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# HIGHER EDUCATION SOLUTIONS NETWORK - QUARTERLY REPORT

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AidData Center for Development Policy  
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## Acronyms

<b>AidData Center</b>	AidData Center for Development Policy
<b>AMF</b>	Aid Management Fellow
<b>AMP</b>	Aid Management Platform
<b>ARC</b>	AidData Research Consortium
<b>ASF</b>	AidData Summer Fellows
<b>BYU</b>	Brigham Young University
<b>CSO</b>	Civil Society Organization
<b>DG</b>	Development Gateway
<b>GIS</b>	Geographic Information Systems
<b>HESN</b>	Higher Education Solutions Network
<b>POC</b>	Point of Contact
<b>USAID</b>	United States Agency for International Development
<b>USG</b>	United States Government
<b>UT-Austin</b>	University of Texas-Austin
<b>W&amp;M</b>	the College of William and Mary

## Executive Summary

During quarter three (Q3) of FY 2013, the AidData Center of Development Policy (AidData Center) scaled up implementation of several of the major activities within its FY 2013 workplan. The AidData Center completed the geocoding work in its first partner country, Nepal, in June 2013. The completion of the geocoding work was followed by a DG-led geocoding wrap-up trip to Nepal as well as the launch of a public Aid Management Platform (AMP) portal by the Ministry of Finance in Nepal. DG also initiated geocoding work in a second partner country, Senegal, in May 2013. Plans were also made to begin geocoding work in the remaining three year one partner countries (Haiti, Uganda, and Timor-Leste) in the beginning of Q4.

In order to successfully complete the geocoding workload under this program, W&M, BYU, and UT-Austin began their summer research sessions on their respective campuses. These summer research sessions mark a “surge period” of geocoding capacity when we have student research assistants working full time on geocoding work and research. W&M brought 27 full time geocoders to the AidData Center for the summer research session. BYU and UT-Austin engaged 19 and 30 student researchers respectively. To train the research assistants at UT-Austin, staff from W&M, BYU, and DG traveled to Austin in April to provide trainings on the geocoding and activity coding methodologies as well as to train the students on the upgrades to the Open Development Toolkit that were completed by DG in Q3.

Led by DG, the AidData Center made serious progress towards the development of the technological infrastructure that will support its work throughout this program. DG, W&M, and Esri employees worked together to complete user requirements documentation for the upgrades to the AidData.org web portal. This enabled DG to scale-up implementation of these upgrades during Q3. The upgrades to the AidData.org web portal will continue throughout Q4.

W&M also scaled up its in-country capacity building work through the AidData Summer Fellows program which was initiated during Q3. Through this program, W&M deployed 11 students from UT-Austin and W&M as AidData Summer Fellows to work in development stakeholder institutions in Mexico, Senegal, Uganda, Nepal, and Timor-Leste. These fellows will build the capacity of their host institutions to use geocoded aid information in their work by providing trainings on the geocoding methodology and the use of GIS to analyze and visualize geocoded aid information.

Finally, the foundation was laid for the construction of the ARC this quarter. W&M began the recruitment process for our seven ARC Team Leaders and Technical Grant Writers during Q3. Additionally, the ARC Coordinator developed bylaws that will govern the operations of the ARC, which will be reviewed by the Research Manager and ARC Team Leaders during Q4.

## Part I: Major Milestones and Events Completed

### I.1. Milestones

During Q3, we made significant progress towards our year one geocoding goals. We finished geocoding the universe of aid projects in the Nepal Aid Management Platform (AMP). The Ministry of Finance released this data to the public via a [public AMP portal](#) in June. We also initiated our geocoding work in Senegal with a kick-off trip in May. Additionally, DG staff made plans for a geocoding kick-off trip to Haiti in the beginning of Q4.

We also began to geocode the project records in the AidData.org web portal. In the end of May, the summer research session began at W&M, bringing 27 student research assistants to the AidData Center for Development Policy. With this summer work force in place, we will be able to develop the methodology to initiate geocoding of the AidData.org web portal, undertake a round of experimentation for quality control, and begin geocoding the project records. Summer research assistants also arrived at BYU and UT-Austin in Q3 and began their summer geocoding work.

