USAID Seeks New and Innovative Approaches to Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, and Learning

The U.S. Global Development Lab

The U.S. Global Development Lab (Lab) seeks to harness the power of science, technology, innovation and partnership (STIP) to source, test, and scale dramatic breakthroughs that accelerate achievement of development goals. The Lab recognizes that our ability to identify development breakthroughs will be determined, in large part, by whether we are able to quickly gather evidence on how the programs we support are performing and use this data to iterate and improve them.

Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Learning Innovations (MERLIN) Call

Recent advances in the field Lof monitoring, evaluation, research, and learning (MERL) present an opportunity for USAID to radically improve relationships among evaluators, program implementers, and beneficiaries. USAID seeks to acquire or develop new tools and methodologies that will accelerate the use and effectiveness of MERL in the Agency.

The Lab is seeking new approaches in the MERL space that will allow it to more rapidly learn about program effectiveness in order to responsibly iterate and improve, making it more feasible to use data and evidence to drive decisions. The Lab is interested in hearing from individuals and organizations (NGOs, private sector, academia, other donors, etc.) that are breaking new and innovative ground in the following areas:

- Monitoring, evaluation, research, and learning tools and methodologies
- Approaches to how donors engage and structure evaluations
- Tools and approaches to sourcing, collecting and analyzing data

USAID wants to hear from organizations at the cutting edge of measuring impact, understanding complex development challenges and solutions, and using evidence to drive smart decision-making and policy. The Lab is looking to co-create new programs with organizations whose priorities lie in fostering increased development impact through improved and innovative tools for monitoring, evaluation, research, and learning.

Application Process

If you are interested in being part of this co-design opportunity with the U.S. Global Development Lab, or want additional information, click here: fbo.gov and grants.gov