FY 2021-22
Annual Report

Workgroups & Networks
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Dear SID-US Workgroup & Network members and participants,

With the start of Fall and our new fiscal year well under way, we are happy to report that we had another exciting year on what we thought was another productive and engaging year (FY22 ending June 30), despite ongoing challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic and its effect on events. We are extremely grateful to our Workgroup and Network Co-Chairs for putting together and hosting some excellent programs over the course of the year, and to our Workgroup and Network members, as well as our non-member participants, who participated.

In FY22 we tried a variety of new approaches to hosting events with diverse and relevant programming and different ways of engaging audiences. While most events remained virtual, we ended the year with our first ever hybrid Annual Conference and plan on holding a number of hybrid events this fall. We started a series of monthly Happy Hours, several of which were hosted by our Workgroups and Networks. And we introduced a new opportunity to volunteer with us as a Workgroup or Network Associate. If you or anyone you know might be interested in this position, please apply here.

In May we announced our name change to SID-US with an expanded focus throughout the country. We think this, combined with our ability to engage virtual audiences, will serve to make all of our programming and convening power even more robust. We look forward to working with our Workgroups, Networks and Affinity Groups to tap our broader community as we continue to debate and discuss critical ideas, innovations, policies and practices, and advance equitable development.
With the start of Fall and our new fiscal year well under way, we are happy to report that we had another exciting year on what we thought was another productive and engaging year (FY22 ending June 30), despite ongoing challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic and its effect on events. We are extremely grateful to our Workgroup and Network Co-Chairs for putting together and hosting some excellent programs over the course of the year, and to our Workgroup and Network members, as well as our non-member participants, who participated.

Regards,

Katherine Raphaelson

Malavika Randive
The Corporate Role in Development Workgroup is a group of individuals actively engaged in the private sector and the role it plays in international development. With events ranging from corporate social responsibility strategies to the role the private sector will play in achieving the SDGs, this workgroup aims to inform on the continued international presence and active role the private sector will play in development.

Co-Chairs

Lisa-Marie is a Partner with the law firm of Rimon, P.C. and represents project sponsors, investment funds, issuers and other parties in the structuring, negotiation, and documentation of a broad range of financing transactions with bilateral/multilateral development finance institutions and other financial institutions. She is experienced in project finance, structured finance, commercial lending, export finance and equipment finance. Lisa-Marie focuses on financings and investments in emerging markets in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Asia. Read More

Michael Ingram is a Senior Manager in Accenture Development Partnerships. He has spent the last twenty years consulting in the international development and banking sectors. Early in his career, he consulted for large US banks with engagements focused on credit operations, retail delivery systems and process redesign, often following large mergers. Within the international development sector his focus has been private sector and financial sector development. He has conducted both quantitative and qualitative assessments of the business enabling environment for the World Bank and USAID, respectively. Read More
Workgroup Events

Planning Meeting | July 14, 2021

The Corporate Role in Development Workgroup met on Wednesday, July 14th at 3:00 PM ET to plan events for the group in the next year. In recent months, the group organized events on topics such as Building Transformational Partnerships for Gender Equality and Private Sector Engagement in Sustainable Urban Development. All members were encouraged to join and to bring ideas for event formats and topics.

View Event Summary here
View Event Recording here
The Democracy, Rights, and Governance Workgroup is a group of individuals who are actively engaged in the ongoing evolution and development of human rights and democracy associated with international development, including the role of civil society. With events ranging from strengthening health governance to dealing with corruption, to advancing human rights and rule of law, and evolving political analysis, this workgroup aims to inform and educate its members on any and all development issues that relate to democracy, rights, and governance, as well as how civil society can help shape economic and social outcomes. The workgroup also works to examine principles important to democracy, human rights, and governance, including transparency, accountability, participation, and inclusion.

Co-Chairs

Patrick Quirk serves as Senior Director for Strategy, Research, and the Center for Global Impact at the International Republican Institute (IRI). In this role, he manages the team of thematic experts, researchers, and global project staff who help IRI monitor and develop innovative approaches to address global challenges to democracy. He also oversees IRI’s institutional efforts on monitoring, evaluation and learning, and applied research. Concurrent to serving at IRI, Dr. Quirk is a Nonresident Fellow in the Foreign Policy program at the Brookings Institution and an Adjunct Professor at Georgetown University. Read More

Barbara Smith oversees the Carter Center’s democracy, human rights, conflict resolution, and rule of law programs, which operate projects and observe elections in countries across the globe. Before coming to The Carter Center in September 2020, Smith was principal and founder of the international development consulting firm Mountain Time Development. She also was a senior associate at the Center for Strategic & International Studies, focused on the Human Rights Initiative, conducting field work and research on civil society. Her wide-ranging career also includes assignments at the United States Agency for International Development and with the National Security Council in the White House. Read More
The Democracy, Rights, and Governance (DRG) workgroup of the Society for International Development, Washington Chapter (SID-W) plans to hold an event on September 16th entitled: the U.S. DRG Agenda for the Next Decade: the Biden Administration and Beyond. During the session, to be convened via Zoom, DRG experts from outside the U.S. government will offer perspectives on issues the administration should prioritize and thoughts for American support to democracy over the next ten years, and a representative from the Biden administration will discuss its approach to these issues, including the framing of global DRG priorities.