The AidData Center also scaled up its civil society outreach and capacity building work. In May, W&M deployed 11 AidData Summer Fellows to work in development stakeholder institutions in Mexico, Senegal, Uganda, Nepal, and Timor-Leste. These fellows will build the capacity of their host institutions to use geocoded aid information in their work by providing trainings on the geocoding methodology and the use of GIS to analyze and visualize geocoded aid information. We also made plans to conduct civil society outreach kick-off trips to Haiti and Senegal in the beginning of Q4. AidData Center staff at W&M also completed development of a GIS training curriculum that will be implemented in Nepal for GIS training course targeted towards civil society organizations in the beginning of Q4.

Led by DG, the AidData Center made serious progress towards the development of the technological infrastructure that will support its work throughout this program. DG, W&M, and Esri employees worked together to complete user requirements documentation for the upgrades to the AidData.org web portal. This enabled DG to scale-up implementation of these upgrades during Q3. The upgrades to the AidData.org web portal will continue throughout Q4.

W&M began the competitive hiring process for the seven ARC Team Leaders during Q3. We will finalize the hires of our seven ARC Team Leaders during Q4. Additionally, W&M hired the first Technical Grant Writer for the ARC during Q3. Once the ARC research process has begun in Y2, she will support the Global Health team and will support AidData's GIS curriculum development efforts during Q3 and Q4.

### I.2. Events

During Q3, the following major events occurred:

- April 9-10: The AidData Center brought together project managers from W&M, DG, BYU, and UT-Austin at the OpenGov Hub in Washington, DC to discuss communications and implementation issues pertaining to the USAID HESN program.
- April 25-27: Doug Nicholson from W&M, Rachel Eddington from BYU, and Christian Peratsakis from DG traveled to UT-Austin to train 10 research fellows and 25 undergraduate interns on the geocoding and activity coding methodologies as well as to train the students on the upgrades to the Open Development Geocoding Toolkit.
- May 3: W&M staff announced the winners of the two-month long student Map Off competition. The winning blog posts would be featured on the AidData blog *The First Tranche*.

- May 10-11: Former USAID Chief Economist, Steve Radelet, traveled to William and Mary to deliver the commencement address to the William and Mary International Relations and Global Studies program and have meetings with graduating seniors as well as AidData Center staff.
- May 12-18: Josh Powell, Djamila Kerim, and Mauricio Bertoli from DG traveled to Senegal to kick-off the geocoding work in Senegal by meeting with the Ministry of Finance, USAID Senegal, and donor partners to raise awareness of AidData's geocoding work and collect the necessary project information for geocoding.
- May 20-28: The AidData Summer Fellows came to Williamsburg, VA for a week-long intensive bootcamp to prepare them for their fellowships abroad. The bootcamp included courses on teaching geocoding and GIS, working in development countries, and communications strategy, among others.
- May 28: The summer research session at W&M began, bringing 27 research assistants to the AidData Center for Development Policy to undertake geocoding work and research.
- June 20-29: Dustin Homer from DG traveled to Nepal to wrap-up the geocoding work in Nepal by uploading the geocoded dataset into the AMP system and providing additional trainings to the Ministry of Finance staff and donor partners.
- June 21: The Ministry of Finance in Nepal launched the first fully geocoded public AMP platform in a well-attended launch event. The platform can be accessed at <http://portal.mof.gov.np/>.

### I.3. Publications

The AidData blog, [The First Tranche](#), featured 25 blog posts during this quarter, four of which were directly pertinent to the USAID HESN award. These four blogs can be found here:

- [Geocoding and Public Aid in Nepal](#) – posted on April 10, 2013. This post covers the first geocoding launch trip and civil society outreach trip under the HESN agreement. AidData staff travelled to Nepal in March to meet with the Ministry of Finance, donor partners, and civil society organizations to initiate the Nepal geocoding and civil society outreach work under the HESN program.
- [Dodd-Frank in the DRC: Regulation, Aid, and the “Resource Curse”](#)- Posted on June 18, 2013. This post was the winning post from the AidData Map Off competition. This post was produced by rising senior Lauren Harrison as the culmination of a two-month long contest in which W&M students applied GIS skills learned in a training implemented in partnership between DG, Esri, and W&M to analyze and visualize geocoded aid information.
- [Transboundary Water Bodies and Conflict in Africa](#)- posted on June 25, 2013. This post is a finalist post from the AidData Map Off competition. This post was produced by rising junior Carleigh Snead as the culmination of a two-month long contest in which W&M students applied GIS skills learned in a training implemented in partnership between DG, Esri, and W&M to analyze and visualize geocoded aid information.
- [Nepal Aid Management Platform Goes Public](#)- posted on June 26, 2013. This post covers the launch of the public Aid Management Platform in Kathmandu Nepal. The public AMP platform includes geocoded data produced under the HESN program.

