USING BLENDED FINANCE TO GENERATE ADDITIONALITY AND HUMAN IMPACT:
GUIDANCE NOTE

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Overview
USAID has extensive experience in mobilizing capital for international development and has engaged in a range of donor-supported activities to further its mission. This guidance note aims to serve as a brief overview of how USAID can facilitate blended finance activities to create additionality that can lead to human impacts in low- and middle-income countries.

Key Messages of this Guidance Note
- Private capital can help address the significant development financing gap.
- Blended finance mobilizes private capital by creating financial structures that allow impact-oriented donors and commercial capital providers to deploy capital alongside each other and achieve goals that would not have been possible otherwise.
- Done right, blended finance creates additionality and can lead to human impacts. 
  Additionality is defined as achievement of a goal that would not have happened without donor intervention. There are two categories of additionality: financial and ecosystem.
  Human impact is the social outcome of blended finance and can be linked to a range of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- USAID can play an essential, value-added role in catalyzing private investment for development by offering a distinct blend of support services that facilitates participation of the private sector as well as more effective engagement of development finance institutions.
- Donor supported activities that contribute to additionality and human impact include investment opportunity assessments, structuring funds and financial instruments, catalytic capital, guarantees and risk insurance, transaction advisory services, and technical assistance.
How to Use This Guidance Note

- The guidance note builds understanding for USAID on how blended finance is used to drive development outcomes by creating linkages between donor supported activities, additionality, and human impacts (Section 1).

- The conceptual framework (Section 2) helps USAID expand the rationale for blended finance beyond financial leverage (i.e., private capital mobilized per dollar of USAID support) – to emphasize additionality and human impacts as equally important outcomes. Given that additionality can often be greater in circumstances where financial leverage is lower, this framework can help USAID understand tradeoffs and identify how donor support can be most effective.

- The framework further clarifies the purpose of six types of donor-supported activities in blended finance, helping development professionals to understand the blended finance activities that USAID commonly supports, and which are suitable in different situations or stages of a project lifecycle.

- USAID can use the definitions of additionality (financial and ecosystem) in this guidance note and connect it with mission goals. Additionally, USAID can link human impact categories established in the conceptual framework with priority SDGs that USAID tracks to achieve its development objectives.

- While not every type of additionality and human impact will be present in every blended finance transaction, the framework helps USAID understand the different possibilities available.

Guidance Note Readership

This guidance note is for all USAID staff interested in understanding the opportunities presented by blended finance and how it creates additionality and leads to human impacts.
SECTION 1: THE CASE FOR BLENDED FINANCE

There is a significant development financing gap that private capital resources can help address. Central to USAID’s mission of advancing a free, peaceful, and prosperous world is the ability to support programs that improve livelihoods, provide access to needed products and services, create climate and environmental benefits, and reduce inequities. While USAID programs have made progress against these objectives and propelled developing countries towards better social and economic outcomes, there remains a significant global finance gap towards achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). As a result, large populations across low and middle-income countries still lack basic access to products and services that add dignity to people’s lives, such as access to clean water, sanitation, quality education, and healthcare.

As shown in Figure 1, traditional development assistance from bilateral donors like USAID is insufficient to bridge the global development financing gap and will need to be supplemented by private capital sources. Private capital presents an important opportunity to help close this gap and ensure financial sustainability of progress made and scalability of high impact initiatives that advance the SDGs.

Blended finance mobilizes private capital to narrow the development finance gap. Blended finance is a strategic response to such challenges, using innovative approaches designed to combine different types of capital and create financial structures in which impact-oriented donors and commercial capital providers can invest alongside each other to achieve their objectives. For donors, blended finance is a means to drive resources toward priority sectors and markets that address SDGs. For the private sector, blended finance’s value proposition is clear – it reduces risk and can increase returns for private investors. Blended finance redistributes risk in innovative ways to different parties, with the public or philanthropic sector often absorbing more risk to usher in private investment.

By mobilizing private capital, blended finance helps create additionality and human impact. While private capital mobilization is a key value proposition of blended finance, another critical part of the equation is aligning increased capital flow to a broader set of benefits, which can be defined through additionality and human impact.