View Event Summary here
View Event Recording here

Summit for Democracy’s Year of Action: An Update from the Biden Administration | April 25, 2022

During this Zoom session, DRG experts from outside the U.S. government offered perspectives on issues the administration should prioritize and thoughts for American support to democracy over the next ten years, and a representative from the Biden administration discussed its approach to these issues, including the framing of global DRG priorities.

View Event Summary here
View Event Recording here
Now more than ever, innovative solutions are required to fill the funding gap, estimated to reach trillions of dollars, needed to solve the world's most intractable social, economic, and environmental problems. The role of finance in international development continues to evolve and attract new actors, from development finance institutions, private equity funds, educational and environmental organizations, new philanthropists, and traditional proponents of private sector development and financial inclusion. The Development Finance Workgroup includes and leverages the expertise of finance specialists and general development professionals by addressing timely topics. Examples include the emergence of impact investing, the complementary roles of public and private finance (and how to blend the two), the continuing quest for financial inclusion, and the increasing importance of digital finance.

Co-Chairs

Santiago Sedaca advises donors, foundations and companies on appropriate financial tools and programs to achieve optimal development impact. Currently, he is the former Chief Investment Officer & Global Economic Growth Practice Lead at DT Global. He recently served as Managing Partner for the Americas at Palladium (2016-20), and as President of CARANA Corporation (2010-2016) and Chief of Party of the USAID/Ecuador Productive Network project (2007-2010).

Agnes Dasewicz is the Chief Operating Officer at DFC and former co-CEO of Small Enterprise Assistance Funds (SEAF), a leader in impact investing in emerging and frontier markets for over 30 years, investing in local entrepreneurs with a focus on climate change, food security, and inclusion. Agnes has more than 25 years of experience in private equity and impact investing, including launching a new impact investing fund and starting investment initiatives for the U.S. government and the World Bank Group. Prior to joining SEAF, Agnes worked with major philanthropies to catalyze private investment to underserved areas in the U.S. She served as Entrepreneur-in-Residence at the Kauffman Foundation, where she led the Capital Access Lab, a new initiative to bring support and capital to diverse, innovative fund managers throughout the U.S.
In its latest report, the Green Bank Network estimated that bridging the climate financing gap would “require an additional USD 166 – 322 billion per year based on current investment estimates.” The same report also noted that “in LDCs and emerging markets, high investment risks – both real and perceived – are common. Standard investment practices have proven inadequate in mitigating such risks. Thus, accomplishing LDCs’ and emerging economies’ green growth objectives will entail identifying – and scaling – new approaches to project structuring and risk mitigation in order to attract significant funds from commercial and institutional investors.” The discussion addressed what approaches have been developed, how these have worked, and what additional innovation is needed to help LDCs and emerging economies meet their climate goals.

View Event Summary here
View Event Recording here
The Digital Development Workgroup (formerly the Information, Communications, & Technologies for Development Workgroup) is a group of individuals actively engaged in what is new and exciting in technology in development. With events ranging from the best data for policy impact to mobile innovations, this workgroup aims to inform and educate on any and all digital development issues that relate to conveying and presenting information.

Co-Chairs

As a Digital Specialist for DAI’s Center for Digital Acceleration, Inta Plostins works at the intersection of digital tools and development. She regularly provides digital advisory services across DAI’s international portfolio of international development projects, including the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)-funded Digital Frontiers project. Read More

Inta Plostins

Aasit Nanavati is an epidemiologist by training and has worked across the international development sector over the past decade. Currently, Aasit is the Director of Strategic Partnerships at DevResults, a monitoring & evaluation platform used across the international development sector. In 2012, Aasit supported work on the prevention of violence against women and children in Dharavi, one of the world’s largest communities of displaced residents. Read More

Aasit Nanavati
Workgroup Events

Cybersecurity and International Development: A New Paradigm? | October 26, 2021

This session looked at why cybersecurity matters for the international development sector across all technical areas – not only for practitioners themselves, but especially for the people and organizations in the countries where we work. During the panel, speakers discussed specific cyber threats and trends that impact development practitioners and shared tips and resources for improving cybersecurity awareness and preparedness. USAID also shared key takeaways from its Cybersecurity Primer, which presents opportunities to integrate cybersecurity throughout USAID programming. By the end of this session, attendees will better understand how cybersecurity impacts the development sector and will know which resources and tools they can begin to use to respond to these emerging trends.

