GLOBAL DEVELOPOMENT ALLIANCES & AGENCY PRIORITIES

USAID pursues and supports Global Development Alliances (GDAs) as a means to increase the sustainable impact of our development assistance programs and more effectively address critical development challenges worldwide. Therefore, alliances must support USAID's core development initiatives and advance the development objectives and priorities that guide USAID's development assistance programs and investments, including the promotion of gender equitable development.

A thorough overview of the Agency's core initiatives, objectives and priorities is provided below. In addition, more detailed information on individual country level programs managed by USAID Missions can be found at http://idea.usaid.gov/gp/aps-resources.

Prospective partners should carefully review these initiatives, objectives and priorities in order to determine whether and how business and USAID interests might intersect in a manner that warrants the development and implementation of a GDA.

USAID Forward – Implementation and Procurement Reform (IPR)

A key Agency priority is USAID Forward, an initiative aimed at changing the way USAID does business in order to more effectively achieve high impact development while making the best use of limited resources. This initiative includes implementation and procurement reform (IPR) that embraces our ability to be development entrepreneurs focused on improving how we do business—contracting with and providing grants to more and varied local partners, and creating true partnerships to create the conditions where aid is no longer necessary in the countries where we work. Through this APS, USAID expects to identify and support new partnerships that advance the core objectives of IPR. Those objectives include:

1. Strengthen partner country capacity to improve aid effectiveness and sustainability by increasing use of reliable partner country systems and institutions to provide support to partner countries;
2. Strengthen local civil society and private sector capacity to improve aid effectiveness and sustainability, by working closely with our implementing partners on capacity building and local grant and contract allocations;
3. Increase competition and broaden USAID's partner base, by increasing the number of prime contract awards and percentage of total dollars obligated to U.S. based small and disadvantaged businesses and small NGOs (while decreasing the number and value of large pre-competed contracts);
4. Use USG resources more efficiently and effectively, by increasing the number of fixed price contracts where feasible and appropriate, decreasing the use of "high-risk"

      procurement methods, and harmonizing procurement approaches with other US
      government agencies working in the same substantive areas; and

    5. Strengthen collaboration and partnership with bilateral donors, multilateral and
      international organizations to increase synergies and avoid duplication.

Feed the Future/Food Security

Food security is a priority for the Administration, and USAID is the lead implementing agency for the President's global hunger and food security initiative, Feed the Future.   One billion people live in poverty and chronic hunger, and this number appears to be rising. Sixty percent of these people are rural, women-led small-scale food producers. Twenty percent are rural land-less laborers and twenty percent are urban dwellers. Engagement of the private sector is critical to the success and sustainability of this initiative. Mobilizing private financing – equity and debt -- in key value chains in target countries will be an important component to achieve scale. Partnerships can accelerate actions that improve the ability of millions of food-insecure families to increase production of food staples, improve nutrition for the vulnerable, and increase household income. They can stimulate rural economies through agricultural growth and productivity growth in light of resource degradation, water shortages and climate change, and can make significant contributions to revitalizing the local communities to sustainably reduce food insecurity. Through this APS, USAID expects to identify and support new partnerships that can accelerate inclusive agriculture sector growth, improve nutrition status, especially of women and children, and increase investment in agricultural enterprises. For more details on this Agency priority please visit: www.feedthefuture.gov.

Global Climate Change Initiative

In support of climate change adaptation and mitigation, this APS can be used to submit concept papers that propose GDAs that make USAID's development assistance "climate resilient" across all sectors and help put countries on an inclusive, sustainable, low-emission development path. USAID is interested in supporting partnerships that address gender equal implementation of policy reform, institutional modification and/or the stakeholder involvement required for low-emission, climate-resilient development. USAID is also interested in partnerships with private fund managers and other investors or financial institutions that demonstrate innovative approaches to significantly increase financing for businesses and projects that have measurable emission reductions.

USAID's Global Climate Change program is pursuing activities against two objectives—adaptation and mitigation—using three funding streams or "pillars": adaptation, clean energy, and sustainable landscapes. The goal of sustainable landscapes efforts is to assist countries to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and land degradation and to enhance sequestration of carbon associated with sound land use and management, with a focus on forests and other priority ecosystems, such as peat lands, wetlands, and agricultural lands. USAID is also moving to integrate climate change objectives into Feed the Future, water

resources management, biodiversity conservation, health, disaster risk reduction and other programs. USAID's ability to work effectively with partner countries to deliver results on the ground will help the United States engage constructively in climate change negotiations. For more details on this agency priority please visit: www.usaid.gov/our_work/environment/climate/index.html.

Global Health Initiative

The Administration is emphasizing global health in its diplomacy and development work around the world. With strategic investments in global health, we will spur progress in economic development, job creation, education, agricultural development, gender equity, and political stability.