### I.4. Communications

The AidData Center for Development Policy's communications team was launched in earnest this quarter, as AidData's new Director of Communications and Policy Outreach was brought on board. During Q3, much of AidData's online content was posted through AidData's blog, [The First Tranche](#), or on Development Gateway's blog. The College of William and Mary's Media Relations department also regularly features AidData students in university publications. AidData staff have also continued to closely coordinate with USAID to ensure all needs are met. See below for a list of publications and corresponding links:

- AidData staff continues to use the AidData blog, [The First Tranche](#), which provides regular updates on recent events and is used as a platform for publicizing the work of AidData staff and undergraduates at the College of William and Mary. This quarter the First Tranche was able to feature posts from our Map Off winners including [this post](#) from Map Off winner Lauren Harrison.
- The Institute for the Theory and Practice of International Relations (ITPIR) regularly posts news stories on their website about AidData activities. A comprehensive list of published posts can be found [here](#).
- The ONE Campaign, featured AidData in an [article](#) discussing the newly established AidData Center for Development Policy, and the partnership with USAID.
- AidData featured a [guest post](#) from Daniel Schmid, an analyst for the New Zealand Defense Force, that provided an excerpt from his Master’s dissertation which analyzed geocoded data and night lights data to assess aid effectiveness in Malawi.
- Mike Tierney, co-director of the Institute for the Theory and Practice of International Relations (ITPIR) at William & Mary, joined Chris Marcoux of DePauw University in presenting their paper, which heavily featured AidData data, “Environmental and Climate Finance in a New World” to a group of scholars, aid practitioners and policymakers in Stockholm, Sweden. The program was [streamed live on the web](#) on June 4 and will be edited into a program to be broadcast later this month on Swedish national educational TV. More information [here](#).

## Part 2: Description of Key Activities

### 2.1. Quarter Objectives

During Q3, the AidData Center aimed to complete the following sub-objectives under our five main project objectives:

Objective 1- Gather geocoded data:

- W&M, BYU, and UT-Austin will complete the geocoding of the aid projects within the Nepal Aid Management Platform.
- DG will undertake a trip to Nepal to wrap-up the geocoding work and conduct government and donor trainings.
- DG will support the ministry of finance in Nepal to develop and launch a public AMP portal.
- DG will undertake a trip to Senegal to kick-off the geocoding work.
- Research assistants at W&M , BYU, and UT-Austin will begin geocoding of aid projects in the AidData.org web portal

Objective 2- Create the AidData Research Consortium (ARC):

- W&M will begin the competitive search process for the seven ARC Team Leaders.
- W&M will begin the competitive search process for the seven Technical Grant Writers.
- W&M will develop bylaws to govern the AidData Research Consortium

Objective 3- Develop and disseminate analytic tools for visualizing geocoded aid information:

- DG will complete the process, in consultation with W&M and Esri, of developing user requirements for the upgrades to the AidData.org web portal.
- DG will complete the process, in consultation with W&M and Esri, of developing user requirements for the creation of an enterprise-level GIS platform for the new AidData.org web portal.

- DG will initiate the process of implementing the upgrades to the AidData.org web portal and the design of the AidData GIS platform in accordance with the user requirements.
- DG, in consultation with W&M and Esri, will complete upgrades to the Open Development Geocoding Toolkit.

Objective 4- Foster innovative uses of geocoded aid data:

- W&M will begin to develop a procedure for administering and awarding kick-start funding awards.

Objective 5- Build partner country capacity:

- DG will deploy an Aid Management Fellow to Senegal to work with Direction de la Coopération Economique et Financière (DCEF) within the Ministère de l'Economie et des Finances in Senegal to build local aid management capacity.
- W&M will deploy 10 AidData Summer Fellows to USAID Missions, USAID Washington, or development stakeholder institutions in developing countries.