Additionality provides a prime rationale for donor engagement in blended finance. Without additionality, donors run the risk of wasting resources on transactions or projects that would have been equally successful without their involvement. Additionality means “an intervention will lead, or has led, to outcomes which would not have occurred without the intervention”. Donor-supported blended finance activities are the drivers of “intervention”, and the “outcomes” are benefits that occur either at a financial (e.g., private capital mobilization) or ecosystem level (e.g., demonstration effects, standard setting, or regulatory changes).
**Human impact** benefits created from blended finance activities can be aligned to the SDGs and categorized into four general categories: 1) Income and livelihoods, 2) Access to basic products and services, 3) Equity and empowerment, and 4) Climate and environmental benefits. Using these perspectives, blended finance interventions can be supported not only to increase financial leverage, but also to provide ecosystem strengthening and create human impacts at scale to help deliver the SDGs. The following cases show these concepts in practice and illustrate how blended finance can create a path to additionality and human impact.

### FIGURE 2: BLENDED FINANCE CASE STUDIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CASE STUDY</th>
<th>FINANCING GHANAIAN AGRICULTURE PROJECT (FINGAP)</th>
<th>JAPAN ASEAN WOMEN EMPOWERMENT FUND (JAWEF)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGE AND BLENDED FINANCE SOLUTION</td>
<td>• In 2013, insufficient financing and underdeveloped agriculture value chains put ~10% of Ghana’s population at risk of food insecurity&lt;br&gt;• FinGAP utilized <strong>business advisory services</strong> to support agribusinesses in accessing financing options&lt;br&gt;• &gt;10k hours of <strong>technical assistance</strong> were used to build capacity &amp; improve product offerings from Financial Institutions (FIs)&lt;br&gt;• <strong>Guarantees</strong> helped develop a network of value chain partnerships</td>
<td>• Limited women workforce participation costs the Asia-Pacific region ~$89bn annually – inadequate access to finance is a key barrier&lt;br&gt;• In 2016, BlueOrchard established the Japan ASEAN Women Empowerment Fund (JAWEF), utilizing a blended finance fund structure that incorporated <strong>catalytic capital</strong> to address the financing gap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADDITIONALITY</td>
<td><strong>Financial additionality</strong>: USAID’s $22mm of support unlocked $260mm in private capital and stimulated lending to underserved SME borrowers in long-overlooked agriculture segments (soy, maize &amp; rice)&lt;br&gt;<strong>Ecosystem additionality</strong>: FinGAP developed a self-sustaining agri-finance ecosystem in which financial institutions now compete for market share in the absence of donor funding</td>
<td>• <strong>Financial additionality</strong>: JAWEF addressed the financing gap by leveraging first-loss capital to mobilize institutional investors to bring in over $360mm into this underserved market&lt;br&gt;• <strong>Ecosystem additionality</strong>: JAWEF is the first female microentrepreneurs-focused fund in SEA frontier markets and attracted new private investors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUMAN IMPACT</td>
<td><strong>Income and livelihoods</strong>: production of FinGAP-supported value chains (soy, maize &amp; rice) increased by 18%; average smallholder farmers’ revenues rose by 57% and profits surged by 74%&lt;br&gt;These benefits were enabled by providing 3000 agri-SMEs access to finance. In addition, the number of smallholder farmers receiving loans increased by 344%</td>
<td>• <strong>Equity and empowerment</strong>: JAWEF invested in women-centric MFIs across SEA (e.g., Cambodia, Myanmar, Philippines), thus increasing equity and empowerment&lt;br&gt;JAWEF reached ~250,000 microentrepreneurs directly. 91% of end borrowers were women and 78% of borrowers were rural clients</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The conceptual framework showcases how USAID-supported blended finance activities can create additionality and lead to human impact. USAID has garnered extensive experience in mobilizing capital for development and through a wide range of donor-supported activities, leveraging programs like USAID INVEST to help mobilize over $200 million in private investment.

The following conceptual framework expands on these considerations and supports the blended finance practice at USAID. The key purpose of the framework is to highlight the linkages between donor-supported activities and outcomes in the form of additionality and human impact. Following the framework from left to right in the summary below, USAID utilizes donor-supported activities to mobilize private capital. The deployment of blended finance creates a pathway to additionality that ultimately leads to human impact.

By showing a holistic perspective of blended finance, this framework supports USAID in several ways:

- **Identifies activities that USAID can support to facilitate blended finance that represent a unique value add of bi-lateral donors compared to other actors within the blended finance ecosystem**: USAID staff reported that the framework supports their work by outlining the “discrete list of USAID activities” and bringing clarity to “the role that USAID can play” in supporting blended finance transactions.

- **Expands the blended finance conversation to include non-financial outcomes**: USAID staff reported that the framework presents an opportunity to evaluate blended finance opportunities beyond financial leverage and expectations of high leverage ratios. The framework shows the different potential types of additionality and helps evaluate where donor engagement is most needed and impactful.

