



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

February 2007

OFFICE OF GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCES

THE DEVELOPMENT FRONTIER

USAID Awards *International Youth Foundation* with “Alliance of the Year” for 2006

International Youth Foundation® 

In a February 21 ceremony at the National Press Club in Washington, USAID honored the

International Youth Foundation (IYF) as the recipient of the 2006 Global Development Alliance Excellence Award for its *entra 21* initiative. *Entra 21* was selected from among 400 alliances worldwide. The Award is given to showcase exemplary alliances that have positive impact and bring new partners to the development community. Award winners have shown the ability to bring together diverse resources and innovative approaches to solve development challenges.

Entra 21 is a workforce development program now operating in 18 countries throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. In five years, *entra 21* has provided information technology training to more than 19,000 disadvantaged young people aged 16-29. The employment rate for *entra 21* graduates is 50 percent, and the majority of those working have jobs that pay minimum wage or more and provide benefits. The alliance was established by IYF, in partnership with the Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF) of the Inter-American Development Bank. USAID has supported the alliance with \$3 million in funding.



SUAL Alliance Sparks Closer Understanding of Russian Business



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With the active involvement of citizens, small- and medium-sized businesses, and NGOs in finding solutions to social problems, the SUAL alliance has succeeded in building effective community foundations. Launched in 2004, financial contributions for the project totaled \$2.6 million. A recently published program evaluation of the USAID-SUAL Alliance found that it has been productive for both parties. The alliance reached its goals to improve

quality of life for citizens in three municipalities through SUAL's governance improvement work. Six specific objectives, including "supporting small- and medium-sized businesses" and "fostering civic activism" have encouraged community-driven improvement projects in each district. All three pilot programs successfully developed a common project culture with citizens and NGOs solving social problems. For USAID, the alliance has generated new knowledge of the Russian corporate world that will be valuable in building future alliances. Experience gained from the alliance and insights from the evaluation will guide the replication of this governance model elsewhere in Russia and in the Newly Independent States.

GDA's Collaboration Agreement: Success in Flexibility

Two years ago, the Office of Global Development Alliances partnered with USAID's General Counsel to launch an innovative funding mechanism to meet the needs of USAID's booming public-private alliances. The Collaboration Agreement offers:

1. A flexible mechanism to quickly transfer funds to non-traditional USAID partners such as multinationals or foundations
2. A framework for building a closer working relationship with non-traditional partners



Since its creation, GDA has successfully executed four Collaboration Agreements with Kraft, Starbucks, The German Marshall Fund, and UN/USA. The Collaboration Agreement demonstrates USAID's responsiveness to new partners, reflecting GDA's innovative streamlining of traditional bureaucratic procurement processes.

The success of the program was acknowledged by Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government, which named the Collaboration Agreement a finalist for the prestigious Ash Institute's Innovation in American Government Award in 2005. GDA intends to expand the use of Collaboration Agreements in future public-private alliances.



Washington D.C. Chapter
Society for International Development

Society for International Development Annual Conference

On February 6, Dan Runde, director of the Global Development Alliance initiative, moderated a panel on new capital flows at the Society for International Development's Annual Conference in Washington. This year was SID Washington's 50th Anniversary year and the conference was themed "Transforming Development: Shaping Our Global Future". Among the 500 participants, were development practitioners, academics, and government, foundation, corporate and NGO leaders. Runde spoke about

the growing importance of the private sector's role in international development.

Alliance Builder Training – Moscow: Who Makes Alliances Work?



With a record cold (-10° F) Russian blizzard blowing outside, future Alliance Builders huddled in the warmth of a downtown Moscow training room to gather insights and experience from GDA deputy director and trainer Jim Thompson. While the GDA regularly conducts trainings at Ronald Reagan Building headquarters in Washington, field trainings provide a unique opportunity for USAID headquarters staff and local Foreign Service Nationals (FSNs) to share information and interact. To be successful, GDAs depend on the support and understanding of FSNs who are able to mobilize valuable local relationships and resources.

Back from Baghdad: Dawn Liberi

Recently returned from 16 months as USAID/Iraq Mission Director, Dawn Liberi had oversight of the largest U.S. Government reconstruction effort since the Marshall Plan, managing more than \$5 billion in program resources. Describing USAID's efforts in Iraq, Director Liberi stated, "Often, Americans see the images of car bombings, but they rarely see Iraqis as people, moving in their communities and looking forward to their futures. At USAID, we are working with some extraordinarily courageous Iraqis to grow their economy, strengthen their democracy, improve their education system, and advance their civil society." Previous assignments have included postings as USAID Mission Director to Nigeria and Uganda, where she managed a number of pioneering GDAs. Since returning to Washington, Dawn Liberi has been based at the GDA initiative, working in a senior advisory role.



OECD Recognizes Benefits of GDA Model

In its 2006 Peer Review, the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) recognized the importance of GDAs, noting private sector development programs that provide the poor with access to international and domestic markets. The report noted that training, product and market development, financial services, and regulatory reforms through collaboration with international partners, are examples of current GDA efforts. This review stated that the GDA model is a flexible approach and can be swiftly applied to unexpected global events and crises, such as the recent South Asian

tsunami. The United States signed nine Global Development Alliances, leveraging more than \$11 million in private sector funds, for reconstruction in tsunami-affected countries.



USAID | GUATEMALA
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New Alliance Benefits Guatemalan Students

USAID/Guatemala has recently formed a new Global Development Alliance entitled *REFORZANDO* to promote new national primary education standards for parents, students, and teachers. *REFORZANDO*, which means “reinforcing” in Spanish, launched a national media blitz in Guatemala that includes inserting a series of 69 educational booklets into 350,000 copies of *Nuestro Diario* newspaper. Alliance partners are USAID’s Education Standards and Research Program, the Guatemalan Ministry of Education, *Piedra Santa* Publishing, and *Nuestro Diario* newspaper. With this mass media educational campaign, USAID will be leveraging close to \$1.6 million.



Wireless Reach - Guatemala: Technology Serving Education

Qualcomm and América Móvil, two U.S. pioneers in communication technology, have aligned with USAID/Guatemala to bring wireless internet to rural schoolchildren. This alliance, called Wireless Reach – Guatemala, supports the Ministry of Education’s *School of the Future* program which provides rural schools with access to computers, software and training. Qualcomm CEO Jeff Jacobs will officially launch the alliance on April 23-24 in Guatemala, making it the first Latin American country to secure an alliance for wireless technology in education. This alliance will serve as a role model in the region for integrating technology to advance economic, social, and educational development.

RESOURCES

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