



OFFICE OF LOCAL SUSTAINABILITY

Leading USAID's locally led development efforts

December 2019/January 2020



Photo: Robin Johnson

Burma: Local Solutions to Complex Challenges

On November 15, USAID/Burma hosted a prospective applicants workshop for the forthcoming [Local Works](#) activities in Myitkyina, Kachin State. More than 80 local actors attended the workshop to learn about the Mission's [Addendum](#) to the [Locally Led Development Annual](#)

[Program Statement \(APS\)](#) calling for locally led solutions to Kachin State's complex heroin and HIV epidemic. United States Ambassador to Burma Scot Marciel opened the workshop. Other speakers included representatives from Kachin National Consultative Assembly, an organization that represents various indigenous ethnic groups in Kachin, and representatives from USAID/Burma's Local Works team. Planned activities will build on the priorities that emerged from local stakeholders at the May 2019 Whole System in the Room workshop. Together, they aim to improve access to services and training for all drug users, promote healthy behaviors, and raise awareness among non-drug users. Respondents to the [Addendum](#) must be local actors in Kachin State, and concepts are due on January 31, 2020.



Photo: Peace Corps/Armenia

Armenia: Building Girls' Leadership Skills

In Armenia, the [Small Project Assistance Program \(SPA\)](#) supported a Girls Leading Our World (GLOW) camp for 20 girls. Over the course of five days, the girls built their confidence and leadership skills through interactive



Photo: Emily Varga

South Africa: Training Beef and Dairy Cooperatives on Governance and Strategic Planning

[Cooperative Development Program \(CDP\)](#) implementing partner Genex hosted a two-day business seminar in

sessions on citizenship, human rights, and community development. The camp utilized the Peace Corps “camps to clubs” model, encouraging and supporting camp attendees to remain active at the local level. The campers designed and implemented community projects such as: clothing and toy drives, a tree-planting day, community clean-up activities, creation of a safe space for minority youth, and additional local club events to promote girls’ empowerment and civic engagement at the community level.

Queenstown, South Africa. Genex facilitated lectures, small group activities, and case study exercises on governance, strategic planning, and visioning. The seminar convened 46 board members from six beef and dairy cooperatives - representing more than 882 members in the Eastern Cape. Genex’s CDP program will professionalize these businesses so they can provide high-quality products to regional markets - while ensuring sustainable livelihoods for their members. Learn more about Genex’s CDP in South Africa [here](#).

Sharing Co-created Research at National Evaluation Conference

At the [American Evaluation Association Conference](#) in Minneapolis in November, a number of E3/LS [Co-Created Research Initiative](#) partners presented findings, learning, and good practices from their research and pilot initiatives related to locally led development, local ownership, and sustainability of development outcomes.

- E3/LS staff presented a think tank session titled "[Evaluating Local Ownership: Applying a Systems Lens to the Journey to Self-Reliance](#)." Participants explored and provided valuable feedback on tools and approaches E3/LS is developing to enable collaborating, learning and adapting, measurement, and evaluation for locally led development in USAID programs.
- E3/LS partner LINC hosted a [roundtable discussion](#) on evaluating the efficacy of research-practice partnerships (RPPs). The discussion drew on RPP research from higher education and the experience of the [Local Systems Practice](#) consortium. The six organizations in the consortium include development practitioners and academic research institutions.
- E3/LS partner Peace Direct, which leads the [Stopping as Success \(SAS\)](#) consortium, hosted a [roundtable discussion](#) about the key factors when transitioning a development program from international to local ownership to foster locally led development. The discussion enabled SAS to engage participants about the applicability of tools and resources for a range of audiences.
- E3/LS partner Root Change [presented](#) Localization Learning System, a component of its Capacity 2.0 project, that will help organizations track their program’s progress towards greater local ownership.

To Combat Malaria, #LeadwithLocal

As part of Locally Led Development Week, the United States [President’s Malaria Initiative \(PMI\)](#) highlighted a recent success. In August, PMI hosted a brainstorming meeting to galvanize support for malaria control and elimination efforts, and to plan toward the launch of "Day(s) of Reflection on Malaria" in Rwanda, Tanzania, and Zambia. Participants represented a diverse group of senior religious and community leaders from institutions with strong networks throughout their countries - and hard-to-reach

Photo: Danielle Lane, Global Health Professional and Organizational Development (GHP/OD) II



communities, in particular. In the session, these leaders shared how they could empower their communities to mobilize their own financial and social resources to combat malaria. As a result, both Rwanda and Zambia have already launched "Day(s) of Reflection on Malaria."

