

FACT SHEET

INVESTING IN RESEARCH TO ACCELERATE DEVELOPMENT SOLUTIONS

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Solving today's development challenges requires actionable information facilitated by forward-thinking scientific research. USAID's Research Division in the Innovation, Technology, and Research (ITR) Hub invests in research and research utilization through higher education institutions in the United States and partner countries to discover, test, and scale up solutions for greater impact. USAID Bureaus and Missions and other international development practitioners also use our programs and services for better results. The Research Division is continually strengthening the capacity for scientific inquiry in USAID partner countries, increasing the creation and use of knowledge and innovations and providing decision-makers with the best available, locally informed evidence to develop policies that can benefit and transform society.

The Research Division Partners with Higher Education Institutions, USAID Bureaus and Missions, and the International Development Community.



Research informs action, not only in the countries in which USAID works, but also in the Agency's practices and policies as a 21st-century development agency. The Research Division ensures that USAID-supported research results are publicly available and helps guide USAID policies and processes related to research and development (R&D). It also partners with other federal agencies and external partners to support researchers, scientists, and engineers in applying their diverse backgrounds and technical knowledge to critical development challenges.

Research Division Program Highlights



Partnerships for Enhanced Engagement in Research (PEER) supports lead researchers in more than 50 partner countries in pursuing answers to complex development questions. More than 400 projects have resulted in nearly 100 evidence-based changes to programs and policies, providing long-term, beneficial impacts to the lives of the people the Research Division aims to help.



The Higher Education Solutions Network's (HESN's) Development Labs' research projects have generated more than 2,000 innovations. HESN innovations, products, and workshops have reached more than 19 million people in at least 35 countries.



The Long-Term Assistance and Services for Research (LASER) program and **Research Technical Assistance Center (RTAC)** have a combined global network of **more than 3,000 researchers**. They have provided expertise and data for decision-making in more than 56 USAID partner countries.



Since 1982, **Fellowship Programs** have embedded more than 650 scientists and engineers to provide sector-specific expertise in USAID Bureaus and Missions while allowing those scientists to gain firsthand experience working with USAID.



With the Agency Chief Scientist at the helm, the Research Division **develops and leads internal policies and initiatives** critical to USAID's ability to successfully support and use scientific research and innovations, including three key policies (articulating requirements for research, scientific integrity, and access to research results) and the creation and leadership of the Council on Research and Development, an internal advisory body focused on strategic R&D investment and coordination across USAID.

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