## 2.2. Summary of Key Activities

During Q3, the AidData Center completed the following sub-objectives under our five main project objectives:

Objective 1- Gather geocoded data:

- W&M, BYU, and UT-Austin completed the geocoding of the aid projects within the Nepal Aid Management Platform.
- W&M began the summer research session, bringing 27 research assistants to work at the AidData Center for Development Policy.
- DG employee Dustin Homer traveled to Nepal to wrap-up the geocoding work, conduct government and donor trainings, upload the geocoded data into the AMP portal, and present on Nepal geocoding results to the Nepal USAID Mission and the Nepal Ministry of Finance.
- DG employees Dustin Homer and Dina Abdel-Fattah supported the Nepal Ministry of Finance to plan and execute a launch event for the public AMP portal.
- DG employees Josh Powell, Djamila Kerim, and Mauricio Bertoli traveled to Senegal to kick-off the geocoding work in Senegal by meeting with the Ministry of Finance, USAID Senegal, and donor partners to raise awareness of AidData's geocoding work and collect the necessary project information for geocoding.
- Research assistants at W&M, BYU, and UT-Austin will begin geocoding of aid projects in the AidData.org web portal

Objective 2- Create the AidData Research Consortium (ARC):

- W&M began the competitive search process for the seven ARC Team Leaders.
- W&M began the competitive search process for the seven Technical Grant Writers. Hiring the first Technical Grant Writer for the Global Health ARC team.
- W&M ARC Coordinator completed the development of bylaws to govern the AidData Research Consortium. These bylaws were reviewed by the Executive Director and will be reviewed by the ARC Team Leaders prior to the ARC Convening in Year 2.

Objective 3- Develop and disseminate analytic tools for visualizing geocoded aid information:

- DG completed the process, in consultation with W&M and Esri, of developing user requirements for the upgrades to the AidData.org web portal and the creation of an enterprise-level GIS platform for the new AidData.org web portal. User stories and requirements were collected for the upgrades to the AidData.org web portal from a variety of current and expected users of the AidData.org web portal. Such user groups included: USAID representatives, development practitioners, policymakers, technologists, and researchers. These stories and user requirements were then translated into technical requirements for each individual component that constitute the entire AidData.org web portal and GIS portal architecture. Using DG's agile software development process, AidData drafted these technical requirements in phases to ensure the technical requirements fall in line with the software development process.
- DG initiated the process of implementing the upgrades to the AidData.org web portal and the design of the AidData GIS platform in accordance with the user requirements.
- DG, in consultation with W&M and Esri, completed the scheduled improvements to the functionality of the Open Development Toolkit, improving administrative functionality to ensure efficient project management at the user scale necessary to support HESN geocoding, creating additional tools for quality assurance monitoring and improvement, and streamlining the geocoding interface

Objective 4- Foster innovative uses of geocoded aid data:

- W&M began to develop a procedure for administering and awarding kick-start funding awards.

Objective 5- Build partner country capacity:

- DG Aid Management Fellow Aminata Tall began to work with the Direction de la Coopération Economique et Financière (DCEF) within the Ministère de l'Economie et des Finances in Senegal to build local aid management capacity.
- W&M brought the AidData Summer Fellows to Williamsburg for a week-long intensive bootcamp to prepare them for their fellowships abroad. The bootcamp included courses on teaching geocoding and GIS, working in development countries, and communications strategy, among others.
- W&M deployed 11 AidData Summer Fellows to Mexico, Uganda, Senegal, Nepal, and Timor-Leste to build the capacity of development stakeholder institutions to use geocoded aid information in their work. Two of our fellows will be working with the USAID Mexico and USAID Timor-Leste missions this summer.
- W&M began development of a GIS training curriculum focused on the use of geocoded aid information. This curriculum will be implemented in Nepal in the beginning of Q4.
- W&M began planning for civil society outreach kick-off trips to Haiti and Senegal in the beginning of Q4 as well as a GIS training trip to Nepal in the beginning of Q4.

## Part 3: Intra-Development Lab/ University Engagement

### 3.1. Interdisciplinary Collaboration

At the end of Q2, the AidData Center for Development Policy presented at two major events on the William and Mary campus. On March 22<sup>nd</sup>, AidData Executive Director, Brad Parks, presented on the AidData Center at the [Social Entrepreneurship Conference \(SECon\)](#) sponsored by the Mason School of Business at William and Mary. Additionally, on March 30<sup>th</sup>, AidData Director of Operations, David Trichler, presented on the AidData Center at [TEDx William and Mary](#). These two presentations have

enabled us to forge a stronger relationship with the Mason School of Business that we will continue building.