View Event Summary here

Planning Meeting | January 25, 2022

The Digital Development working group met on Tuesday, January 25, from 11:30am-12:30pm to brainstorm and plan events over the next year.
The Education for Development Workgroup is a group of individuals actively engaged in education as a process and tool for individual, family, community and national development. With events ranging from progress for young women to lasting educational implications of the SDGs, this workgroup aims to inform on development issues related to education.

Co-Chairs

Alisa Phillips is the Senior Advisor for Education at World Vision United States with nearly 20 years working in the education sector. Her career began in adult education, English as a Second Language (ESL) and Spanish language teaching at the college level. Since then, most of her expertise has been in international education in the areas of material development, training and facilitation, technical support for monitoring and evaluation, primary school teacher training to improve pedagogical practices, capacity development of parent and school management groups to improve the learning environment and focusing on understanding barriers to children's learning outcomes in under resourced contexts. Read More

Dr. Kara McBride serves as a Senior Education Specialist at World Learning, where she provides wide-ranging support to teacher training, professional development and youth education projects, including leading the development of two U.S. State Department teacher training courses and developing online English classes for Egyptian high school students pursuing careers in STEM. Kara McBride is the home office English Specialist for Quality Instruction Towards Access and Basic Education Improvement-2 (QITABI-2) - a USAID-funded program in Lebanon - providing technical support and international best practices and research oversight on curriculum and incorporation of second language acquisition, reading methodology, and inclusive education practices in teacher training, coaching, and materials. Read More
Workgroup Events

**What Can SEL and UDL Look Like in Primary and Secondary Math Classes? Integrating SEL, UDL in Math During Changing Contexts | September 10, 2021**

Recently there has been a greater understanding of the importance of integrating social and emotional learning (SEL) and universal design for learning (UDL) into children’s schooling. In this interactive webinar, panelists shared the work that they have done in Lebanon, Ghana, and Guatemala in teaching numeracy and math at primary and secondary levels with SEL and UDL integrated.

[View Event Summary here](#)
[View Event Recording here](#)

**A Conversation About Teacher Coaching: What Have We Learned? | April 6, 2022**

Are you interested in discussing ways to better support teachers? What have we been learning about effective practices in teacher support and coaching, especially during the pandemic? In this interactive session, attendees delved into frameworks, tools, approaches and considerations to not only support teacher instruction, but also teacher well-being.

[View Event Summary here](#)
[View Event Recording here](#)

**Planning Meeting | December 13, 2021**

The Education for Development Workgroup met on Monday, December 13, 2021 at 10:00 AM to plan events for the group in the next year. In recent months, the group organized events on topics such as **What Can SEL and UDL Look Like in Primary and Secondary Math Classes? Integrating SEL, UDL in Math During Changing Contexts**. All members are encouraged to join and to bring ideas for event formats and topics.
The Environment & Sustainability Workgroup is a set of diverse individuals and constituencies with a common interest and engagement in promoting and enhancing development that is sustainable and environmentally sound. The workgroup intends to explore policy, programmatic, and practical issues impacting sustainability and the environment. Topics and events include risk management and development; constraints to the adoption of environmentally sound techniques; how markets and states impact sustainability; integrating humanitarian and development approaches; and many more.

Co-Chairs

Jeremy Swanson is a Senior Manager for Natural Resource Management (NRM) at ECODIT. He specializes in biodiversity conservation, community-led NRM, enterprise development, counter wildlife trafficking, and private sector engagement. For nearly two decades, Jeremy’s diverse international career has focused on East Africa and, more recently, Southeast Asia and Southern Africa. He has provided leadership for large USAID projects and developed the capacities of small African NGOs. Jeremy also previously served as the Environment/NRM Senior Technical Advisor with USAID/Tanzania. Read More

Arijanto (Arie) Istandar is a Senior Water Resources Program Manager at RTI International. He is a Civil and Water Resources Engineer, specializing in WASH development, urban water services reform and improvements. Over the past 15 years, Arie has led various projects in South and Southeast Asia that established policy framework for urban water and environmental services, enabled peer-to-peer partnerships to build capacities of water service providers, and supported utility operational efficiency improvements. Read More
Community-led Wildlife Conservation and Climate Change Justice Across Africa | November 19, 2021

As world leaders, environmental activists, and climate scientists gather in Glasgow for the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) over the first weeks of November, the Society for International Development Washington (SID-W) hosted a virtual panel discussion the following week among dynamic women leaders in conservation and showcase how they advocate for climate change justice through community-led wildlife conservation across Africa. Through a panel discussion, we heard from leaders in community-led wildlife conservation, habitat protection, and adaptation and resilience-building among African communities.