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**FIGURE 3: CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK FOR BLENDED FINANCE**

**BLENDING FINANCE**

Donors (e.g., USAID) support activities that enable private capital mobilization...

**ADDITIONALITY**

...that results in investment being directed to priority sectors...

**HUMAN IMPACT**

...leading to improved outcomes for people and the planet.

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As illustrated in the Blended Finance section of the framework, donors can play a unique role in facilitating transactions by engaging in a set of donor-supported activities which enable private investment, and in some cases, more effective engagement from development finance institutions (DFIs). Donors choose to deploy a specific donor-supported activity or combination of activities based on the level of risk and/or investment return expectations that private sector investors and/or DFIs want to take on in less developed sectors or markets.

**Investment opportunity assessments** help investors, banks and other sources of financing understand market conditions and identify investment opportunities. These commonly occur early in the design phase and assess a targeted range of priorities such as gathering information on investors operating or interested in the market and pipeline development.

**Structuring funds and financial instruments** offsets project preparation cost so that its execution appeals to private sector actors and simultaneously offers social/economic development benefits. Activities include helping structure blended finance funds, investment platforms, and other financial products. Financial support also can be provided to cover legal fees.

**Catalytic capital** improves the risk/return profile for commercial investors by absorbing risk and/or accepting concessionary returns for transactions with projected development outcomes. Catalytic capital makes concessions that can nurture nascent markets with unproven models, particularly those that serve low-income customers. USAID can support fund managers and projects with catalytic capital through subcontracts or grants, such as by providing catalytic capital to fund managers to build first-loss capital into the vehicle structure.

**Guarantees and risk insurance** provide credit enhancements and cover part of the risk in the event of losses or defaults. It may also enhance issuer’s credit rating, enabling access to resources on better terms. Donors can provide guarantees/insurance on below-market terms. It is also used to launch a risk-mitigation vehicle adapted to a particular market risk (e.g., currency risk, liquidity risk).

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**FIGURE 4: DONOR-SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES FOR BLENDED FINANCE**

**BLENDING FINANCE**

Donors (e.g., USAID) support activities that enable private capital mobilization...

**ADDITIONALITY**

...that results in investment being directed to priority sectors...

**HUMAN IMPACT**

...leading to improved outcomes for people and the planet.

**DONOR-SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES**

- Investment opportunity assessments
- Structuring funds and financial instruments
- Catalytic capital
- Guarantees and risk insurance
- Transaction advisory services
- Technical assistance

**DONOR ROLE**

**SOCIAL OUTCOMES**
SECTION 2: CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK AND DEFINITIONS

**Transaction advisory services** help link capital suppliers to businesses that need investment. Activities such as investor matchmaking, pitch preparation, financial modeling, and deal structuring are used to help businesses become ‘investment ready’ and raise funding.

**Technical assistance** strengthens the commercial viability of a project at pre or post investment stages by developing the capabilities of fund managers and/or building the strategic and operational capacity of businesses. Donors may leverage TA to support a priority geography, sector, or market segment. Additionally, USAID may provide financial support to offset operational costs (e.g., for launching new vehicles, conducting outreach to investors to raise capital, management fees, etc.) which can help new fund managers get established and control management fees to attract commercial investors into innovative vehicles. USAID may also provide TA, such as legal and engineering services, to support government entities with private-public partnerships and concessions.

Additionality, the middle component of the framework, is produced by donor-supported blended finance activities that create “interventions that will lead, or have led, to effects which would not have occurred without the intervention.” Blended finance creates additionality in situations when commercial financing is not currently available and where there is an explicit focus on opportunities to crowd in financing from commercial sources into transactions that deliver development impact.

Additionality can often be greater in circumstances where financial leverage is lower. Markets with untested business models, high financial risks (e.g., absence of creditworthy borrowers or high risk end-beneficiaries) and limited track record of private investment may offer higher additionality while requiring higher levels of donor support and initially lower levels of capital mobilization.

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**FIGURE 5: TYPES OF ADDITIONALITY**

**Capital Flow**

Donors (e.g., USAID) support activities that enable private capital mobilization...

**Additionality**

...that results in investment being directed to priority sectors...

**Human Impact**

...leading to improved outcomes for people and the planet.

