

Long-term Assistance and SErvices for Research (LASER) Partners for University-Led Solutions Engine (PULSE)



Yuehwern Yih, PhD.

Academic Director, LASER PULSE

Associate Director, Regenstrief Center for Healthcare Engineering

Professor, Industrial Engineering



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USAID's Global Development Lab launched in 2014, as innovation hub for USAID

The Center for Development Research (Lab/CDR) increases the use of scientific research to improve development outcomes. The Center partners with other parts of the Agency, federal agencies, universities, NGOs, and the private sector to increase the scientific knowledge and evidence directed toward addressing USAID's development priorities and improving policy and programming decisions.



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Mission: To support the discovery and uptake of university-sourced, evidence-based solutions to development challenges

- A 5-year Cooperative Agreement with Purdue University as Prime with 5 Consortium Members
 - Core funding \$20M
 - To date: \$11.9M obligated, \$2.4M spent, first 2.5 years obligated, overall projected spend 5 years
 - Buy-ins (from Missions, Bureaus, and Independent Offices) up to \$50 M max
 - To date: \$19.0M obligated, \$1.3M spent
 - \$3.5M - 1½ - 2½ year projects
 - \$15.5M - 3-5 year projects

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STORIES RESULTS ALL

Welcome! Explore the map to discover stories and results.

DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS AND GOVERNANCE

ECONOMIC GROWTH AND TRADE

GLOBAL HEALTH

GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

WATER AND SANITATION

WORKING IN CRISES AND CONFLICT

EDUCATION

ENDING EXTREME POVERTY

ENVIRONMENT AND GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS AND GOVERNANCE

