USAID Approaches to Fostering a Culture of Scientific Integrity (SI)



Establish & Implement Scientific Integrity Policies & Practices

- Develop and implement SI policies and procedures
- Educate workforce and maintain visibility of SI policies, practices, and culture
- Conduct robust evaluation to improve policies and practices

Demonstrate Engaged and Supportive Leadership

- Model, support, and lead SI policy implementation
- Set clear SI expectations
- Ensure SI resources & infrastructure to support SI policies, practices, and evaluation
- Use credible and objective scientific information to inform decisions

Promote Transparent and Free-Flow of Scientific Information

- Ensure timely, free flow of scientific information within and outside of agencies
- Ensure clearance procedures do not interfere with transparency and timeliness of information
- Ensure scientific accuracy of agency communications



Ensure Accountability

- Encourage early and confidential reporting and protect those who report
- Effectively address and transparently report on SI violations and concerns, and their outcomes
- Consequences and remedies for scientific integrity policy violations are clearly articulated
- Enforcement responsibilities and processes are documented



Strengthen International Scientific Integrity Capacity

- Sensitize local students, researchers, decision makers, and research funders on the importance of scientific integrity
- Support the creation of opportunities for the professional development of scientific and technical staff
- Build or strengthen research partnerships between U.S. and local research institutions
- Model and support the development of local systems for implementing and monitoring scientific integrity