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USAID-PEACE CORPS GLOBAL INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT

Collaborating across Agencies to share expertise and build capacity to address community priorities.

The USAID-Peace Corps Global Interagency Agreement is a collaboration between USAID and the Peace Corps to share expertise in support of community-led development. The Global Agreement, like other USAID-Peace Corps interagency collaborations, harnesses the unique capabilities of both Agencies: Peace Corps' experience of working closely with local organizations and communities often outside the reach of traditional development assistance, and USAID's funding and technical expertise. These collaborations enhance the overall development impact of both Agencies. Designed in 2019, the Global Agreement consolidates country-level USAID-Peace Corps partnerships and streamlines requirements for Operating Units (OUs) in both Agencies.

FACILITATING COORDINATION AND COLLABORATION

The Global Agreement contributes to both USAID's and the Peace Corps' goals and approaches by recognizing and leveraging each Agency's strategic advantage in areas of common interest. By providing a platform for interagency partnership built on past successes, the Agreement aims to improve intra- and interagency coordination and the integration of work across diverse technical areas. The Agreement enables Peace Corps Volunteers (PCVs), staff, and counterparts to leverage resources for initiatives that dovetail with USAID priorities and best practices, employing cohesive strategies for holistic impact.

PROGRAM DETAILS

The USAID-Peace Corps Global Interagency Agreement establishes an umbrella agreement under which specific USAID OUs can “buy in” to fund work aligned with both Agencies’ goals. USAID and Peace Corps OUs seeking to collaborate in specific areas develop their own Statements of Work (SOWs) and identify funding. SOWs may focus on some or all of the Agreement’s goals and objectives in any sector(s). The Global Agreement is the only available mechanism to support HQ-to-HQ collaboration between USAID and the Peace Corps, and is an ideal tool to facilitate knowledge sharing and technical expertise between Agency HQ teams that will strengthen both Agencies’ work on the ground.

ACTIVITIES FUNDED BY THE GLOBAL AGREEMENT

The Agreement emphasizes empowering field-based PCVs, host country counterparts, and Peace Corps staff to collaborate with USAID efforts when appropriate and/or aligned with Peace Corps projects, especially through HQ-to-HQ coordination. Specific program activities are negotiated by USAID and the Peace Corps, but types of work supported by this Program include development, design, and rollout of training materials; hiring technical experts and other staff to support these efforts; Third Year Volunteer Leaders/Peace Corps Response Volunteers; and planning and implementation of trainings and conferences.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT: STRENGTHENING CAPACITY FOR LOCAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION INTERVENTIONS

USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA) realized that to reduce the risk of recurrent disasters, more communities needed to be reached by humanitarian programming. Through the Global Agreement, BHA paired their technical expertise in community-based disaster risk reduction (DRR) and early warning system (EWS) approaches with the Peace Corps' participatory capacity-building framework, Participatory Analysis for Community Action (PACA), and are developing training materials and training Peace Corps staff—who will in turn train Peace Corps Response Volunteers—on the new approaches. By bringing together complementary resources, both USAID and the Peace Corps are fulfilling their mandates while reaching more communities, facilitating new linkages between BHA partners and the Peace Corps, and reducing the risk of recurrent disasters.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

USAID and Peace Corps offices should contact respective HQs for detailed information on mechanism selection and the Global Agreement buy-in process. For USAID OUs, please email iaapc@usaid.gov.