described in subsection
24 (a)(1)(A)(i) to—

1 (i) help the Working Group assess cli-
2 mate risks and make decisions that incor-
3 porate climate-resilience considerations, in-
4 cluding project screening; and

5 (ii) allow the screening for and incor-
6 poration of considerations of climate-
7 change risks and vulnerabilities by the
8 Working Group in strategies, plans, pro-
9 grams, projects, investments, and related
10 funding decisions.

11 (G) Coordinate efforts, including efforts
12 pursuant to Executive Order 13653 (78 Fed.
13 Reg. 66817) as in effect on November 1, 2013,
14 between representatives of the Working Group
15 with decision makers in multilateral entities,
16 donor countries, and recipient countries to—

17 (i) share data, tools, and information
18 described in subparagraph (F); and

19 (ii) increase information on climate-
20 change impacts for providers and users.

21 (H) Work with the heads of agencies with
22 direct international development programs and
23 investments and the heads of agencies that par-
24 ticipate in a multilateral entities to provide, not
25 later than 2 years after the date of the enact-

1 ment of this Act, training for personnel of such
2 agencies with respect to integrating climate-re-
3 silience considerations into international devel-
4 opment assistance efforts performed by such
5 agencies (and the heads of such agencies shall
6 cooperate with the Working Group in providing
7 such training).

8 (3) MEMBERSHIP.—

9 (A) CO-CHAIRS.—The Working Group
10 shall be co-chaired by the following:

11 (i) The Secretary of the Treasury, or
12 the Secretary's designee.

13 (ii) The Administrator of the United
14 States Agency for International Develop-
15 ment, or the Administrator's designee.

16 (B) REPRESENTATIVES.—

17 (i) IN GENERAL.—The Working
18 Group shall be composed of one represent-
19 ative from—

20 (I) each agency that participates
21 in a multilateral entity, including each
22 agency or entity determined by the co-
23 chairs of the Working Group pursuant
24 to subsection (f)(2)(C);

1 (II) each agency with direct
2 international development programs
3 and investments, including each agen-
4 cy or entity determined by the co-
5 chairs of the Working Group pursuant
6 to subsection (f)(3)(H);

7 (III) each science and security
8 agency or entity, including each agen-
9 cy or entity determined by the co-
10 chairs of the Working Group pursuant
11 to subsection (f)(7)(H); and

12 (IV) the Council on Environ-
13 mental Quality or another agency or
14 office in the Executive Office of the
15 President, as determined by the Presi-
16 dent.

17 (ii) AGENCIES WITH MULTIPLE
18 PLACEMENTS.—The head of any agency
19 that is represented on the Working Group
20 as described in more than one category
21 listed in clause (i) may decide—

22 (I) to be represented by a sepa-
23 rate representative for each such cat-
24 egory; or

1 (II) to be represented by a single
2 representative for two or more such
3 categories.

4 (iii) QUALIFICATION AND APPOINT-
5 MENT.—Each representative of an agency
6 or office under clause (i) shall be a senior
7 official of such agency or office, to be ap-
8 pointed by the head of the agency or office.

9 (c) IMPLEMENTATION AND REPORTING OF
10 PROGRESS.—

11 (1) IMPLEMENTATION.—To promote implemen-
12 tation by each agency or entity with representation
13 in the Working Group, the Working Group shall
14 carry out the following:

15 (A) Establish a 2-year timeline to imple-
16 ment subsection (b)(2), including biannual ob-
17 jectives for each agency or entity.

18 (B) Analyze, at least annually, the Work-
19 ing Group's progress in implementing this sec-
20 tion and provide recommendations for priority
21 areas for further implementation to the fol-
22 lowing:

23 (i) The Office of Management and
24 Budget.

25 (ii) The National Security Council.

1 (iii) The Council on Environmental
2 Quality.

3 (iv) The Office of Science and Tech-
4 nology Policy.

5 (v) Other agencies, offices, and enti-
6 ties, as the Working Group determines ap-
7 propriate.

8 (2) REPORTING.—

9 (A) AGENCY WITH DIRECT INTER-
10 NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND IN-
11 VESTMENTS.—

12 (i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1
13 year after the date of the enactment of this
14 Act, and annually thereafter, the head of
15 each agency with direct international devel-
16 opment programs and investments shall
17 submit to the Working Group a report that
18 includes the following information:

19 (I) The progress of the agency in
20 achieving the requirements specified
21 in subparagraphs (A) through (E) of
22 subsection (a)(1).

23 (II) The planned and accom-
24 plished biennial objectives referred to
25 in paragraph (1)(A) for the agency

1 with direct international development
2 programs and investments.

3 (ii) METRICS.—Not later than 1 year
4 after the date on which the Working Group
5 develops methods as required by subsection
6 (b)(2)(A)(iv), the head of each agency with
7 direct international development programs
8 and investments shall include in the report
9 under clause (i) an estimate of the fol-
10 lowing:

11 (I) The proportion of the direct
12 international development programs
13 and investments for which the agency
14 conducted climate-risk assessments.

15 (II) The proportion of the pro-
16 grams and investments for which cli-
17 mate risk was identified and acted
18 upon.

19 (III) Any other metrics the co-
20 chairs determine to be relevant.