View Event Summary here
View Event Recording here

Scaling Innovations to Mitigate Ocean Plastics Pollution | June 30, 2022

The 2022 World Oceans Day on June 8 calls for collective, transformative action to protect and revitalize the ocean. Attention to mitigate plastic pollution the ocean has increased tremendously in the past several years. Since the 1950s, plastic use in everyday commodities from packaging to clothing to face masks has drastically increased. Given its durability, practicality and cost-efficiency, plastic is the ultimate all-purpose, multi-use material. But, due to its slow decomposition rate, ranging from 100 to 1,000 years, its harmful effects on the environment, natural habitats, and biodiversity are also widespread. SID-US presented and discussed innovative technologies and practices, research, public-private partnerships and financing opportunities that seek practical responses to mitigate ocean plastics pollution.

View Event Recording here
The Food Security and Agriculture Workgroup is a group of individuals actively engaged and informed in issues related to global agriculture and food systems. With events ranging from developing more resilient and inclusive market systems to innovative agriculture technologies, this workgroup aims to inform on agriculture-related knowledge and practices to meet the challenge of global food security.

Co-Chairs

Sabrina Amburgey is the *Vice President for Business Development* and provides strategic analysis and business intelligence to advance growth and diversification of clients and partnerships at *ACDI/VOCA*, a US nonprofit that helps people and communities improve their lives by increasing economic prosperity and social inclusion. She has over 20 years of experience in international development in various business development, technical and project management roles focused on food security, resilience, market systems, agriculture and capacity building. She also serves on the Board of the Agribusiness Market Ecosystem Alliance (AMEA), a global network for accelerating the professionalization of farmer organizations, and led its development of ISO/IWA 29 Professional Farmer Organization Guidelines. [Read More]

Noor Seddiq currently the *Assistant Director, Pre-award Administration and Operations, Howard University* and the former Chief of Party at the Center for International Research, Education and Development (CIRED) in Virginia Polytechnic and State University (Virginia Tech), leading and managing USAID-funded Catalyzing Afghan Agricultural Innovation (CAAI) program in Afghanistan. The program is designed to support agriculture education working with five major provincial public universities and five agriculture and veterinary institutes under TVET authority and link these institutions to private sector, farmers and herders in the communities they operate and engage youth through positive youth development programs. [Read More]
Benefits and Challenges of Financing Value Addition Activities for Rural Subsistence Farmers | November 17, 2021

Globally, smallholders need an additional $170 billion for their livelihoods, according to the most recent Rural and Agricultural Finance State of the Sector Report. Advanced production or value-add processing represents a promising pathway for smallholders to transition from a state of subsistence to wealth generation. While financing options are often available for expensive, high-tech solutions, such as solar-powered irrigation systems or maize millers, the monthly repayments are too costly for subsistence farmers. In fact, there are still low-cost, low-tech solutions, such as cycle-powered tools or treadle pumps, where monthly repayments are much more affordable for subsistence farmers. Yet, foreign investment has shifted to financing the research, development, and distribution of high-tech solutions - has this come at the expense of subsistence farmers? Or, have subsistence farmers lost interest in low-cost, low-tech solutions?

View Event Summary here
View Event Recording here

Exploring the Use of the Nutrition Sensitive Agriculture Design Guide | October 28, 2021

USAID Advancing Nutrition implements nutrition interventions across sectors and disciplines for USAID and its partners. A team from Advancing Nutrition will provide an overview of their current work aimed at supporting activities in integrating nutrition into agriculture and food security interventions. Join us to learn more about the Nutrition Sensitive Agriculture Design Guide and the corresponding Community of Practice, followed by a discussion on successes and challenges in designing nutrition-sensitive agriculture programs and potential resources and opportunities to fill identified gaps.

View Event Recording here
The Health & Nutrition Workgroup is a group of individuals actively engaged with the issues of improving health around the globe. With events ranging from current and emerging health trends to the intersection of health and diverse sectors, this workgroup aims to inform on the strategies, practices, and learnings that will lead to a healthier world.

Co-Chairs

Erin Wheeler is the Senior Technical Advisor for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) at the International Rescue Committee, where provides overall leadership and technical direction for SRHR as part of IRC’s health portfolio. Prior to this role, Erin led a multi-country program that focused on increasing access to SRH services in humanitarian and fragile settings. Erin is an active steering committee member of the Interagency Working Group for Reproductive Health in Crises (IAWG), for which she also co-chairs a sub-working group. Prior to joining the health technical unit at the IRC, Erin worked for the RAISE Initiative at Columbia University and spent three years in Central Africa working for the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Rwanda and for the IRC in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Read More

