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OFFICE OF LOCAL SUSTAINABILITY

The Journey to Self-Reliance Begins with Locally Led Development



PHOTO CREDIT: FLAVIO BORGES, USAID/TIMOR-LESTE

LOCAL WORKS PHOTO CONTEST WINNER
USAID/TIMOR-LESTE LOCAL WORKS TEAM INTERVIEWING YOUTH ON THE STREET IN THE LIQUICA MUNICIPALITY.

June 2020

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PARAGUAY: FOSTERING SOLIDARITY IN TIMES OF CRISIS

Through [Cooperative Development Program](#) (CDP) implementing partner [Equal Exchange](#), the Manduvirá sugarcane cooperative in Paraguay is supporting its members and the local community during this difficult time. At the cooperative's annual (and this year, virtual) meeting, members voted to allocate a portion of the cooperative's fair trade premiums to provide 3,700 food baskets to essential staff, such as the cooperative's drivers and field workers. "I think that being part of a cooperative or having a cooperative nearby is a social strength, because with solidarity as its essence, we cannot be oblivious to members' needs," remarked Alicia, a project manager at the cooperative. Not only is the cooperative protecting and empowering its own members during this crisis, it is also taking steps to ensure the well-being of the greater community. Members are pooling cash donations from their own salaries to provide food, masks, gloves, thermometers, cleaning supplies, and other essential items to households and health clinics in the area. As Alicia noted, "Cooperatives are a key aspect of resilience in these types of situations, since we feel the needs of others are our own, and we can only succeed if we stay together and support each other." [Read more about how cooperatives are helping communities respond to COVID-19.](#)

"I think that being part of a cooperative or having a cooperative nearby is a social strength, because with solidarity as its essence, we cannot be oblivious to members' needs."

Alicia, a project manager at the Manduvirá sugarcane cooperative in Paraguay.

PHILIPPINES: COLLECTING DATA TO IMPROVE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



PHOTO CREDIT: PEACE CORPS

The Office of Local Sustainability (E3/LS) salutes Peace Corps Volunteers who were evacuated from their posts in March due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In honor of World Oceans Day (June 8), E3/LS is pleased to showcase a completed USAID-Peace Corps [Small Project Assistance](#) (SPA) Program project from the Philippines. In the Visayas Islands, a Peace Corps Volunteer worked with the local community to facilitate a coastal environmental profile of coastal habitats and the socioeconomic conditions of local fisherpeople to replace the outdated plan from 20 years prior. By building local capacity to conduct the assessment and creating a data baseline, the SPA project laid the groundwork for sustainable, realistic, and inclusive environmental policies and programs.

UGANDA: CONVENING THE BATWA COMMUNITY

The Batwa, who used to be hunter-gatherers, are the most ancient people in Africa. Reduced

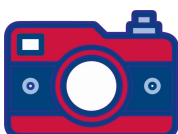


PHOTO CREDIT: DENIS OKWAR, USAID/UGANDA

LOCAL WORKS PHOTO CONTEST WINNER

to only about 6,000 individuals, they lost their forest homes to national park development. What does the future hold for the young Batwa in Kisoro, southwest Uganda? To answer that question, USAID/Uganda is supporting local leadership - so that the Batwa themselves can answer that question. USAID/Uganda is providing facilitation and technical assistance to the local leadership to convene Batwa for listening sessions, as in the picture here, and support their work with the community.

Announcements



Locally Led Development Photo Contest: We asked Local Works Missions: what does locally led development look like in your country context? The Office of Local Sustainability (E3/LS) is excited to announce the [Local Works](#) photo contest winners: USAID/Timor-Leste and USAID/Uganda! You can see all of the submissions on the E3/LS Flickr page. [Check it out.](#)



Locally Led Development in Action: [Cooperative Development Program](#) (CDP) implementing partner Land O'Lakes [Venture37](#) explains its new name, mission, and work. [Watch the new video.](#)



Improving Access to Clean Water: For decades, residents of Nga Truong commune in Thanh Hoa province have relied on untreated well water or rainwater. A plan to build a rainwater distribution network was delayed and at risk of being cancelled. Through [Local Works](#), USAID/Vietnam mobilized both the support and resources needed to bring clean water to more than 4,100 residents. [Check it out.](#)