ECONOMIC GROWTH AND TRADE

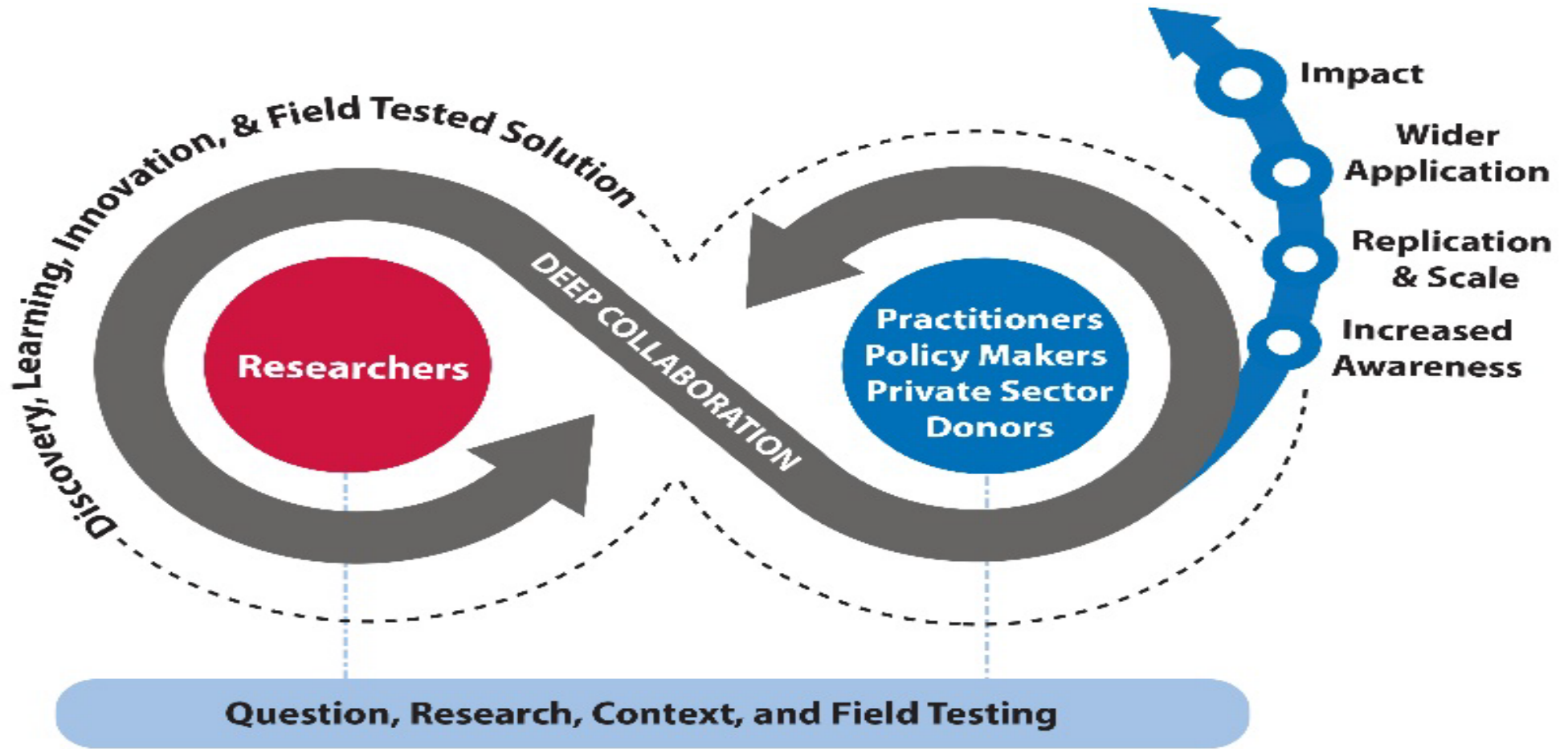


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Embedded Translation Model

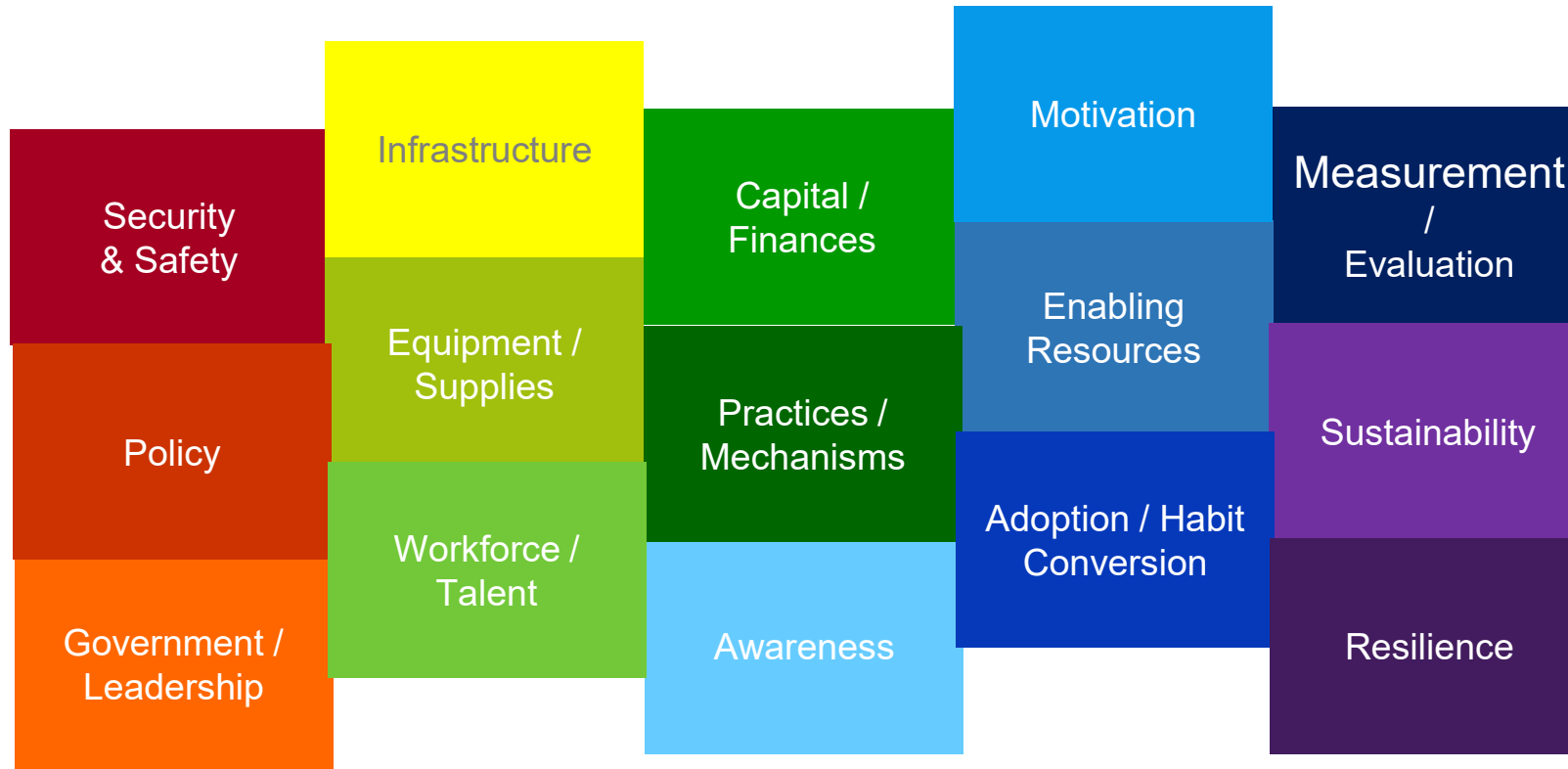


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Comprehensive Success Factors and Value Chain



LASER Network

- Connecting researchers and practitioners interested in development research
- **1,300+ Members** from 43 countries (January 2020)
- **BENEFITS**
 - **Collaboration** opportunities with other researchers and practitioners
 - **Visibility** to Donors (USAID, foundations) as domain experts
 - Members have access to resources including **Online training**
 - **LASER funding opportunities** only distributed to LASER network members
 - Receiving info on external (non-LASER) funding opportunities
 - Upcoming: “Market place” for researchers/practitioners/donors
- Join us at laserpulse.org