Stephanie Vasquez is an international development professional with expertise in domestic and international public health and currently the Director of Global Health at Bixal. Stephanie has more than 15 years of experience designing, managing, and implementing projects to improve health outcomes related to infectious and chronic disease programs. She has led start-up of various country-level HIV prevention, care, and treatment programs to reduce HIV among vulnerable populations. Recently, she led the final phase of a multi-site non-communicable disease program to strengthen community-based approaches to improve health outcomes among diabetic and hypertensive patients. She is experienced working with US government institutions and academic and local organizations. Her expertise includes capacity-building, sustainability, community engagement, local partnership/ownership, patient engagement, and bridging the gap between community and clinical services. Read More
The term capacity development is one that is often used in global health practice. There are various definitions of this term, most of which assume a fundamental lack of capacity. In December 2021, USAID released a Local Capacity Development Policy for public comment, defining local capacity development as “an investment in local actors—individuals, organizations, and networks—to jointly improve the performance of a system in producing valued development outcomes.” The draft policy outlines a shared vision and framework across the agency and articulates a common language in its core principles for effective capacity development across all sectors in humanitarian and development programs. While the language and intent of capacity building has been around for several decades, local actors in the global health sector offer a lived experience in locally led development. In the last decade, there has been a notable shift across the donor community to move local actors from recipients to managers to leaders designing health programs and accountable for health outcomes in their community and country.

View Event Recording here
The Inclusive Development Workgroup is actively committed to advancing inclusive development practices across the sector through participatory principles, such as human centered design which seek to advance human rights and achieve gender equality and social inclusion (GESI). The Workgroup will examine various forms of resilience and strength demonstrated by underrepresented populations throughout the world and the approaches programs can utilize to include these populations. It will operate with an intersectional understanding of the complex gendered, cultural, social, economic, and political environments where international development projects take place. This includes, but is not limited to, appreciating the experiences of gender and sexual minorities, indigenous populations, people living with disabilities, racial and ethnic minorities, youth, etc.

Co-Chairs

Kaelan Sullivan Fleury (she/her/hers) is passionate about supporting inclusive work places, programs, and communities. She has more than ten years of international development experience in gender and social inclusion integration, project management, operations, training, business development, and research. In her role she leads Operations for the U.S. Government Business Line Support Division at Chemonics. This team is comprised of experts in core project management functions including contracts, grants, procurement, financial management, and monitoring, evaluation, and learning. Prior to this role, she was a Senior Specialist in Gender Equality and Social Inclusion at Chemonics where she ensured projects and proposals were designed and managed to promote integration of gender equality activities, women’s empowerment, and social inclusion. Read More

Ryan Ubuntu Olson is a former Technical Advisor under the USAID-funded Health Policy projects at Palladium. He has over a decade and a half of policy advocacy, stigma and discrimination, human rights, and global health-related experience around sexual reproductive health & rights, gender and sexual diversity, diversity and inclusion, HIV and key populations. He’s focused on these issues at the global, regional, national, and sub-national levels in coordination with numerous US agencies and has worked in multiple country contexts. Olson’s notable work includes designing a global Gender and Sexual Diversity training delivered to 5,000+ PEPFAR staff in 40 countries and adapted to five country contexts and an online course. He worked alongside advocates in Sub-Saharan Africa to develop a regional policy advocacy guide for those seeking policy change around the health of men who have sex with men throughout the continent. Read More
Development with a Capital DEI: Exploring the Role of DEI in Successful International Development | November 19, 2021

SID-W's Race, Ethnicity, & Diversity and Inclusive Development Workgroups will host their first joint event on Thursday, October 21st, 9-10:30a ET. The virtual event will explore what diversity, equity, and inclusion mean to the international development community. Guest panelists from varying backgrounds will share their diverse experiences and concrete ideas on why DEI is uniquely integral to our work. Attendees are invited to engage with the discussion, while challenging their own internal thinking.

View Event Summary here
View Event Recording here

Examinations of Linguistic Barriers to Impactful Development Approaches and Interventions | December 16, 2021

How can development practitioners improve our capabilities to expand reach and impact through greater appreciation and nuance around linguistic inclusion within our field? What nuances would be added to issues of decolonizing aid, gender equality, disability inclusion, indigenous community engagement and human rights as it pertains to language inclusion? Join us for a robust discussion on the power of language and explorations of ways to enhance inclusive development efforts.

View Event Recording here
Independent Consultants Network (ICN)

SID-United States' Independent Consultants Network (ICN) serves as a networking and information resource and fosters a community of interest of international development professionals who are independent consultants and those who are considering becoming consultants.

Co-Chairs

Susanne Barsoum

Susanne is the CEO of Keylime, which supports USAID implementors from proposal to close out using an innovative and fresh approach to consulting services. She founded Keylime after 13 years at Chemonics, much of which as director of business development for the Middle East Division. At Keylime she is spearheading creative solutions for the most common and widely felt pain points in international development, using technology to power services. She is an expert at leading and writing USAID proposals and forging meaningful partnerships for those projects to succeed. Most of Susanne's career has focused on the Middle East, with stints in Nigeria and Haiti. Read More

Amy Chin

Amy Chin is a full-time Project Manager at EnCompass LLC supporting gender and social inclusion projects. She has a decade of experience in human rights and international development managing USG-funded projects, especially USAID projects in conflict and unstable environments. She has worked in Iraq, Afghanistan, Turkmenistan, Kosovo, and Rwanda with organizations such as World Learning, Democracy International, The Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation, Abt Associates, IFES, The QED Group, and Palladium. In 2018, Amy launched a social enterprise called The Crescendo Group which supports workforce development and economic empowerment for immigrants, refugees, survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) and trauma, people with disabilities, and BIPOC. Read More
This meeting introduced ICN’s new co-chair, Susanne Barsoum, to SID-US members. The objective of this session was to hear from working group members and consultants to help guide their programming for the new year (and beyond). The group addressed questions such as "what do you want to see the ICN group provide to members?" and "What resources and tools do you need to support your work in this virtual environment?"