21 (B) AGENCY THAT PARTICIPATES IN A
22 MULTILATERAL ENTITY.—

23 (i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2
24 years after the date of enactment of this
25 Act, and annually thereafter, and except as

1 provided in clause (ii), the head of each
2 agency that participates in a multilateral
3 entity shall submit to the Working Group
4 a report on the progress of the agency
5 achieving the requirements of subpara-
6 graphs (A) through (D) of subsection
7 (a)(2).

8 (ii) MULTIPLE AGENCIES.—In the
9 case in which more than one agency par-
10 ticipates in a multilateral entity, the co-
11 chairs of the Working Group shall des-
12 ignate one agency to be responsible for
13 submitting the report required by clause
14 (i).

15 (C) FEDERAL AGENCY PLANNING PROC-
16 ESS.—An agency described in subparagraphs
17 (A) and (B) shall report through the Federal
18 Agency Planning process under section 5 of Ex-
19 ecutive Order 13653 (78 Fed. Reg. 66817) as
20 in effect on November 1, 2013.

21 (3) WORKING GROUP REPORTING.—Not later
22 than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this
23 Act, and annually thereafter, the Working Group
24 shall submit to Congress and make publicly available
25 a report on its mission and duties under subsection

1 (b)(2) and which includes a summary and analysis
2 of all reports submitted to the Working Group under
3 subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (2).

4 (d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—This Act shall be im-
5 plemented consistent with the obligations of the United
6 States under international agreements and applicable
7 United States law.

8 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
9 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act such
10 sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2021
11 to 2030.

12 (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

13 (1) ADAPTATION.—The term “adaption” means
14 an adjustment in natural or human systems in an-
15 ticipation of or response to a changing environment
16 in a way that effectively uses beneficial opportunities
17 or reduces negative effects.

18 (2) AGENCY THAT PARTICIPATES IN A MULTI-
19 LATERAL ENTITY.—The term “agency that partici-
20 pates in a multilateral entity” means—

21 (A) the Department of State;

22 (B) the Department of the Treasury; and

23 (C) any other Federal agency or entity
24 that participates in a multilateral entity, as de-

1 terminated by the co-chairs of the Working
2 Group.

3 (3) AGENCY WITH DIRECT INTERNATIONAL DE-
4 VELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND INVESTMENTS.—The
5 term “agency with direct international development
6 programs and investments” means—

7 (A) the Department of Agriculture;

8 (B) the Department of the Interior;

9 (C) the Department of State;

10 (D) the Millennium Challenge Corporation;

11 (E) the United States International Devel-
12 opment Finance Corporation, or any successor
13 thereto;

14 (F) the United States Agency for Inter-
15 national Development;

16 (G) the United States Trade and Develop-
17 ment Agency; and

18 (H) any other agency or entity with direct
19 international development programs and invest-
20 ments, as determined by the co-chairs of the
21 Working Group.

22 (4) CLIMATE RESILIENCE.—

23 (A) IN GENERAL.—The terms “climate re-
24 silience”, “climate-resilience”, and “climate-re-
25 siliant” refer to policies that promote the resil-

1 ience of a community to the sudden and grad-
2 ual impacts associated with climate change that
3 can reasonably be anticipated, using the best
4 available science, to be at risk of occurring over
5 the life of the project or program, including
6 physical and social effects and also direct and
7 compound effects of climate change.

8 (B) RESILIENCE.—In subparagraph (A),
9 the term “resilience” means the ability to an-
10 ticipate, prepare for, and adapt to changing
11 conditions and withstand, respond to, and re-
12 cover rapidly from disruptions.

13 (C) LIFE OF THE PROJECT OR PRO-
14 GRAM.—In subparagraph (A), the term “life of
15 the project or program” means, with respect to
16 any project or program for construction or re-
17 pair of infrastructure, the expected life of such
18 infrastructure.

19 (5) DIRECT INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
20 PROGRAMS AND INVESTMENTS.—The term “direct
21 international development programs and invest-
22 ments” means—

23 (A) bilateral, regional, and multilateral
24 international development programs and invest-
25 ments over which agencies have primary pro-

1 grammatic and financial management respon-
2 sibilities; or

3 (B) the bilateral extension of official fi-
4 nancing by an agency to private sector investors
5 to support international development.

6 (6) MULTILATERAL ENTITY.—The term “multi-
7 lateral entity” means—

8 (A) the World Bank Group;

9 (B) the Inter-American Development Bank
10 Group;

11 (C) the Asian Development Bank;

12 (D) the African Development Bank;

13 (E) the European Bank for Reconstruction
14 and Development;

15 (F) the Green Climate Fund;

16 (G) the Global Environmental Facility;

17 (H) the International Fund for Agricul-
18 tural Development; or

19 (I) any other—

20 (i) multilateral development bank;

21 (ii) United Nations organization; or

22 (iii) multilateral development or cli-
23 mate entity, as determined by the co-chairs
24 of the Working Group.

1 (7) SCIENCE AND SECURITY AGENCY OR ENTI-
2 TY.—The term “science and security agency or enti-
3 ty” means—

4 (A) the Department of Energy;

5 (B) the Department of the Interior;

6 (C) the National Oceanic and Atmospheric
7 Administration;

8 (D) the National Aeronautics and Space
9 Administration;

10 (E) the Office of the Director of National
11 Intelligence;

12 (F) the Office of Science and Technology
13 Policy;

14 (G) the United States Global Change Re-
15 search Program; and

16 (H) any other relevant agency and entity,
17 as determined by the co-chairs of the Working
18 Group.

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