



TRANSFORMING OUR PROGRAMS

EFFECTIVE PARTNERING AND PROCUREMENT REFORM

“We could help our partners by prioritizing programs that show measurable impact, incentivize reform, diversify our partner base, foster local capacity-building, and mobilize their own domestic resources.”

-USAID Administrator Mark Green

VISION

As USAID orients toward creating conditions whereby we can end the need for foreign assistance, our central programming approaches must reflect the principles of supporting locally-led development and long-term sustainability. This approach must prioritize excellence in program design and elevation of procurement approaches that enable flexibility, innovation, and diversification of our partner base. The Transformation Task Team’s Effective Partnering and Procurement Reform (EPPR) team, in consultation with both cross-Agency and external partners, is developing an Agency-wide Acquisition and Assistance (A&A) Strategy and a set of actionable reform recommendations to transform our procurement and partnering approaches and achieve greater development outcomes.

APPROACH

The Effective Partnering and Procurement Reform (EPPR) team, through the Agency’s Transformation team, took a consultative approach, collaborating with USAID’s staff and partner community, to develop the draft Acquisition and Assistance strategy and is currently preparing reform recommendations. In February 2018, the EPPR team launched an external listening tour and met with more than 250 individuals from our partner organizations and development thought leaders. Cross-Agency working groups reviewed the extensive input from staff and partners, and an External Listing Tour report was developed and shared amongst partners and Congressional committees, and later the public.

Photo: Wikimedia.org/Peter Alcock

In the beginning stages of EPPR, four working groups were created and staffed with a wide range of technical experts from both USAID Washington and USAID Missions. These groups engaged on four thematic challenges: Collaborative and Diverse Partnering; Supporting Local Partners; Strategic and Efficient Partnering; and Adaptive Partnering. Through these groups a series of draft recommendations were developed and are being further refined through Agency leadership consultations.

The Acquisition and Assistance Strategy is our first ever Agency wide strategy that describes how we will approach our core work of partnering and procurement. The strategy outlines the shifts we will need to make to ensure the Agency's business model is set up to make us a better partner and move concretely towards the goal of ending the need for foreign assistance and truly assisting countries with their Journey to Self Reliance.

KEY SHIFTS

1. Diversify the Partner Base
 - a. Engaging New and Underutilized Partners
 - b. Working with Local and Locally Established Partners
 - c. Strengthen engagement with the Private Sector
2. Changing How We Partner
 - a. Diversify approaches to design, solicitation and award.
 - b. More effective use of co-creation and collaboration
3. Connecting Project Design, Procurement and Implementation
 - a. Reducing time from design to procurement
 - b. Linking design and implementation through flexible procurement approaches
 - c. Facilitating adaptive management in our awards
 - d. Using data more effectively
4. Focusing on Value
 - a. Reduce process bureaucracy in the Agency
 - b. Better use of past performance evaluations
 - c. Use of Category Management to be an effective steward of taxpayer dollars
5. Enabling and Equipping the Workforce
 - a. Modernizing our Core Functions
 - b. Equipping the Workforce for the USAID of tomorrow

AGENCY PRIORITY GOAL

By September 30, 2019, USAID will have increased the use of collaborative partnering methods and co-creation within new awards by 10 percent, measured by dollars and percentage of procurement actions.

EPPR TEAM

Project Managers: Matt Johnson, Paul Burford, Erik Singer, and Monica Matts

Deputy Coordinator: Roman Napoli

Senior Leader Champions: Randy Tift and Gloria Steele

Mission Director Liaisons: Alex Deprez and Elizabeth Warfield

GET INVOLVED! Email us at Transformation@USAID.gov