Virtual Happy Hour was hosted by ICN on Friday, July 29 at 9:30AM ET. Participants got a chance to interact with other independent consultants, SID-US members, international development professionals, and Co-Chairs for the Independent Consultants Network.
The Infrastructure & Urban Development Workgroup is a group of individuals actively engaged in the improvement of developing cities and urban centers as well as addressing urban poverty. With events ranging from developing resilience in cities to how cities can attract private investment, this workgroup aims to discuss infrastructure and other issues that affect the urban poor and the strategies for and importance of developing better and stronger urban centers.

Co-Chairs

Deepa Karthykeyan is Co-founder and Director at Athena Infonomics, a consulting firm that specializes in combining data, ICT and social science research to support policy design and programing. Deepa leads the Governance and Service delivery practice at Athena Infonomics. She has led and delivered assignments in South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa on urban sanitation, water governance, affordable housing, decentralization reforms and green financing. Deepa has worked in over 15 countries and served as team leader and research director on various inter-disciplinary urban programs funded by the World Bank, UNICEF, UNDP, ADB and Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation among others. She currently serves as Technical Advisor to the United Nations Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data and is a India country representative to the W-20, a G-20 working group focused on gender. Read More
The Monitoring and Evaluation Workgroup is a group of individuals actively engaged in the processes of data monitoring and program evaluation. With events ranging from the consultation process of the SDGs to performance monitoring webinars, this workgroup aims to inform on the evolving practices and strategies of monitoring and evaluation.

Co-Chairs

Lee Sutton

JMs. Lee Sutton is an experienced and innovative Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) professional known for designing and leading impactful measurement systems, analysis of outcomes and impacts, and improved organizational effectiveness. Her intentional approach helps organizations, foundations, government contractors, and socially responsible corporations tell a story to the people who can advance their mission. As a systems thinker, she believes deeply in the causal relationship/link between outcomes and project design. Ms. Sutton’s core philosophy has helped humanitarian and international development organizations make informed assumptions about the connections between people, activities, and results to make a positive and sustainable impact in society. Read More

Erkin Yalcin

Erkin has over 15 years of experience working with the World Bank (WB), International Finance Corporation (IFC), and the European Union (EU), where his work has involved monitoring, evaluation, and program management. Currently, he is working for the Global Infrastructure Facility (GIF) housed at the World Bank Group as a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Specialist. Before joining the GIF, Erkin worked for various units of the World Bank Group including the Independent Evaluation Group (IEG). Erkin is an Urban Planner and holds Master of Business Administration (MBA) and Master of Public Management (MPM) degrees from the University of Maryland, College Park. Read More
The Peace & Security Workgroup is comprised of a group of individuals who are actively engaged in understanding what drives conflict and fragility and how to successfully mitigate it, support stabilization and promote peacebuilding through implementing development programs. This workgroup aims to inform and educate members on the challenges faced in countries and regions impacted by violent conflict and the importance of promoting inclusion, reducing vulnerability and promoting peace and security globally.

Co-Chairs

Christian Arandel is a Senior Governance Advisor at Counterpart International with over 25 years of diverse global experience with a focus on the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) and Sub-Saharan Africa. In his current capacity, he provides overall technical leadership in designing, implementing and monitoring governance programs and oversees the organization’s Sahel portfolio. This portfolio includes State Department, USAID and EU programs that promote stability and peace building through improved governance and engagement of traditionally excluded groups. He is the Technical Director for the flagship Resilient Governance in Niger program (USAID) which supports local elected officials and civil society leaders in 19 municipalities in Niger in working together to improve access to and quality of basic services through participatory governance. Read More
The Policy & Learning Workgroup is a group of international development professionals actively engaged in issues related to evidence-based policy making, such as adaptive management, data and analytics, strategic policy and planning, project management, and M&E and learning. With events ranging from how leaders make decisions to how to analyze, document, and apply learning, this workgroup aims to inform and influence the ongoing dialogue regarding the evolving practices of policy development, strategic planning, and program design and implementation.

