

What People Are Saying About MCC

"I commended the Prime Minister on Cape Verde's economic advances, and of course, its successful implementation of the Millennium Challenge Corporation compact. Cape Verde was the first of three countries to receive an MCC compact. It has been very successful. The 5-year, \$110 million compact, which began in 2005, is improving access to credit, markets, and social services, increasing agricultural productivity, expanding roads and the country's infrastructure, and helping to carry out key policy reforms for sustainable development. I appreciated the Prime Minister describing to me how the Millennium Challenge process has helped to transform the government of Cape Verde: more accountability, more transparency, more results. And that, as I told the Prime Minister, was music to my ears."

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton *after meeting with Cape Verde's Prime Minister Maria Pereira Neves in Sal, Cape Verde*
August 14, 2009

"... We must improve our development assistance so that it's transparent and accountable to the Africans it's designed to serve. Equally important, it means complementing this aid with our full array of non-aid tools--strengthening trade through the removal of barriers, working with Africa to increase trade capacity and to encourage trade between African countries, providing loan guarantees to attract more foreign direct investment and financing for low-cost energy infrastructure, and taking meaningful action to hunt down Africa's looted assets. The Millennium Challenge Corporation... and the Obama Administration's new long-term agriculture initiative unveiled at the G8 in July, are strong examples of a comprehensive approach that puts developing countries in the driver's seat."

President and CEO of ONE David Lane
The Huffington Post: *Tough Talk on Africa is a Two-Way Street*
August 12, 2009

"President Obama has an opportunity to make PEPFAR more effective by moving from emergency to long-term support--as in the Millennium Challenge Corporation's five-year partnership model, with each country taking ownership of the design of its programs."

Liberia's President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, Rwanda's President Paul Kagame, Botswana's President Seretse Khama Ian Khama, and Senegal's President Abdoulaye Wade
Forbes.com op-ed: *Partnership Not Patronage*
August 3, 2009

"I got involved because I think it is a real answer to foreign aid. It's foreign aid with accountability. I thought the whole idea of having outside board members with independence...I thought the idea of giving money to countries not just because we think this is what they need but because of what they really want and...the most important part is that they just don't send checks out to countries and then afterwards we bear the responsibility of graft and corruption and everything else, it is done...very meticulously."

Alan Patricof, explaining why he is an MCC board member
CNBC: *Squawk Box*
August 11, 2009

“The U.S. Government’s Millennium Challenge Corporation takes an innovative approach to strengthening the policy environment for global health. From the outset, the corporation evaluates a country’s immunization rates, total public expenditure on health, and commitment to combating corruption to determine where to invest its development grants. This smart approach ensures that U.S. dollars are spent wisely in countries already taking steps to do their part to strengthen the health of their citizens. Many of the principles embodied by the corporation inform the ongoing debate about foreign aid, including a foreign assistance reform bill recently unveiled by Senators Kerry and Richard Lugar. The corporation is an incubator of sorts, testing ideas, using incentives for good policies, applying rigorous measures to evaluate projects, practicing candor. Requiring country-led development and accountability as the corporation does is difficult, but it is proving effective in delivering development assistance that is improving the lives of the poor, including their health.”

Senator Bill Frist

The Boston Globe: *Global healthcare takes more than a pill*
August 13, 2009

“Many things find a comfortable home in the Americas. I challenge all of us here today to ensure... that systematic poverty is not one of them. Let’s work together with passion and energy to maximize the knowledge and programs at our disposal. Let’s work together to ensure that we are putting solutions to work for the people of this region. Let’s continue to work together so that the vision of a prosperous, united and peaceful hemisphere can guide us forward. And I’m very thankful for the Millennium Challenge Corporation for all the work that you’re doing. Congratulations, really. This is what we need to have. I am pleased that you are doing it...”

Ambassador and Andean Parliament President

Ivonne A-Baki

August 13, 2009

“There has been institutional improvement in that continent on many, many governments, and I think part of the achievement... [is] the Millennium Challenge accounts, which tied aid to that institutional reform, and she’s building on that I think, the Obama Administration as well.”

David Brooks of The New York Times, commenting on Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton’s trip to Africa

The Newshour with Jim Lehrer
August 14, 2009

“Exploring public-private partnerships of resources is a good place to start. I continue to see their viability firsthand through my work with the U.S. government’s Millennium Challenge Corporation, an innovative development assistance program that awards grants to countries that practice good governance, fight corruption, invest in the skills and health of their citizens, and promote economic freedom. Smart assistance like this is building the institutional capacity and competitiveness of partner countries to attract private-sector investments.”

Alan Patricof

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: *The G-20 vs. poverty*
August 31, 2009