



## **BACKGROUND**

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### **ONE SHARED WORLD <sup>SM</sup> Educates, Highlights Global Commonalities**

As the world “globalizes” through trade, travel and communication, our national borders are, in a sense, melting away. The coffee we drink, the shoes we wear, the customer service line we call—all link us to people throughout the world. Global poverty links us too. What happens abroad affects our health, our jobs, our environment, our security, our way of life.

But individuals and organizations can make a difference.

That’s why four national women’s organizations have come together in an unprecedented partnership to support *One Shared World*, a new national campaign to help raise awareness of global poverty and America’s efforts to tackle it. *One Shared World* seeks to engage American working women in thinking about and supporting the many public and private development assistance efforts that help people in developing countries to live better, healthier and more secure lives.

Key partners in *One Shared World* are the American Association of University Women (AAUW), American Women in Radio and Television (AWRT), the National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO) and the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW). The nonprofit Academy for Educational Development (AED) developed and manages *One Shared World* on behalf of the funder, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Development assistance—or helping people help themselves—is key to improving the lives of people in emerging economies. Almost two-thirds of the world’s population lives on less than \$2 a day. Families are hard pressed, at this level of income, to meet their daily needs for food and shelter. Development assistance encompasses the many ways the U.S. and other countries work to improve the conditions of the lives of poor people in poor countries and help them and their nations become self-sufficient.

Individuals and organizations interested in learning more about America’s efforts to tackle global poverty—and what they can do to help—can find a wealth of information and resources on the campaign’s Web site, [www.onesharedworld.org](http://www.onesharedworld.org).