Global Development Commons

Information Sharing for Development

ACVFA Meeting
February 28, 2006
What is the GDC?

• A virtual space where development stakeholders share information and exchange ideas in real-time.

• Not owned by any one government, business, or entity but by the development user community.

• Builds on recent dramatic changes in the development assistance landscape.

• Repositions information sharing to optimize fast-paced changes in the internet, communications, and web-based applications.

• Responds to consumer and end-user information needs.
What’s Changed Worldwide?

• Over 1 billion internet users in 2006 -- more than ½ of those new users are from the developing world.

• By 2011, 2 out of every 3 three internet users will come from the developing world.

• In most developing countries, the new internet users are 20 fold more likely to use mobile phones and other wireless devices than fixed platforms.

• The number of public and private stakeholders seeking to reduce poverty is increasing exponentially as internet user rates sky rocket.
What’s Missing Worldwide?

• Most major search engines like Google and Yahoo are focused on number of hits and speed rather than content.

• Meeting end-user development information needs is often tedious, uncertain, and unreliable.

• Many stakeholder websites/development portals are mainly built for “top-end users”.

• End-users must find pertinent websites rather than have the website information come to them.
What are the GDC’s Goals?

• Accelerate real-time information sharing worldwide especially among aid end-users, recipients, and beneficiaries.

• Catalyze the worldwide effort to build the next generation of information sharing platforms – “Development Portal 2.0”

• Build partnerships with leading public and private sector organizations so that “Development Portal 2.0” is a shared effort.

• Create a USAID “Smart Portal” that will link all Agency websites and make searching for Agency information and best practices easy and efficient.
GDC Worldwide

Governments

NGOs

Multilaterals

Global Development Commons

Citizens

Academia

Business

Foundations
USAID’s Smart Portal

USAID SMART PORTAL

DCHA
GH
AFR
EGAT
ANE
E&E
LAC
Mission Directors’ Working Group Feedback

- Determine USAID value added in web site/portals
- Conduct Agency wide Mission-level GDC survey
- Recruit pilot missions for in depth GDC input
- Examine end-users’ interest/demand
- Identify barriers to “bottom-up” GDC access
Learn More:

• Please visit the website at:
  www.usaid.gov/about_usaid/gdc/

• Or contact us directly:
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GDC Worldwide