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R4D Conferences

1. Kampala, Uganda, May 2019, \$1M, *Themes: Water, Food Security, and Primary Education*
2. Bogota, Colombia, Oct 2019, \$1M, *Themes: Venezuelan Migration Response, Integrated Rural Development, Youth*
3. Hanoi, Vietnam, Feb 2020, \$1M, *Themes: Water and air pollution, Private sector competitiveness and the Digital economy*
4. Bali, Indonesia, Aug 2020, integrated with conference organized by U. Indonesia, \$400K, *Theme: Smart, resilient cities*
5. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, Spring 2020, \$400K, *Themes: TBD*



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Buy-ins from USAID Missions/Bureaus/Offices

The Voices of the Indigenous People of Uganda

USAID operating unit/mission:

USAID/Uganda

Buy-in amount: \$600,000

Duration: May 1, 2019 – May 1, 2021

Implementers: Makerere University, Constituent College (GCC); Mbarara University of Science and Technology

Sectors: Economic Growth

Objective: This 2-year project aims to build the capacity of local Ugandan universities and researchers to undertake and translate development research that will inform subsequent interventions to strengthen the voices of Uganda's indigenous peoples

Cultural Restoration Program for Northern Iraq

USAID operating unit/mission:

USAID/LAB/FO

Buy-in amount: \$5.1 million

Duration: 3 years

Implementers: University of Notre Dame (Kroc Institute), University of Dohuk; Indiana University (Anthropology); Purdue (IPIA; CLA/Anthropology)

Sectors: Food Security, Agriculture

Objective: Identify key agricultural products needed for recovery in two districts of Ninewah Province in Northern Iraq, and to assist in re-establishing the production of those agricultural products

Applied Nutrition Research Capacity Building Laos

USAID operating unit/mission:

USAID/RDMA Lao Country Office

Buy-in amount: \$5.1 Million (\$3.5 M+\$1.6 M)

Duration: 4 Years

Implementers: Purdue (IPIA; HHS), Indiana University; CRS

Sectors: Agriculture, Food Security, Nutrition

Objective: This five-year project aims to build the capacity of Lao government officials and researchers to tackle the complex challenges of malnutrition and stunting through a food security lens.



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INDIANA UNIVERSITY

Buy-ins from USAID Missions/Bureaus/Offices

Evaluation of Somalia's Accelerated Quality Learning Project

USAID operating unit/mission:

USAID/Somalia

Buy-in amount: \$2.15 Million, but seeking additional funding from Missions

Duration: 60 months, starting o/a May 2019

Implementers: Purdue (ELRC, College of Education), Makerere; Somali Disaster Resilience Institute (SDRI)

Sectors: Education

Objective: A five-year adaptive management and evaluation project for effective alternative education models that target out-of-school learners

Case Study of Kenya's Early Grade Reading Program and the Journey to Self-Reliance

USAID operating unit/mission:

USAID/Lab/CTP

Buy-in amount: \$500,000

Duration: 10/15/2018 – 10/31/2019

Implementers: Makerere, U of Nairobi; CRS

Sectors: Education

Objective: one-year grant to examine the process of scaling up of Kenya's early grade reading program from 2011 to 2018 to enable USAID to better understand the scaling up process and to foster replication

Impact Evaluation of Psychosocial Support on Children's Well-being, Literacy, and Math Outcomes in the Integrated Essential Emergency Education Program

USAID operating unit/mission: USAID South Sudan Mission

Buy-in amount: \$1.2 Million

Duration: 1 year (10/15/2018 - 3/30/2020)

Implementers: Indiana University, Purdue (ENE); CRS; UND; Makerere

Sectors: Education

Objective: five-year grant to support USAID's new policy for private sector engagement with evidence-based learning and best practices



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Buy-ins from USAID Missions/Bureaus/Offices

Self-Reliance Learning Agenda (SRLA)

USAID operating unit/mission: USAID/ LAB/EIA

Buy-in amount: \$248,500

Duration: One Year

Implementers: Texas A&M University, University of Notre Dame

Sectors: Innovation

Objective: A one-year meta-analysis on aid effectiveness, specifically focusing on USAID's contribution to capacity and commitment in its operating countries. This study feeds into a broader research agenda

Multi-Country Study on Inclusive Education (MCSIE)

USAID operating unit/mission: USAID/E3/ED

Buy-in amount: \$3.085 Million

Duration: 3.5 years

Implementers: International Development Partners, University of Phnom Penh; University of (Nepal); University of (Malawi)

Sectors: Education

Objective: study on the most effective mechanisms for inclusive education for learners with disabilities in Malawi, Nepal, and Cambodia. (IDP)

Building the Evidence Base on Effective Private Sector Engagement, Phase I

USAID operating unit/mission: USAID/Lab/CTP

Buy-in amount: \$1,012,422 (Phase 1) \$1,687,578 (Phase II)

Duration: 1 10/15/2018 – 12/31/2020 (Phase I) 5/15/2019 -10/14/2022 (Phase II)

Implementers: UND (Phase I), Purdue (CE, ELRC) (Phase II), CRS

Sectors: Innovation

Objective: Implement a private sector engagement evidence and learning strategy that will enable USAID staff to implement best PSE practices, based on learnings and evidence



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- LASER Network
- RFAs proposal collaboration
- Buy-in opportunities
- Hackathon – Feb 2020



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