

Aiding Africa

Marian Tupy is wrong to suggest that supporting African development cannot be a matter of both justice and of economic and national security, as he does in his April 22 op-ed "[Is Aid a Matter of Justice?](#)" At ONE, the advocacy group founded by Bono and supported by more than two million members, we profoundly believe that it can and must be about both.

Far from only advocating for aid as the solution to all of Africa's ills, as Mr. Tupy suggests we do, we place a strong focus on other key issues such as stimulating trade and investment, and promoting better governance.

But until poor countries are able to generate enough revenue through trade and taxation, development assistance has a place. The key is to make that assistance work better. The new, smarter aid is being used as a reforming tool, supporting the efforts of African citizens to demand transparency from their governments, and hold them to account.

As Bono wrote in a New York Times op-ed recently, the aim of aid should be to make a difference, then to put itself out of business in a decade or two. Ultimately our aim should be to "make aid history."

Oliver Buston,

Europe director for ONE

London