What Really Counts as Locally Led Development? The first part in a blog series by [CDA Collaborative Learning Projects](#) speaks to the perceived gap between rhetoric and reality in international development. [Check it out.](#)

It's About Time for Local Humanitarian Action: A new report from the [Overseas Development Institute](#) speaks to the effectiveness of locally led development. [Check it out.](#)

Cooperative Principles Point the Way Through This Crisis: The [International Labour Organization](#) examines cooperatives' role in COVID-19 response through the lens of the [7 Cooperative Principles](#). [Read the blog post.](#)

How the CEO of a \$200 Million Spice Manufacturer Is Leading By Example: [CDP](#) implementing partner [Frontier Spice Cooperative](#) is leading by example during the pandemic. [Read the article.](#)

Civil Society and Financial Sustainability: Last month, [LINC](#), a former E3/LS [co-created research initiatives](#) partner, shared data from its survey on how civil society organizations (CSOs) are being impacted by COVID-19. Also check out new insights from the E3/LS former [Facilitating Financial Sustainability](#) (FFS) project, with LINC and [Peace Direct](#), on how CSOs and funders can take action to strengthen the financial sustainability of CSOs. [Read the blog post.](#)

The Role of Communities in the Response to COVID-19: [The New York University Center on International Cooperation](#) highlights the essential role of community engagement in government efforts to combat COVID-19. [Read the article.](#)



Africa COVID-19 Response Dashboard: The [Ethiopia COVID-19 Response Team](#), a group of software engineers creating tools to support Ethiopia's tracking and response to COVID-19, is also compiling resources and tools for tackling COVID-19 from civic response groups across Africa. [Check it out.](#)

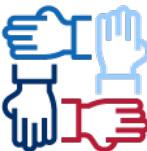
Adopting Remote Monitoring Approaches During COVID-19: USAID has created a guide for USAID staff and implementing partners on remote monitoring techniques and when they can be employed. [Check it out.](#)

Tools for Remote Community Engagement: [Accountability Counsel](#) is showing one way its team is adapting with flexible surveying to reach beneficiaries. [Check it out.](#)

Measurement in Times of Uncertainty: [Results for Development](#) highlights its database of measurement tools for a range of sectors and projects. [Check it out.](#)

COVID-19 and Local Humanitarian Action: The Overseas Development Institute's [Humanitarian Policy Group](#) is conducting a survey to map change and contributions. [Check it out.](#)

COVID-19's Impact on Agricultural Cooperatives: [CDP](#) partners [Venture37](#), [Global Communities](#), [Equal Exchange](#) and [NCBA CLUSA](#) are collaborating to collect data on how COVID-19 is impacting agricultural cooperatives in eight CDP countries. Additional information and a full report to follow. [Read the first research brief.](#)



USAID Evidence Summit on Strategic Religious Engagement: The USAID [Center for Faith and Opportunity Initiatives](#) is seeking presentation proposals for the upcoming Evidence Summit. Deadline is July 17, 2020. [Learn more.](#)



USAID/Nepal: Seeking quotations to synthesize existing research on the characteristics of vulnerability and political economy analysis for Nepal. This will support a data-driven approach to community selection and potential interventions for the [Local Works](#) program. Deadline is June 15, 2020. [Learn more.](#)

USAID/Timor-Leste: Seeking information on local entities with capabilities in qualitative data analysis; report and communications product creation; translation; and logistics coordination to support a listening tour in all 13 districts of Timor-Leste. Deadline is July 10, 2020. [Learn more.](#)

USAID/West Africa: Calling for locally led development concepts on building effective, reliable, and sustainable private sector associations. Deadline is August 3, 2020. [Learn more.](#)



Local Solutions to the Global Challenge of Ocean Plastic Pollution (2:00 PM EDT): For World Oceans Day, join USAID for a virtual program highlighting the importance of cities and local solutions to address the global challenge of ocean plastic pollution. Featuring speakers from PepsiCo, Ocean Conservancy, and more. [Register for the event.](#)

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