



## OFFICE OF LOCAL SUSTAINABILITY

Leading USAID's locally led development efforts

May 2019



### The Journey to Self-Reliance Begins with Locally Led Development

The [Office of Local Sustainability's \(ES/LS\) Local Works](#) program supports countries on their Journey to Self-Reliance by providing resources that enable locally led development. From April 24-26, principals

and staff from thirteen missions and Washington participated in the inaugural Local Works Global Workshop in Manila, Philippines. The workshop strengthened the Local Works Community of Practice as missions in various stages of implementation shared successes, challenges, and learning from their Local Works activities and approaches. E3/LS is currently reviewing mission submissions for Round Four of Local Works, which will be announced this summer. To learn more about the program, contact [localworks@usaid.gov](mailto:localworks@usaid.gov).

### E3/LS Launches Interactive Map and Refreshes Knowledge Hub

E3/LS is excited to announce a new [interactive map](#) showing the places where the Office has programming. Additionally, E3/LS has updated its internal knowledge management [web page](#) on ProgramNet (*\*For internal USAID staff*) to better serve the Agency as the repository for locally led development communications, knowledge, research, and learning products.



### Philippines: E3/LS Collaborates with the Peace Corps

Over the past five years, the USAID [Small Project Assistance Program](#) has funded 127 small grants across four program areas totaling nearly \$250,000. All SPA grants require a community contribution of 25% of total funding costs. The Philippines SPA grants have exceeded this contribution by 14% on average through in-kind and/or cash matching support. Such community contributions show that local partners have a stake in the results of programming

and are willing to commit to sustainability. The global [SPA IV evaluation](#) captures the broader success of the Philippines SPA Program since the Philippines was one of five fieldwork countries. While in Manila last month, E3/LS staff visited Peace Corps colleagues to laud this success.

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## What Does it Take to Run a Cooperative Board?

E3/LS, and its partner, Land O'Lakes, hosted an educational webinar on leadership competencies for cooperative boards. Presenters highlighted the nine leadership competencies necessary for cooperative board leadership: collaboration, strategic thinking, innovation, problem solving, adaptability, financial skills, integrity, communication, and political savvy. Participants shared learning from the [Cooperative Development Program's](#) (CDP) various global activities. This is one in a series of dozens of short webinars being developed by CDP for implementing partners to advance their knowledge and skills in cooperative development and to improve how the CDP supports cooperative businesses globally.

## Uganda: Learning Group Takes Action

LINC, one of E3/LS' four [Co-Created Research Initiative](#) partners, is studying factors influencing the financial sustainability of civil society organizations in different contexts to increase local ownership of development. Last month, E3/LS staff interviewed two members of LINC's Action Learning Group (ALG) in Kampala, Uganda. The ALG, a coalition of local stakeholders, works to identify issues and opportunities that civil society organizations are facing, assisting them in creating solutions to their own problems.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

### From the Field

- E3/LS flags the [Market Systems Symposium](#) that was held in Cape Town, South Africa in April 2019.
- On May 1, USAID/Bangladesh posted a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for its Local Works activities on [grants.gov](#). The NOFO invites Bangladeshi organizations to submit concept notes for locally led approaches to conservation and rehabilitation of natural resources in the Cox's Bazar district, especially in areas severely impacted by the Rohingya displacement. Successful applicants will be invited to co-create with USAID/Bangladesh. The NOFO closes June 11.
- As part of its [Local Works](#) program, USAID/Burma convened 111 local stakeholders in Myitkyina in a "Whole System in the Room" (WSR) workshop from May 7-9. WSR brings together diverse stakeholders in a social system to own and lead change in the system. During the workshop, *Kachin Uniting for a Future Without Drug Use*, participants identified common priorities and strategies for addressing the opioid drug use epidemic facing Kachin State. Watch this [video](#) to see the Mission's innovative workshop approach.
- [World Connect](#) helps grassroots leaders, often women, undertake projects that greatly impact the entire community around them. In Malawi, its Local Works funded project is training girls from five different schools and the surrounding community in menstrual hygiene, sexual and reproductive health, and production of reusable sanitary pads.
- **Corrected link:** USAID/Rwanda developed a Local Partner [Engagement Strategy](#) (*\*For internal USAID staff*) to lay out an approach, recommendations, and practical ideas for operationalizing the Journey to Self-Reliance. The Mission has deeply internalized the principles of locally led development and has taken important steps towards making it

happen on the ground.

## Policies and Strategies

- E3/LS staff spoke at the USAID Action Alliance Workshop, [Measuring Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in Humanitarian and Development Settings Workshop](#). The event was attended by donors, academics, nonprofits, and for-profit entities from the humanitarian, development, and political science fields.

## Locally Led Development Opportunities

- **E3/LS is hiring!** Please share these positions widely:
  - [Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning Specialist](#)
  - [Program Assistant](#)
  - [Local Works Mission Support Program Analyst](#)
  - [Local Works Program Assistant](#)
  - [Communications Associate](#)
- E3/LS spoke at *Integrating Local Philanthropy into the Journey to Self-Reliance*, highlighting USAID/Serbia's Local Works activity. Through the "Framework for Giving" activity, the Mission is partnering with a coalition of local stakeholders to create a more generous and responsible society capable and willing to fund its own development solutions. The event also featured the new USAID Deputy Assistant Administrator responsible for E3/LS, [Kimberly Rosen](#).
- E3/LS presented on locally led development and engaging local partners at last month's Global Foreign Service National Conference and this month's Effective Partnering and Procurement Reform Workshop and Summit.
- USAID's U.S. Global Development Lab and Bureau for Policy, Planning and Learning released Self-Reliance Learning Agenda (SRLA) [questions](#) (*\*For internal USAID staff only*). USAID staff interested in contributing are invited to share any planned, ongoing, or completed activities that will generate learning towards one of the SRLA questions, or include any relevant SRLA questions in learning agendas and evaluation, research, and learning activities. For questions, contact the SRLA team at [SRLA@usaid.gov](mailto:SRLA@usaid.gov).

## SAVE THE DATE

May

22

**10-11am EST:** E3/LS 'Get to Know your Private Sector' [webinar](#) (*\*For internal USAID staff only*). Representatives from Genex cooperative will discuss the organization's role in the US market, international commercial presence, and priorities as a USAID implementing partner. For more information, please contact [localsustainability@usaid.gov](mailto:localsustainability@usaid.gov).



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