



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

The FIELD-Support Leader With Associates Award

Solutions for Broad-Based Economic Growth

The Financial Integration, Economic Leveraging, Broad-Based Dissemination (FIELD-Support) Leader with Associates award (LWA) is designed to implement innovative, comprehensive, and integrated approaches to sustainable **economic growth with poverty reduction**. This includes building more **inclusive financial systems**, improving the **competitiveness of industries in which micro and small enterprises participate**, and enhancing the overall **policy and regulatory environment** to enable broad-based economic growth. FIELD-Support is also designed to respond to the **economic security needs of special populations**, such as families hurt by civil conflict and natural disaster, communities hit hard by HIV/AIDS and other health issues, as well as address the **livelihood and enterprise needs of difficult-to-reach clientele** such as the poor in remote rural areas, youth, women, refugees, and internally displaced persons.

ABOUT THE FIELD-SUPPORT LWA

An LWA is similar to an Indefinite Quantity Contract (IQC) but uses grants and cooperative agreements instead of contracts to fund and carry out activities. In addition, unlike an IQC no further competition is required to issue sub-awards once the initial award is granted. The new mechanism brings together core **Leader Award** funding (**\$10 million**) and a streamlined process for Missions and USAID operating units to use their own resources to access FIELD-Support expertise. Under this mechanism, USAID operating units may issue **Associate Awards up to a ceiling of \$340 million**, depending on available resources and demand from USAID Missions. FIELD-Support will operate through FY 2010, with a possible five-year extension through 2015.

The FIELD-Support LWA was competitively awarded by USAID's Office of Microenterprise Development to a **team of 27 highly qualified organizations**, led by the Academy for Educational Development (AED). The team, comprising 10 core members and 17 resource organizations has a proven track record in reducing poverty and promoting sustained, equitable growth through microenterprise development, microfinance, value chain development, institution and human capacity-building, and the promotion of other market-based approaches. Experiences include supporting micro and small enterprises' access to market opportunities, strengthening and deepening financial systems, promoting sustainable livelihoods and improving the national and local enabling environment. Sustainable livelihood work increases poor household assets and strengthens their coping strategies, while enabling environment work focuses on both the national and local levels to boost productivity, earnings, and competitiveness.

THE CORE TEAM

- [AED](#)
- [ACCION International](#)
- [ACDI/VOCA](#)
- [Action for Enterprise](#)
- [CARE](#)
- [FINCA International](#)
- [IRIS Center-University of Maryland](#)
- [Opportunity International](#)
- [Save the Children](#)
- [World Council of Credit Unions](#)



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RESOURCE ORGANIZATIONS

- [Alternative Credit Technologies](#)
- [Americas Association of Cooperative/Mutual Insurance Societies](#)
- [Cornell University-Base of the Pyramid Laboratory](#)
- [Development Training Services](#)
- [Freedom from Hunger](#)
- [Georgetown University-Center for Intercultural Education and Development](#)
- [International Development Enterprise](#)
- [International Real Property Foundation](#)
- [Mennonite Economic Development Associates](#)
- [Michigan State University-Agricultural Economics Department](#)
- [Microfinance Opportunities](#)
- [Rainforest Alliance](#)
- [Small Enterprise Education and Promotion \(SEEP\) Network](#)
- [Technoserve](#)
- [University of Michigan-William Davidson Institute](#)
- [Women's World Banking](#)
- [World Vision International](#)

THE FIELD-SUPPORT ADVANTAGE

The FIELD-Support LWA offers distinct advantages over other contracting vehicles, including:

- **Flexibility**—Awards can be issued for a diverse range of economic growth and cross-cutting activities, as well as a wide variety of partners, including local organizations.
- **Wide range of integrated services**—The FIELD-Support Team has the breadth and depth of expertise to respond to Missions' needs for services at **all** levels of the economy, from enterprise development to institution-building to legal and regulatory reform.
- **Speed of procurement**—No further competition is required to issue awards, and the mechanism uses simplified documentation.
- **Responsiveness**—Streamlined process for rapid deployment of technical teams and program implementation.
- **Accountability**—Awardees remain directly accountable to the USAID Mission or operating unit issuing the award.

SIMPLE STEPS TO ACCESS FIELD-SUPPORT

- The Mission's Strategic Objective Team Leader or technical officer, in consultation with the Mission's Agreement Officer, sends a **Scope of Work** to USAID CTO Yvette Dennis (ydennis@usaid.gov) and FIELD-Support Project Director Paul Bundick (pbundick@aed.org). [An alternative contact is Deputy Project Director Nicholas Wedeman (nwedeman@aed.org).]
- The CTO determines whether the Scope of Work is eligible for an Associate Award under the overall Leader program description and notifies the Mission.
- Once the Scope of Work is deemed eligible, AED negotiates with the Mission and the relevant Agreement Officer to prepare a budget and subagreement with the appropriate team members to implement the activity.
- Implementation begins.

For more information, visit www.microlinks.org