Through the Global Health Initiative (GHI), the U.S. government is pursuing the dual objectives of achieving **significant health improvements** and creating an **effective, efficient and country-led platform** for the sustainable delivery of essential health care and public health programs. The GHI will help partner countries improve health outcomes through strengthened health systems, with a particular focus on improving the health of women, newborns and children through programs including infectious disease, nutrition, maternal and child health, family planning and reproductive health, and safe water. Achieving major improvements in health outcomes is the paramount objective of the Initiative.

GHI takes into account and leverages the health and development efforts of partner countries, other bilateral donors, multilateral organizations, civil society, private sector, and faith-based and non-governmental organizations to achieve the greatest possible impact with U.S. investments. For more details on this agency priority please visit: www.usaid.gov/ghi.

Water

Water is a basic requirement for human health, livelihoods, food security, and ecosystem integrity. Water touches on or plays a major role in almost every sector of USAID's work, from agriculture to child survival, democracy to climate change. USAID's strategy for the water sector reflects the integrated nature of the sector and includes attention to all dimensions of water and development, including water supply, sanitation and hygiene, gender equality, sustainable water resources management, the financing of water and sanitation delivery systems, and productive water use in economic sectors such as agriculture and industry. Through this APS, USAID hopes to elicit new partners for our Missions and Washington Operating Units (WOUs) that will create innovative GDAs that can have a significant impact on development challenges across the entire spectrum of water-related development issues. GDAs that integrate water with other Agency priorities including Global Health, Food Security, and Global Climate Change (mitigation and adaptation) will be especially welcome. See also, "Other Agency Priorities."

Science and Technology

Continued progress in science, technology and innovation with improved application of technology in development is critical to the President's goal of increasing the number of prosperous, capable and democratic states. Input of U.S. science, technology and innovation is sought by developing countries to support broad-based economic growth and critical concerns such as food security, education, gender equality, public health, and global climate change.

To address these needs USAID is elevating the role of science, technology and innovation in shaping development strategies. We seek to identify and facilitate inclusive science, technology and innovation initiatives to better advance the Agency's mission. Partnerships with the private sector are fundamental to successful utilization of high-risk, high-payoff approaches. Special emphasis will be placed on bridging the gap between new discoveries and sustainable, scalable impacts in the developing world.

Potential partners for USAID may use this APS to submit proposals for alliances that address development-focused scientific research, improved monitoring and evaluation, new technology adoption approaches, or other entrepreneurial approaches that demonstrate how science, technology and innovation can have a significant impact on a particular "grand development challenge."

Education

Education is foundational to human development and critical to broad-based economic growth. Few societies have achieved high and sustained rates of growth or significantly reduced poverty without first investing in expanding access to quality education. The USAID Education strategy focuses on three main goals: 1) improved reading skills for 100 million children in primary grades by 2015; 2) improved ability of tertiary and workforce development programs to generate workforce skills relevant to a country's development goals; and 3) increased equitable access to education in crisis and conflict environments for 15 million learners by 2015. Through this APS, USAID hopes to identify and support partnerships that directly support progress towards these goals. For more details on the Agency's investments in education, please visit www.usaid.gov/our_work/education_and_universities.

Citizen Security (Support for at-risk Youth, Workforce Development, Education, Crime Prevention)

Public-private alliances for youth-focused crime prevention in Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean are crucial to the LAC bureau's efforts to mobilize additional resources and to bring in additional partners from the private and public sectors in support of our citizen security initiatives. Some examples of initiatives might include: (1) the creation of local private sector consortiums to work on crime prevention in distressed communities, including job training, internship opportunities, jointly funding social development projects w/ USAID; (2) partnership

with a private sector foundation supporting workforce development programming in coordination with public sector entities; (3) partnership with a company operating in the region to train youth and other works, hire accredited workers etc. The options are dependent on the country context and political will of both private sector and governments to collaborate on citizen security initiatives in the area of prevention.

Innovation

Innovations that have the potential to create dramatic development benefits for millions of lives come from great ideas which are conceptualized, developed, refined to meet real-world operational challenges, tested, and ultimately scaled up to change the world in fundamental ways. While USAID may issue additional specific solicitations in FY2012 for innovative approaches to particular development challenges, this APS provides another avenue for diverse innovators from academia, the private sector, and NGOs to begin engaging with Missions and WOUs around creative approaches to tackling major development challenges.

Other Agency Priorities

USAID is in the process of developing Agency strategies regarding **Water** and **Gender**. Information on these strategies, when developed, can be found on the Agency's website at www.usaid.gov.

The Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) Bureau is also interested in pursuing partnerships that help host governments mobilize increased resources to invest in their own development, such as by helping sub-national governments tap into capital markets.

In addition to the priority areas listed above, Offerors may also propose alliances addressing significant development challenges in the sectors listed below:

A) **ANTI-CORRUPTION/ DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE/CIVIL SOCIETY STRENGTHENING**
B) **HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE**
C) **DISASTER PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE AND RECOVERY**
D) **ECONOMIC POLICY AND TRADE AND REGULATORY REFORM**
E) **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**
F) **ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND MICROENTERPRISE**
G) **GENDER**

For more information on these sectors and programmatic activities where USAID seeks to develop public-private alliances, please visit http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/.