

USAID Summer Seminar Series
FIRST SESSION: June 3. THE GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE.

Conveners:

---Robert E. Navin, Chief, Evaluation Studies and Performance Assessment, Bureau for Policy and Program Coordination, USAID

---Holly Wise, Director, Secretariat of the Global Development Alliance, USAID

Speakers:

--- Manuel Orozco, Project Director of Central America for the Inter-American Dialogue and author of "Worker Remittances: the Human Face of Globalization"

--- Hildy Teegen, Associate Professor of International Business and International Affairs at George Washington University and editor of "The NGO Challenge: How Non-Governmental Organizations are Transforming Corporate Strategy, Public Policy and Business-Government Relations"

--- Jo Render, Associate Director, First People's Worldwide. Ms. Render is responsible for building the corporate engagement strategy for First Peoples Worldwide-an NGO that promotes Indigenous determination and control of assets by strengthening Indigenous communities through sharing of knowledge of both needs and resources.

The Global Development Alliance seeks to enhance the impact of development assistance through collaboration with other partners that include, NGOs, PVOs, cooperatives, foundations, corporations, universities and professional and business associations. It does this by:

1. increasing the number and quality of partnerships and
2. supporting alliances that leverage significant resources and technologies.

The business model is being mainstreamed throughout USAID and positions USAID in the role of facilitator, leverager and coordinator.

In fiscal year 2002, USAID funded 68 public-private alliances with \$111 million of USAID funds leveraging \$380 million.

The Seminar did not specifically address the GDA concept, funding levels or approval process but instead brought together speakers on the following "new drivers for development" that the GDA would like to develop partnerships in:

Remittances

The challenge is to effectively tap some of the global annual remittances of \$150 billion to promote development in developing countries. The discussion looked at: What are the opportunities? Who are the potential partners? and what are the resources that are available? The key issues raised were how to use hometown associations to link remittances with support for local development; how to get financial services to remittance recipients; how to get more cost effective transfer systems; how to promote savings schemes for remittance recipients; and how to identify and utilize the skills of the Diaspora for advancing development and to contributing to global alliances?

Indigenous Peoples

The issues involving indigenous peoples have moved from one of "stakeholders" to "rights holders"; from assets-based approaches to rights-based approaches. What are their roles in the U.S. and their native homelands? How can you build a corporate engagement strategy that accomplishes their respective goals, promotes fully engaged local communities while retaining native culture? How can the deficit between the inflow and outflows of knowledge among indigenous communities be fixed?

NGO roles

How can NGO collaboration with USAID, corporations, and indigenous persons be enhanced? What is an NGO's role and what can they bring to sustainable development? Are NGOs stepping on the toes of traditional multinational firms? How do you get businesses to really engage with NGOs rather than just wanting to silence them? Whose agenda is being put forth in alliance roles- that of the NGO or the people they represent? How are NGOs detracting from a company's efficacy and how do you make a better business case for NGO involvement?

- There will be an informal brownbag working group on NGOs established at GWU. Participants at the summer seminar series are invited to join.