ACE Leadership Network on International Education

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The Globally Engaged Institution: Washington Connections

Resources for Global Engagement Panel

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HED is supported through a cooperative agreement between the U.S. Agency for International Development and the American Council on Education.

HED operates with the advice and counsel of the nation’s six major higher education associations:
- American Council on Education (ACE)
- American Association of Community Colleges (AACC)
- American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU)
- Association of American Universities (AAU)
- Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU)
- National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU)
Host Country
Higher Education Institution

Regional/National Development Goals Addressed

Partnerships Forged
Human and Institutional Capacity Developed

U.S. Higher Education Institution
How are partnerships with higher education in developing nations different from other international engagements?

**Institutional Context**
- University partnerships operate within the *internal environment of higher education* teaching/training institutions.

**Development Context**
- Higher education partnerships must focus on *externalities, such as the human resource knowledge, skills and competencies required* by government and non-government organizations, private sector and community.
HED in Numbers

History:
20 years in existence
HED began granting awards in 1997

In the Past five years:
- HED managed 157 partnerships involving 172 host
country tertiary institutions in 60 countries and 98 U.S.
higher education institutions.

Award Amounts:
- Total award amount from HED: $66,662,254
- Total cost share amount from higher education institutions: $43,499,942
How do HED’s recent partnership competitions reflect the evolving priorities of USAID?

In Central America, Tulane University, the Universidad Iberoamericana, the Universidad Rafael Landívar, and the Universidad Paulo Fréire are collaborating to strengthen the teaching and implementation of environmental law in Central America Free Trade Agreement-Dominican Republic (CAFTA-DR) partner countries of Guatemala, Nicaragua and the Dominican Republic.

The University of Texas, San Antonio is partnering with colleagues in Costa Rica, Panama, Honduras, the Dominican Republic, and Peru to adapt and replicate the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) model and empower entrepreneurship through the implementation and expansion of the SBDCs.
• With funding from the Department of State for environmental cooperation, the Illinois Institute of Technology is working with the New York Institute of Technology and higher education institutions in Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, and Peru, in partnership with National Cleaner Production Centers, the World Environment Center and the private sector to increase and utilize the capacity of higher education institutions to contribute to cleaner manufacturing production practices.

• HED is launching four new partnerships with institutions in Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru to support the conservation of biodiversity and maintenance of the Andean Amazon Biome as part of the Initiative for Conservation in the Andean Amazon (ICAA).
• In Colombia, HED partnerships are enhancing USAID’s support for a national initiative to improve respect for and protection of human rights. Working with Colombian regional law schools in the outlying and frequently conflict-prone regions of the country, three HED partnerships will provide formal and informal training in human rights and legal services outreach to underserved indigenous populations.

• HED is launching five partnerships under the Women’s Leadership Program in Armenia, Rwanda, South Sudan, and Paraguay. These partnerships will prepare women for leadership roles in agriculture, business and education, strengthen institutions’ capacity to support workforce development, and increase women’s access to advanced credentials.
Goal One: Improved *reading skills* for 100 million children in primary grades by 2015;

Goal Two: Improved ability of *tertiary and workforce development programs* to produce a *workforce with relevant skills* to support country development goals by 2015; and

Goal Three: Increased equitable *access to education in crisis and conflict*

Recent USAID policies (continued)

Evaluation Policy (2011)

“Performance management (Managing for Results) is the systematic process of monitoring achievements of program activities, collecting and analyzing performance information to track progress toward planned results; using performance information and evaluations to influence decision making and resource allocation; and communicating results to advance organizational learning and communicate results to stakeholders.”

Recent USAID policies (continued)

Human and Institutional Capacity Development (HICD)

“... a series of structured and integrated processes designed to remove significant barriers to the achievement of an institution’s goals and objectives. HICD involves the systematic analysis of all the factors that affect performance, followed by specific interventions that address gaps between desired and actual institutional behaviors.”

The policy directs Missions to:
Develop, strengthen **and draw upon local and regional capacity** for assistance with HICD performance assessments, analyses, program design and implementation. Special attention should be given to working with the local private sector, nongovernmental organizations, and **tertiary education institutions**

What recent developments in USAID Procurement should inform your strategy?

USAID Forward

USAID Forward is an effort to make the Agency more effective by changing the way we partner with others, embracing a spirit of innovation and strengthening the results of our work, saving money and reducing the need for U.S. assistance over time.

• Building Local Sustainability and Partnerships

• Fostering Innovation

• Strengthening USAID’s Capacity to Deliver Results

Recent developments in USAID procurement (continued)

Higher Education Solutions Network (HESN) Development Labs will enable USAID to:

• Improve its understanding of development problems and solutions through better data and analytics
• Test, evaluate, and catalyze technologies for development
• Design, create, and incubate revolutionary approaches in addressing development problems including the incubation of new low-cost technologies and innovations
• Promote entrepreneurship to sustain and scale these tools and approaches; and harness the enthusiasm and interest of students for development.
Recent developments in USAID procurement (continued)

Higher Education Solutions Network (HESN) Development Labs

- University of California Berkeley
- College of William and Mary
- Michigan State University
- Duke University
- Texas A&M
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Makerere University (Uganda)

http://www.usaid.gov/hesn
Key terms and Source Information

USAID Annual Program Statements (APS) (for concept papers)
USAID Requests for Proposals (RFP) (for contracts)
USAID Request for Applications (RFA) (for grants)

http://universityengagement.usaid.gov/

“Doing Business with USAID”
http://transition.usaid.gov/business/
What are the key steps in planning?

• Understand the strengths of your institution and goals for institutional engagement with developing world partners.

• Understand the capabilities and needs of your intended partner(s).

• Research the landscape in target Missions (priorities, country plans, results framework).

• Calibrate the amount of time and treasure needed to cultivate relationships in targeted Missions.

• Determine possible contributing collaborator (private sector, other donors).