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The EXPLORE Annual Program Statement

OVERVIEW

Launched in March 2024, the Expanding Partnerships, Learning, and Research (EXPLORE) Annual Program Statement (APS) will provide USAID Missions, Bureaus, and Independent Offices with the opportunity to solicit, co-create, and fund flexible and innovative programs that include research activities.

The new EXPLORE APS builds on the success of the Science, Technology, Innovation, and Partnerships (STIP) APS, which has supported research on Agency priorities, including early education, digital development, economic growth, and agriculture, since 2018.

The EXPLORE APS is managed by the Research Division of the Innovation, Technology, and Research Hub within USAID's Inclusive Growth, Partnerships, and Innovation Bureau.

PRIORITIES

To support the use and integration of science and research into USAID programming, decision making, and problem solving, the EXPLORE APS:

- Promotes a research mindset for meaningful change by encouraging applicants to ask questions, examine evidence, and make discoveries;
- Assists in the generation and use of evidence; and
- Engages with a wide range of partners, including, but not limited to, higher education institutions, private sector, NGOs, and government entities.

THE SPARK ADDENDUM

Under the new EXPLORE APS, the Strategic Partnerships For Advancing Research And Knowledge (SPARK) Addendum will support research generation, while providing researchers in the U.S. and USAID partner countries with an opportunity to collaboratively study development challenges and develop possible solutions through research projects. Co-creation will be a key component of the award, embedded throughout the activity's implementation, along with Collaborating, Learning and Adapting practices.

SPARK Addendum's interconnected priorities:



For more information, please contact ITR.ResearchFeedback@usaid.gov.