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

Locally Led Development Week

Last week, Missions, partners, and people across the Agency celebrated Locally Led Development Week. While E3/LS tabled at the Ronald Reagan Building, the Office asked Missions and partners to share how they are working to empower local communities and drive locally led development. A few highlights:

- LINC, an E/3/LS [Co-Created Research Initiative](#) partner, posted about the Local Capacity Development Activity (LCDA), a partnership with USAID and Fondo Unido México that built local capacity in Mexico. Check out the [#LCDAVideoSeries](#) for testimonials from participants.
- Root Change, an E3/LS [Co-Created Research Initiative](#) partner, highlighted locally led development efforts underway in Malawi by sharing an [interview](#) with Charles Kajoloweka, the Founder and Executive Director of Youth and Society (YAS), who is working with Root Change and USAID to boost accountability through social labs.
- USAID/Burma shared its [video](#) on how, through [Local Works](#), the Mission convened community members to address the drug epidemic in Kachin State.
- [Local Works](#) partner USAID/Bosnia also premiered an [animated video](#), "Snaga Lokalnog!," which explains in Bosnian how the Local Works program operates - providing additional resources for local organizations and community members.
- [CDP](#) partner Global Communities posted a [photo](#) from the Ushirika Hub, a network mapping tool launched in collaboration with CDP and Root Change, to support cooperatives in Kenya.



Photo: Zach Pusch

E3/LS thanks everyone who took the time to share their stories and participate in Locally Led Development Week. And it does not stop here! We encourage you to continue highlighting how you [#LeadwithLocal](#).

Engaging the Liberian Diaspora

E3/LS staff facilitated a workshop for approximately 40 members of the Liberian diaspora in the United States, the Liberian Ambassador to the United States, Embassy of Liberia in Washington staff, and USAID. The purpose of the workshop was to identify gaps, challenges, and opportunities for engaging the Liberian diaspora to catalyze and sustain development outcomes in Liberia in the education, health, and economic growth sectors. These gaps, challenges, and opportunities will help inform a range of potential approaches USAID/Liberia may pursue.

Co-Creating Solutions to Locally Led Development Challenges

Last week, E3/LS held its fifth and final [Broad Agency Announcement](#) (BAA) co-creation workshop of the season. The workshop focused on locally led development and "Effective Partnerships." Late last month, the Office conducted a workshop on "Conflict, Post Conflict, and Non-Permissive Environments." The five workshops were opportunities for USAID to co-create with representatives from government, civil society, academia, think tanks, and the private sector - and to discuss challenges, share best practices, and build relationships for potential future collaboration. Participants are now continuing the co-creation process and developing concept papers around the five themes. USAID Operating Units interested in using E3/LS' BAA on [Locally Led Development Innovation](#) should contact localsustainability@usaid.gov.

From the Field

- In November, E3/LS staff traveled to Zimbabwe and Kenya to support the kickoff of new [Local Works](#) programs in both Missions. Zimbabwe will focus on a youth-led approach to promoting entrepreneurship opportunities for young people, while Kenya intends to support community wildlife conservancies as local hubs for expanded services to local residents. E3/LS staff joined a series of local stakeholder consultations with non-governmental organizations (NGOs), private sector representatives, youth leaders, and other donors. E3/LS Office Director Michael Rossman joined the team in Kenya to socialize locally led development approaches across the entire Mission.
- Last month, E3/LS staff facilitated a BAA co-creation workshop in Belgrade, Serbia, on innovation-driven development. USAID staff from neighboring countries joined to learn more about the process and witness co-creation first-hand. USAID Operating Units interested in learning more about E3/LS' BAA on [Locally Led Development Innovation](#) and opportunities to co-create with local organizations should contact localsustainability@usaid.gov.

Locally Led Development Opportunities

- E3/LS amended its [Locally Led Development APS](#), a mechanism for USAID to facilitate awards to local and non-traditional partners for innovative, adaptive, and locally led development approaches. The amendment is a direct response to Mission feedback on how the APS can better address Mission needs, operating environments, and local contexts. Interested applicants must respond to specific Addenda issued by different parts of USAID. Please check back [here](#), under "Related Documents," for opportunities that may be relevant to your geographic and technical interests.
- USAID/Kosovo released a [Sources Sought notice](#) (a market research tool) to inform its work promoting social cohesion through strengthening the recycling sector. The notice solicits feedback from interested and capable local partners for a planned local network/systems assessment that will identify relationships between system actors and levels of influence in the Kosovo recycling sector.
- USAID is now accepting applications for Cycle 8 of the [Partnerships for Enhanced Engagement in Research \(PEER\)](#) program. Aimed at developing countries, the program provides funding for research and capacity building. In Cycle 8 of the program, the focus will be on "Last Mile" research and implementation.

What We're Reading

- #ShiftthePower: From the Global Fund's "Pathways to Power" Symposium
 - ["Multiple means to reach a single goal – new paper explores systems to #ShiftThePower"](#)
 - ["Variety of locally-generated resources and commentary on shifting power relationships in development"](#)
- ["Paper Series on Capacity & Capacity Strengthening,"](#) from USAID's Self-Reliance Learning Agenda (SRLA)
- ["Localising protection responses in conflicts: challenges and opportunities,"](#) from the Overseas Development Institute (ODI).
- ["Moving away from aid: lessons from country experiences,"](#) join the upcoming webinar from ODI on December 11.

Staffing

- E3/LS is hiring! Learn more about opportunities with the Office:
 - [Training Coordinator](#)
 - [Mission Support Program Analyst](#)

SAVE THE DATE

December

11

[Resilience: The Social & Economic Impact of Cooperatives](#)
Washington, D.C.

*Please note that the Local Sustainability Newsletter will return in February of 2020.
Happy New Year!*



**Find out more
about our office!**



**Learn more about
locally led
development**
**For internal USAID staff*



**Questions?
Send us an
email**