Co-Chairs

Emily Janoch is the Director for Knowledge Management and Learning for CARE USA focusing on ways to better learn from and share implementation experiences on eradicating poverty through empowering women and girls in order to improve impact. She is an expert in designing systems to capture and share information across many sources. With four-years of on-the-ground experience in West Africa and academic publications on community engagement and the human element in food security in Africa, she is especially interested in community-lead development. Her work focuses on making sure that communities can engage in their own development for sustainable, appropriate results. Read More

Lane Pollack is a Senior Learning Advisor with USAID’s Bureau for Policy, Planning and Learning (PPL). She serves on the Collaborating, Learning and Adapting (CLA) team in the Office of Learning, Evaluation and Research (LER). In this role, she provides direct Mission support and collaborates with regional and technical bureaus to help teams integrate CLA practices into their programming and operations. Lane contributes to PPL-led as well as other technical trainings, resources and engagements to advance CLA across the Agency and engages with US-based partner institutions to share and learn from Agency-wide approaches and the broader development community in areas related to organizational learning and Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL). Read More
Workgroup's Events

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<tr>
<th>Planning Meeting</th>
<th>July 22, 2021</th>
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The Policy & Learning Workgroup met on July 21st, 2021. In this session members discussed pathways to equity in global health in the context of COVID-19. The group discussed transitioning to 'normalcy' in a post COVID world and the feasibility of hybrid models of learning and working. Previous years' sessions were themed *How Decisions Get Made*, *Lessons Unlearned*, and *Collective Learning and Networks*. All members were encouraged to join and to bring ideas for event formats and topics.

View Event Summary here

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<tr>
<th>Trust, Partnerships, and Psychological Safety: Building Organizations That Can Learn Together</th>
<th>November 10, 2021</th>
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In this session, the Workgroup discussed the importance of trust and psychological safety in high performing teams. Global experts were invited to address the questions on why trust matters, how to create trust for learning—especially in organizations that span nations, cultures, and contexts, and and offered expertise on what they do in their work to create spaces where learning and growth are fostered.

View Event Summary here.
View Event Recording here.

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<th>Evidence Based Learning in Practice</th>
<th>April 4, 2022</th>
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In this session, the Workgroup discussed methods to make more data-driven decisions, and develop a better understanding of what they look like in practice. Panelists answered questions such as "How do we concretely get the right data, with the right people, at the right time and with the right level of rigor to act on it?" and "Who is the evidence for? How do we get other stakeholders—governments, partners, participants themselves—to use the data, and does that change how we generate and shape the data?"

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As an organization, SID-US believes in informing and promoting more inclusive, diverse, equitable, and sustainable international development. It is imperative that the international development community address how systemic racism, colonization, and ethnic discrimination affect international development. This workgroup will provide a forum for the community to discuss and address these issues. SID-US hopes this group will help international development professionals gain the necessary information, tools, and resources to ameliorate discriminatory practices around race, ethnicity, and culture around the world.

Co-Chairs

Queshia Bradley is a Global Public Health and New Business Development leader with over 15 years of experience. She is an accomplished grant and proposal writer, effective capacity building/training specialist, proficient researcher and strategic analyst. Her expertise lies in designing and managing a diverse range of programs for international, national, and local NGOs. Queshia is a Founding Partner at Trailblazers 4 Global Health LLC, and a CDC Foundation consultant supporting the Arizona Department of Health Services’ COVID-19 response. Read More

Willem D. van Niekerk has worked in global health and supply chain management for going on sixteen years. He is a global business consultant with Intellectual Concepts LLC. Intellectual Concepts is a woman-owned global management consulting leader servicing domestic and international clients. He has been working on expanding the organization's footprint primarily on the African continent and other developing countries worldwide. Read More
Workgroup's Events

**Planning Meeting | July 20, 2021**

The Race, Ethnicity, & Diversity Workgroup reconvened on Tuesday, July 20th at 12:00 PM ET to plan events for the group in the next year. All members were encouraged to join and to bring ideas for event formats and topics.

View Event Summary here
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**Development with a Capital DEI: Exploring the Role of DEI in Successful International Development | October 21, 2021**

The Race, Ethnicity, & Diversity and Inclusive Development Workgroups hosted their first joint event on Thursday, October 21st, 9-10:30am ET. The virtual event explored what diversity, equity, and inclusion mean to the international development community. Guest panelists from varying backgrounds shared their diverse experiences and concrete ideas on why DEI is uniquely integral to our work. Attendees were invited to engage with the discussion, while challenging their own internal thinking.

View Event Summary here
View Event Recording here
The Young Professionals in Development Network (YPN) is a collaborative space for young professionals (under the age of 32) interested and working in international development and dedicated to strengthening its impact both at home and abroad by building partnerships among peers and facilitating and empowering a peer initiative. YPN’s goal is to provide a space for young professionals to network, learn more about the sector, participate in cutting edge debates and discussions on current development issues, and access professional development tools, resources, and skill-building workshops.