**Types of Additionality**

- Financial additionality mobilizes capital that otherwise would not have participated
- Ecosystem additionality leads to benefits at the policy, regulatory, sector and business activity levels

**Donor-Supported Activities**

- Investment opportunity assessments
- Structuring funds and financial instruments
- Catalytic capital
- Guarantees and risk insurance
- Transaction advisory services
- Technical assistance

**Donor Role**

**Social Outcomes**
The effects created by additionality can be at either the financial or ecosystem levels. Financial additionality refers to situations when private capital is obtained by an entity which cannot otherwise obtain financing from other sources on similar terms, quantities or for similar development purposes, without donor support, whereas ecosystem additionality refers to the system level impact that would not have been realized without a partnership between donors and private investors.

Transaction advisory support, for example, results in financial additionality by making businesses “investment-ready” and encouraging private capital participation. Technical assistance provided as part of a blended finance structure can lead to sector-wide growth and standard-setting by strengthening the capabilities of businesses, funds, and intermediaries, creating ecosystem additionality.

Types of financial additionality:

- **Innovative financial structures/instruments:** Provision of financing (e.g., fund support, loan guarantees) in the form of innovative instruments with non-traditional terms and conditions (e.g., revenue based, moveable asset-based collaterals etc.) that lowers the cost of capital for private investors and addresses risks associated with investing in unproven geographies or sectors
- **Risk mitigation:** Provision of financing that is not available in the market in a way that strengthens creditworthiness, financial soundness, and/or governance of the investee
- **Resource mobilization:** Mobilization of financing from private investors, development finance institutions, and/or additional public sources that would not have invested otherwise

Types of ecosystem additionality:

- **Demonstration effects:** Proof of concept/validation created from innovative blended finance projects that incentivize replication at the fund or project level within or across sectors/regions
- **Sector-wide growth:** Strengthening of a previously underdeveloped/overlooked sector through building capabilities of businesses, funds, and intermediaries
- **Policy or institutional change:** Enhancements in policy, institutional, or regulatory practices at the sector or country level
- **Standard setting:** Creation of improved policies that advance development finance, including procurement best practices and expertise in environmental, social, and governance standards.

Human impact, the long-term social effects of the blended finance transactions, is aligned to the SDGs and defined as the positive long-term effects created across the following four categories:

- **Income and livelihoods:** Reduce poverty, create inclusive and sustainable economic growth, increase decent work, and promote full and productive employment for all
- **Access to basic products and services:** Contribute to healthy lives, inclusive and equitable education, sustainable management of water and sanitation, and affordable and reliable energy
- **Equity and empowerment:** Contribute to full gender equality, empowerment of women and girls, and reduce inequalities for other marginalized or vulnerable populations
- **Climate and environmental benefits:** Reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase climate change adaptation and resilience, protect, or improve ecosystem services and biodiversity on water and land

(See annex for mapping of SDG goals to the four categories)
#### SECTION 2: CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK AND DEFINITIONS

**FIGURE 6: FULL CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK FOR BLENDED FINANCE**

- **BLENDED FINANCE**
  - Donors (e.g., USAID) support activities that enable private capital mobilization...

- **ADDITIONALITY**
  - ...that results in investment being directed to priority sectors...

- **HUMAN IMPACT**
  - ...leading to improved outcomes for people and the planet.

**DONOR-SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES**
- Investment opportunity assessments
- Structuring funds and financial instruments
- Catalytic capital
- Guarantees and risk insurance
- Transaction advisory services
- Technical assistance

**TYPES OF ADDITIONALITY**
- Financial additionality mobilizes capital that otherwise would not have participated
- Ecosystem additionality leads to benefits at the policy, regulatory, sector and business activity levels

**SDG CATEGORIES**
- Income and livelihoods
- Equity and empowerment
- Access to basic products and services
- Climate and environmental benefits

**SOCIAL OUTCOMES**
SECTION 3: USAID INVEST-LED CASE STUDIES

USAID support encourages capital flows into developing markets and establishes pathways for improved development outcomes.

The majority of USAID INVEST blended finance projects are in the early stages of showing impact. While many USAID INVEST projects provide examples of additionality and human impact, it is worth noting that ecosystem additionality and human impacts often take longer to materialize compared to financial additionality.

The following case studies illustrate how donor-supported activities create additionality and develop a pathway to human impacts.

