



OFFICE OF LOCAL SUSTAINABILITY

Leading USAID's locally led development efforts

February 2019



Vietnamese teachers and volunteers transform coal-fueled cook stoves into plant pots through the USAID's Local Works program.

Apply Today for Local Works

The Office of Local Sustainability (E3/LS) is pleased to announce the fourth round of Local Works, USAID's flagship program designed to advance locally led development. Local Works also strengthens the Agency's ability to enhance self-reliance and empower local actors to take the lead in addressing development challenges. Local Works provides resources to

missions that assist them in expanding and deepening relationships with local actors. Qualified organizations are also invited to submit unsolicited proposals. The deadline for USAID missions to submit letters of interest is **April 10, 2019**. [Click here](#) for more information and guidance on how to apply.



Cooperative Development Research Forum

In December, the Overseas Cooperative Development Council's (OCDC) Research Group hosted a forum for implementing partners and interagency stakeholders in Alexandria, Virginia. The forum proceedings focused on disseminating findings from global cooperative development research specifically related to the performance, resilience, and social capital of agricultural cooperatives

across eastern and southern Africa. Approximately 50 cooperative development experts participated. Learn more about OCDC's initiatives [here](#) - and visit USAID's [Cooperative Development Program](#) here.

Small Project Assistance (SPA) Program - Call for Mission Participation

In November, E3/LS released new [guidance](#)* for its [SPA](#) program *(*Internal USAID staff only*). All countries where Peace Corps operates are eligible to participate. Planned field support requests should be entered into the field support database (FS-AID) by the missions and authorized by the appropriate regional bureau no later than March 8, 2019. For assistance or more information, email localsustainability@usaid.gov.

Applying Systems Thinking

[LINC](#), one of E3/LS' four [co-created research initiatives](#), recently delivered a [presentation](#) for the USAID Local Systems community on the successes and challenges in applying systems thinking practices to locally led development initiatives. Drawing from its experiences in Africa, Latin America, and Asia, LINC highlighted various approaches that development practitioners can employ to democratize systems thinking tools and methods to maximize local ownership of these approaches.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

From the Field

- USAID/Vietnam received a letter of appreciation from the Hoan Kiem District People's Committee acknowledging the close and productive partnership between the Government of Vietnam and USAID through the [Local Works](#) program. Along with other local partners, the Local Works grantee, [Live and Learn](#), helped 50% of households in Hanoi's Hoan Kiem district to switch from carbon-emitting coal-fired cook stoves to environmentally friendly stoves within the past year. Based on the success of the pilot work in Hoan Kiem, the Ha Noi Environmental Agency is planning to eliminate coal-fired cook stoves in Hanoi by 2020.
- USAID/Burma issued a [press release](#) in December announcing its participation in the [Local Works](#) program. The Mission will empower local people to identify and implement interventions for the drug epidemic and HIV prevalence in Kachin State.
- In January, USAID/Guatemala finalized a Indigenous Peoples' Engagement Strategy, the first of its kind worldwide. In support of the strategy's implementation, USAID will use [Local Works](#) funding. To inform implementation, the Mission hosted the Agency's Indigenous Advisor, a policy expert, and Local Works specialist, who met with mission staff, provided an indigenous issues training, and visited a region with majority indigenous populations. During their visit, they developed recommendations for implementing the new strategy.
- Funded by the [Local Works](#) program, [World Connect](#) aims to advance locally led development in Malawi by working with communities using participatory and human-centered design techniques, giving communities an opportunity to define, design, and lead solutions to challenges that they encounter. In 2018, World Connect funded 22 Local Works projects.
- "[How to Go Local](#)", by development scholar Yuen Yuen Ang, traces the development community's efforts to build local context into programming - and provides three key ideas to "make details matter."

Policies and Strategies

- Read the USAID Bureau for Policy, Planning and Learning's [Discussion Note](#)* on Integrating the Journey to Self-Reliance into Project Design *(*For internal USAID staff only*). E3/LS participated in the development of this Note, which offers practical suggestions on how to integrate Journey to Self-Reliance concepts such as locally led development, local ownership, and engaging local systems in project design.

- USAID published its first-ever [Acquisition and Assistance \(A&A\) Strategy](#) which outlines the key changes USAID will make to better equip its A&A workforce and systems to advance self-reliance. The Strategy emphasizes flexibility, adaptability, diversifying the USAID's partner base, and integrating locally led development into assistance delivery to help partner countries become self-reliant.

Locally Led Development Opportunities

- USAID's [Development Innovation Ventures](#) (DIV) is accepting applications to test and scale creative solutions to any global development challenge. DIV provides flexible, tiered grants (\$100,000 to \$5,000,000) to any organization in any country where USAID works for innovations with rigorous evidence of impact, cost-effectiveness, and a pathway to scale.
- "[Commercially Viable, Conflict-Free Gold](#)" discusses USAID/Democratic Republic of Congo's use of the Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) to address market-based approaches to break the link between conflict and the gold trade. E3/LS facilitated the co-creation workshop last year. For more on the [BAA](#) and co-creation, or to request facilitation assistance, contact localsustainability@usaid.gov.

SAVE THE DATE

February

26

[Webinars: Q&A with Local Works DC](#) **(For internal USAID staff only)*
8:00am-9:00am EST
9:00pm-10:00pm EST

February

28

[Panel Discussion: Sustainable Supply Chain Development](#) **(Open to public)*
8:30am-11:00am EST

March

5

[Webinar: Q&A with Local Works DC](#) **(Open to public)*
9:00am-10:00am EST

March

26

[Webinars: Q&A with Local Works DC](#) **(For internal USAID staff only)*
8:00am-9:00am EST
9:00pm-10:00pm EST

April

10

[Local Works](#) Application Deadline for USAID missions



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view our knowledge
products

**(For internal USAID staff)*



Questions?
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