



TALKING POINTS: Why U.S. Nonprofit Service Organizations Matter

*Adaptable messages for audiences skeptical of 'NGOs'; Uses "American nonprofit service organizations" instead of 'NGOs' and replaces controversial phrases like "foreign aid." These are **internal** talking points for Members to use with key audiences. **Not to be distributed.***

American nonprofits reflect U.S. leadership and values in action.

Led by Americans and governed under U.S. law, they deliver lifesaving assistance and demonstrate credible, principled leadership in the world's most fragile settings.

They operate effectively where others often cannot.

U.S. nonprofits work in high-risk, complex environments where governments, multilaterals, and contractors may lack access or flexibility—allowing them to move quickly and adapt locally.

They expand U.S. impact while safeguarding taxpayer dollars.

By mobilizing more than \$12 billion annually in private funding, American nonprofits extend the reach of U.S. assistance and deliver strong value for money.

Support for American nonprofits is bipartisan and nationwide.

These organizations employ Americans, deliver results efficiently, and protect donor and taxpayer resources. Their work is backed by millions across all 50 states—InterAction's five largest members alone engage 3.5 million donors and supporters—with sustained public support for humanitarian response both overseas and at home.

Reducing reliance on U.S. nonprofits weakens effectiveness and oversight.

Shifting funding toward large multilaterals, government-to-government channels, or for-profit contractors often reduces efficiency, transparency, and accountability without improving outcomes. Claims that nonprofits are wasteful are inaccurate.

American nonprofits operate with some of the strongest audit, compliance, reporting, and evaluation systems in the aid ecosystem, and undermining trust ignores clear evidence of robust controls.

U.S. nonprofits help prevent waste, fraud, and abuse.

Their local presence, independent monitoring, and evaluation expertise enable early detection of misuse—while centralized funding flows without these safeguards increase risk.

The solution is to strengthen—not sideline—U.S. nonprofit partners.

Reaffirming them as preferred partners, restoring workable visa pathways, and engaging them as allies in oversight and accountability will produce more effective, transparent, and credible U.S. engagement abroad.