FIGURE 7: SUMMARY OF USAID INVEST-LED BLENDED FINANCE CASE STUDIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CASE STUDY</th>
<th>REGION</th>
<th>SECTOR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Power Africa Kenya</td>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>Energy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilized transaction advisory services to help off-grid energy businesses raise capital and increase connections</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haiti INVEST Platform</td>
<td>Latin America and the Caribbean</td>
<td>Cross-sector</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supported the structuring of funds and used transaction advisory services to mobilize investments in local Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to support jobs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prosper Africa</td>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>Cross-sector</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Used transaction advisory services to strengthen the investment ecosystem and increase two-way trade and investment between African nations and the United States</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CASE STUDY 1: POWER AFRICA

Power Africa Kenya utilized transaction advisory services (TAS) to help off-grid energy businesses mobilize capital, improving access to renewable energy products and services for households.

DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGE AND BLENDED FINANCE SOLUTION OVERVIEW

In 2017, an estimated 8.7mm Kenyan households did not have access to electricity or were served by an unreliable grid. Power Africa Kenya helps off-grid energy businesses raise capital and expand services.

USAID provided transaction advisory services to help four high potential off-grid renewable energy business (M-KOPA, Azuri Technologies, Greenlight Planet, PowerGen), become “investment-ready.” USAID and partners supported the businesses by identifying investors, preparing materials, assisting in financial models, and advising on term sheets.

ADDITIONALITY CREATED THROUGH BLENDED FINANCE

- Financial additionality: USAID’s intervention supported businesses that were often unable to close transactions and raise capital. TAS have helped the four off-grid businesses close debt and equity transactions totaling $105.3mm. For example, USAID supported Azuri by identifying lead investors and supporting due
diligence preparation to help the company attract $26mm in equity financing from private investors. In addition, TAS also supported syndicated debt and attracted new investors to the market.

- **Ecosystem additionality:** The successful transactions have created increased investor interest in the mini-grid sector. Azuri and M-KOPA both attracted private sector investors that previously had not invested in the off-grid space within the Sub-Saharan Africa region. By building a track record of transactions, TAS are creating demonstration effects and enhancing the capacity of local intermediaries, which help grow the market and strengthen the investment ecosystem.

**HUMAN IMPACT**

- **Income and Livelihoods:** New electricity customers reported increased business activity as well as saved time and expenses. 14 71% of M-Kopa customers reduced expenses by replacing kerosene and phone charging expenditures with M-Kopa. Over 50% of M-Kopa customers have reported increased time for productive activities, such as supporting their business.15

- **Access to basic products and services:** Beneficiaries from Power Africa Kenya projects who either received access to a new connection or a connection upgrade mentioned a wide range of benefits, such as increased educational attainment and improved health and safety.16 INVEST’s engagement with Power Africa Kenya is projected to create approximately 1.2 million new and upgraded connections in the Kenyan market (1.7 million total connections in the region),17 which is expected to further extend impact.

- **Climate and environmental benefits:** Support provided to the four off-grid energy companies will help scale renewable energy access, mitigating the impact of climate change by reducing dependence on carbon emitting sources of energy.

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**FIGURE 8: POWER AFRICA CASE STUDY SYNOPSIS**

**POWER AFRICA**

**REGION:** Africa | **SECTOR:** Energy | **YEAR:** 2017 - 2020

**BLEND FINANCE**

Donor-Supported Activities
Transaction advisory services

**ADDITIONALITY**

Financial Additionality
- Resource mobilization
- Innovative financial structures/instruments
Ecosystem Additionality
- Sector-wide growth
- Demonstration effects

**HUMAN IMPACT**

- Income and livelihoods
- Access to basic products and services
- Climate and environmental benefits
CASE STUDY 2: HAITI INVEST

The Haiti INVEST Platform supported the structuring of funds and used transaction advisory services (TAS) to mobilize investments in local Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).

DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGE AND BLENDED FINANCE SOLUTION OVERVIEW

Haiti’s extensive economic and social development gaps require private capital to supplement donor funding efforts. However, private capital mobilization faces numerous challenges as Haiti has one of the weakest investment environments in the world.\textsuperscript{18} Established in 2018, the Haiti INVEST platform used fund structuring and TAS to strengthen the investment ecosystem and facilitate private capital flow to Haitian SMEs:

- TAS was utilized to help local SMEs apply for loans and investments from local and foreign investors. For example, Haiti INVEST supported ESG Group, a solar panel SME, in raising $500k by helping develop its business case and feasibility assessments.\textsuperscript{19}
- The structuring of funds and financial instruments was used to help Delphin Investments create the Caribbean Resilience Fund (CRF), which channels diaspora and institutional capital to enterprises.\textsuperscript{20}
ADDICTIONALITY CREATED THROUGH BLENDED FINANCE

- **Financial additionality**: Haiti INVEST creates financial additionality by mobilizing debt and equity to support investments that would not have occurred otherwise. Delphin Investments, for example, credits USAID’s assistance in fund structuring as a key factor behind the successful creation of the Caribbean Resilience Fund (CRF). To date, the CRF has mobilized $200k and will deploy capital into Haitian SMEs. Haiti INVEST transaction advisors have closed 10 deals with SMEs for a value of $19mm+ in capital mobilized.

