

What People Are Saying About MCC

“One of the programs that we have, the Millennium Challenge Account, requires that countries meet a certain level of anticorruption standards, and we are trying to promote that. We are looking for ways to link more of our aid to demonstrations that the aid gets to where it’s intended and that it doesn’t get siphoned off, as too often has been the case.”

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton
Manila, Philippines, November 13, 2009

“Another example of trade-related assistance is our Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) programs. These programs enhance economic growth in a way that delivers tangible benefits to the poor. MCC partner countries have prioritized Aid for Trade in their proposals. More than half of all the funds MCC has obligated from 2005-2008 fall within Aid for Trade.”

Tim Reif, General Counsel, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative
During testimony before Committee on House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Trade, November 17, 2009

“Businesses play a large role in delivering foreign assistance, but they need strategic partners too. We are committed to working with MCC to promote effective public private partnerships for emerging market development.”

Stephen Jordan, Senior Vice President and Executive Director
Business Civic Leadership Center
November 24, 2009

“MCC emphasizes accountability, not just counting the number of schools constructed in poor communities, but finding out if students grow up to increase their incomes and care for their families. The new development model demands we think holistically of results... As my tenure on MCC’s Board ends, the debate about reforming development assistance continues. Those in that debate should learn from and embrace MCC’s innovations in practicing smart development.”

Catholic Relief Services President Ken Hackett
Foreign Policy Journal op-ed: *A Front Row Seat on Smart Development*, November 14, 2009

“I see progress also through the U.S. government’s Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), an innovative approach to aid that partners with countries willing to practice sound policies and build the capacity to implement solutions for growth determined by their own citizens. Cape Verde is among the first countries to qualify for MCC assistance, investing its \$110 million grant to build roads, modernize the Port of Praia, spur private-sector development and boost the agricultural productivity of farmers.”

U.S. Ambassador to Cape Verde Marianne M. Myles
Providence Journal op-ed: *Cape Verde: Inspiring African success story*, November 19, 2009

“We are particularly focused on those areas that we believe will do the most to promote strong, country-led, sustainable and inclusive growth... On infrastructure, the U.S. is investing heavily through the Millennium Challenge Corporation... Tanzania continues to score exceptionally well relative to its peers in the U.S. Millennium Challenge Corporation’s ratings. Recognizing the progress made in Tanzania, the U.S. is supporting the country’s efforts to improve its infrastructure with a \$698 million MCC grant, the largest in the world. These funds support Tanzania’s investments in roads, energy, and water, which have been previous barriers to growth.”

Acting Assistant Secretary of Treasury Andrew Baukol
Brookings Institution panel “*Beyond the Crisis: Sustaining Growth in Sub-Saharan Africa*”
November 19, 2009

“The MCC has made great strides in making the connection between the private sector and international development agencies. The Chamber looks forward to working with Mr. Yohannes and his team to help further the role of the private sector in international economic development.”

Myron Brilliant, Senior Vice President for International
U.S. Chamber of Commerce, November 24, 2009

“Developmental assistance defined by blind grants and hard power were replaced with accountability, economic sustainability and the “soft power” of health and education. This tectonic shift has been institutionalized by new creations such as the Millennium Challenge Corporation, a transformative government entity whose mission is to lift people out of poverty globally.”

Senator Bill Frist
The Wall Street Journal: *Back Where We Started*
December 21, 2009

“One of the best American foreign aid programs is the Millennium Challenge effort, and it has nudged recipients to amend legal codes to protect women. For example, Lesotho wanted Millennium Challenge money but did not allow women to buy land or borrow money without a husband’s permission. So the United States pushed Lesotho to change the law, and in its eagerness to get the funding it did so.”

Nicholas D. Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn
Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide

“The coordination between MCC and PEPFAR to help the government and people of Lesotho overcome the HIV/AIDS crisis is one of the best I’ve seen in all my years of service... Both MCC and PEPFAR are contributing their unique core competencies to a complementary synergy of action that is saving lives... Ultimately, such strong MCC-PEPFAR coordination will allow many more babies to be born HIV-free and enjoy a healthy start on life... It is a model of smart coordination worth emulating elsewhere around the world.”

U.S. Ambassador to Lesotho Robert B. Nolan
All Africa op-ed: *Lessons From Lesotho - Smart Coordination to Save Lives*, December 7, 2009

“Representing a significant number of Cape Verdean-Americans who live in Rhode Island’s First Congressional District, I had an opportunity to visit Cape Verde and was greatly impressed by the professionalism with which Millennium Challenge Corporation projects were executed by the Cape Verdean government. I am pleased that the MCC has chosen to recognize Cape Verde’s proven track record of economic growth, social justice, and rule of law as a major success story for Africa.”

Congressman Patrick J. Kennedy
December 14, 2009