Co-Chairs

Chizi Igwe is an international development professional with 4+ years of experience in program management. She is currently Manager of Inclusive Growth at the Greater Washington Partnership. In her previous role as Associate Consultant at Dalberg Advisors, she helped governments, NGOs, foundations and social enterprises around the world address their most pressing development questions. Her interest in the development world was inspired by her study abroad experience in Europe and solidified by her experience in the WASH sector in Beijing, China and Seattle, Washington. Read More

Joseph Zorokong is a Country Registration Specialist, Business Services at FHI 360, where he manages registrations for the East Africa portfolio by supporting project startup, implementation, and closeout. His primary responsibilities span engaging with regional portfolio teams and country offices to ensure compliance with local laws and adherence to registration requirements. Prior to FHI 360, Joseph spent 4+ years at MIDIOR Consulting, where he managed projects and built rapport with customers in order to elicit insights to inform client engagements. Joseph holds a master’s degree in International Development from the Fletcher School at Tufts University and a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Massachusetts in Lowell. Read More
Network Events

Planning Meeting | February 16, 2022

On Wednesday, February 16 at 4:30 PM EST, YPN hosted a collaborative and interactive planning session to brainstorm this year’s calendar of programs and events. The meeting was a great opportunity to meet the co-chairs and collaborate with other young professionals.

Preparing the NexGen of Inclusive Development Professionals in a Changing World | June 7, 2022

The world is changing rapidly. From shifting political systems to the aftermath of COVID to the invention of new technologies and approaches and more awareness around the need to end systemic forms of bias throughout the aid sector- there are dramatic shifts in how we do our work. In addition, problematic paradigms need to be interrogated and examined to better and fine tune development practitioners approaches. Individuals who have insights on what the next generation of inclusive development professionals need to prepare themselves for in the emerging worlds shared their knowledge with attendees.

View Event Summary here
View Event Recording here

Joint In-Person Happy Hour | April 27, 2022

Members met at The Midlands Beer Garden on Thursday, April 28th at 5:30PM ET for the first in-person Happy Hour of 2022! This event was be co-hosted by the Young Professionals in Development Network (YPN) and the Inclusive Development Workgroup. Participants got the chance to interact with SID-W members, international development professionals as well as Co-Chairs for the Young Professionals in Development Network (YPN) and the Inclusive Development Workgroup.
Youth in Development Workgroup

The Youth in Development Workgroup is a group of individuals actively supporting and engaging youth around the world in development issues. With events ranging from using sport as a platform for development to improving the workforce and entrepreneurship opportunities and preventing youth violence, this workgroup aims to inform on the issues and ideas that will elevate today’s young people for a better tomorrow.

Co-Chairs

Christy Olenik

In her 25-year career, Christy has designed, implemented, and evaluated holistic youth programs for multiple donors, local governments, and private foundations in the US and internationally. As Vice President, Technical Services for Making Cents International, she is responsible for technical leadership, service delivery, business development, and strategy around positive youth development programming. Christy also serves as Making Cents’ Project Director for the USAID-funded YouthPower: Evidence and Evaluation IDIQ. She is passionate about providing opportunities for youth success and for building the capacity of the systems around them.

Tsega Belachew

Tsega Belachew is a youth, innovation, research, and partnerships advisor at IREX with close to 13 years of multi-disciplinary experience in African academia, social entrepreneurship, startups, and global development. Tsega is current the Director of Venture Development, Dingman Center for Entrepreneurship at the University of Maryland. Previously at IREX, she supported programs and proposals across the organization and serves as the technical lead for innovation, learning, and research projects that offer cutting-edge solutions and knowledge products for various topics; supporting youth for the future of learning and work, strengthening virtual and digital learning access through human-centered design, research on equitable partnerships for impact. Read More
Understanding Systems Change for Positive Youth Outcomes | October 19, 2021

In this session, members of the Youth in Development Workgroup discussed the exciting yet daunting challenge of Systems Change, with the goal of moving from short-term, donor-funded projects to more sustainable, scaled outcomes for youth supported by country systems and markets. Members of the Youth Systems Collaborative (YSC), a community of practice of international development organizations, shared their ‘Youth Systems Framework’ which was designed from a review of domestic U.S. and international experience in youth programming through a comprehensive community change paradigm over the past 40 years. The YSC and its partners shared their experiences applying the framework to diverse development challenges affecting youth, such as workforce development and violence prevention, and invite session participants to reflect on its applicability to other youth-related systems change opportunities. This session coincided with the publication of “Building Youth Infrastructure: Early Lessons from the Youth Systems Collaborative” in the Journal of Youth Development, available here.

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Planning Meeting | February 17, 2022

The Youth in Development Workgroup will meet on Thursday, February 17 at 9:30 AM ET to plan events for the group in the next year. In recent months, the group organized events on topics such as Understanding Systems Change for Positive Youth Outcomes. All members are encouraged to join and to bring ideas for event formats and topics. In the lead-up to February 17th, we would like to gather feedback from our participants. Please fill out this brief online survey to guide the event agenda.
Acknowledgement

We would like to thank our staff and Program Associates: Adwoa Ofori-Gyau, Destiny Daniel and Kalyani Mohan for their hard work in creating this report.

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