- **Ecosystem additionality**: The combination of competitive, pay-for-results contracting, and engagement with domestic and international investors is increasing the capacity and financial viability of local business advisory and transaction advisory service providers. The demonstration effect has attracted additional transaction advisors, funds, and SMEs to the Haiti INVEST platform. Additionally, an advisory committee supported by the program provides a platform for transaction advisors, fund managers and other industry stakeholders to identify and address issues of mutual interest for building the investment ecosystem.

HUMAN IMPACT

- **Income and livelihoods**: The Haiti INVEST platform has provided technical assistance to 62 SMEs to date. In addition, SMEs accessing finance and investment facilitated by Haiti INVEST have supported 365 jobs. As the Haiti INVEST platform matures, increases in commercial capital distribution to SMEs is expected to create further improvements in incomes and livelihoods for the Haitian population.

- **Access to basic products and services**: Haiti INVEST is expected to expand access to quality services such as water, electricity, health, and affordable housing, and build resiliency of communities, businesses, and improve the lives of Haitians.
CASE STUDY 3: PROSPER AFRICA

Prosper Africa utilized transaction advisory services to support economic growth and benefits in incomes and livelihoods

DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGE AND BLENDED FINANCE SOLUTION OVERVIEW

Prosper Africa is a USG initiative to substantially increase two-way trade and investment between African nations and the United States. Through the initiative, the USG aims to work closely with the private sector to drive billions of dollars of investment in Africa, help American businesses access Africa’s markets, and create thousands of jobs.

USAID INVEST utilized a variety of mechanisms to support the program:

- INVEST engaged transaction advisors to build a pipeline of investable deals with positive development impact. USAID used this pipeline to identify opportunities that were strategic and transformative for two-way trade and investment and provided transaction advisory services in the form of due diligence, investor matchmaking, pitch preparation, financial modelling, and deal structuring.
• Prosper Africa piloted an approach to review, vet, and advise on transactions looking to leverage USG tools and support. Through this engagement, INVEST extends the capacity of the Prosper Africa Secretariat and Embassy Deal Teams to review incoming opportunities and provide guidance on which USG capability can best be used to support.24

ADDITIONALITY CREATED THROUGH BLENDED FINANCE

• **Financial additionality:** USAID supported Tomato Jos, a Nigerian tomato production company, and Savannah Technology Fund II, a Sub-Saharan venture capital fund, to identify the right investors and attract capital.25 With the help of Prosper Africa, Tomato Jos secured $4.4mm in equity investments from private investors and Savannah Fund closed its first round of investments.

• **Ecosystem additionality:** Increasing the quality and quantity of opportunities through multiple avenues and approaches provides much needed visibility to capital seekers in Africa. One such avenue is the Virtual Deal Room (VDR) which connects investment opportunities in Africa with interested U.S. investors. Through the VDR, Prosper Africa can showcase sector opportunities to US investors that might otherwise go unnoticed and can provide an on ramp to investing in the continent for investors unsure where to start.

HUMAN IMPACT

• **Income and livelihoods:** Through a more robust investment ecosystem, Prosper Africa creates jobs and advances shared prosperity. For example, Tomato Jos’ fundraising is expected to increase the company’s scale and help improve the incomes and livelihoods of stakeholders by creating jobs for 20 full-time employees and partnerships with 600 contract farmers.26
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26. USAID INVEST YEAR 3 QUARTER 3 REPORT

ANNEX

HUMAN IMPACT - SDG CATEGORIES

**INCOME AND LIVELIHOODS**
Reduce poverty, create inclusive and sustainable economic growth, increase decent work, and promote full and productive employment for all.

**ACCESS TO BASIC PRODUCTS AND SERVICES**
Contribute to healthy lives, inclusive and equitable education, sustainable management of water and sanitation, and affordable and reliable energy.

**EQUITY AND EMPOWERMENT**
Contribute to full gender equality, empowerment of women and girls, and reduce inequalities for other marginalized or vulnerable populations.

**CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS**
Reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase climate change adaptation and resilience, protect or improve ecosystem services and biodiversity on water and land.