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THE OFFICE OF INNOVATION AND DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCES **Partnering to Accelerate Entrepreneurship (PACE) Initiative** Global Partnerships Division

“In the last 20 years alone, human ingenuity and entrepreneurship around the world have reduced child mortality rates by 42 percent and poverty rates by 48 percent—lifting over 600 million people above the dollar-and-a-quarter poverty line.”

—Dr. Rajiv Shah
USAID Administrator

Established in 2001, the Global Development Alliance (GDA) model has created more than 1,500 alliances with over 3,500 unique partners, leveraging more than 20 billion dollars in combined resources. On average, USAID’s portfolio of public-private partnerships has leveraged three dollars in private sector resources for each dollar that USAID invests. In 2013, USAID had over 200 active partnerships, leveraging approximately \$3.20 for each dollar USAID invested.

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USAID Read Malawi Partnership, Photo Credit: Inveneo

The PACE Initiative

Recognizing the vital role that entrepreneurs in developing countries play in driving economic growth, creating jobs, and advancing market-based solutions to development challenges, USAID is launching the Partnering to Accelerate Entrepreneurship (PACE) initiative with the goal of spurring innovations that accelerate the creation of promising, high growth, and sustainable entrepreneurial ventures across the developing world.

Through PACE, USAID plans to invest up to \$10 million to identify, test, and implement financially sustainable models that accelerate the growth of small and growing businesses that promote broad-based economic prosperity or address

development challenges in areas such as food security, health, and energy access.

To source new ideas and a diverse set of partners in this effort, USAID is issuing an open call for partnership ideas, utilizing its Global Development Alliance framework to invite organizations to submit concept papers for partnership and co-investment.

The Importance of Entrepreneurship to Global Development

The Obama Administration has actively supported entrepreneurial ventures in developing countries as critical engines of economic growth. Entrepreneurs drive innovation, create new industries, and open new markets that promote