During Q3, the AidData Center for Development Policy undertook several activities to build a strong network within the broader William and Mary community. Throughout April, the AidData Center sponsored a course for the campus community entitled “GIS for Aspiring Hackers” taught by Albert Decatur, AidData’s Geospatial Database Analyst. Additionally, the AidData Center brought Dr. Sagar Sharma, Director of the Development Studies Program at Kathmandu University, to campus at the beginning of Q3 to speak to students and faculty about Nepalese Development.

The AidData Center also brought former USAID Chief Economist Steve Radelet to campus on May 10-11 to deliver the commencement address to the William and Mary International Relations and Global Studies program and have meetings with graduating seniors as well as AidData Center staff.

During Q3, the AidData Center began discussions with the Masters of Public Policy program at William and Mary to develop a Policy Research Seminar in fall 2013 focused on measuring AidData’s policy impact. This program will engage three graduate students at W&M to work with AidData Center staff.

### 3.2. Partner Engagement

The implementing consortium of the AidData Center for Development Policy- William & Mary, Development Gateway, Brigham Young University, the University of Texas-Austin, and Esri collaborated extensively in Q3 to implement project activities.

At the end of Q2, DG employees, Catalin Andrei (Director of IT) and Christian Peratsakis (Technical Associate) attended the Esri Developer Summit in Palm Springs, CA from March 25-28 on behalf of the AidData Center for Development Policy. Catalin and Christian met with Esri representatives and members of other geospatial organizations to discuss potential technologies and partnerships for future AidData GIS-related projects including the planned upgrades to the AidData.org web portal and development of the AidData GIS portal.

The AidData Center implementing consortium also coordinated on implementation planning during Q3. On April 9-10, the AidData Center brought together project managers from W&M, DG, BYU, and UT-Austin at the OpenGov Hub in Washington, DC to discuss communications and implementation issues pertaining to the USAID HESN program. This meeting laid the groundwork for effective program implementation throughout Q3 and beyond.

On April 25-28, Doug Nicholson from W&M, Rachel Eddington from BYU, and Christian Peratsakis from DG traveled to UT-Austin to train 10 research fellows and 25 undergraduate interns in AidData’s geocoding and activity coding methodologies, and to familiarize the students with the upgrades to the Open Development Toolkit.

Our “bottom-up” geocoding efforts necessitate intensive collaboration among the members of the implementing coalition. In Nepal during Q2 and in Senegal during Q3, DG secured commitments from donor partners to provide the necessary project documents for geocoding and then followed up to obtain the documents. Staff across BYU, UT-Austin, and W&M coordinated to allocate research assistant hours during Q3 to geocode the projects. This effective communication enabled us to successfully complete the Nepal geocoding during Q3 and to begin geocoding the Senegal projects as well as the AidData.org web portal.

During Q3, DG led the effort to complete the development of user requirements for the AidData.org web portal upgrades and the development of the AidData GIS portal and closely engaged W&M and Esri staff throughout this process. As DG continues to build these web platforms throughout Q4, each of these implementing partners will remain closely engaged in this process.

The AidData Center cemented our in-country partnerships during Q3. As mentioned in section 3.1, the AidData Center brought Dr. Sagar Sharma, Director of the Development Studies Program at Kathmandu University, to campus at the beginning of Q3 to speak to students and faculty about Nepalese Development.

We also worked with our in-country partners during Q3 to identify placements for 11 AidData Summer Fellows. Beginning in the end of Q3, our Summer Fellows will be working with Kathmandu University, the Center for Environmental and Agricultural Policy Research, Extension, and Development, and Transparency International-Nepal in Nepal, Makerere University in Uganda, Instituto Mora in Mexico, and USIAD Timor-Leste.

### 3.3. Student Engagement

As mentioned in Part I, the summer research session began at all three universities during Q3. At W&M, 27 student research assistants will be engaged in geocoding work and research activities throughout the summer. At BYU and UT-Austin, 19 and 30 student research assistants will be working on the USAID geocoding work respectively.

At the end of Q3, 8 Summer Consultants began work at the AidData Center for Development Policy. These summer consultants have all recently finished their undergraduate education or are currently pursuing their graduate degree. They have supported the AidData Center's communications team, partnerships and outreach team, GIS unit, and operations team. These consultants will work closely with AidData Center staff throughout the duration of the summer to support our work and provide strategic consulting to improve operational effectiveness.

As discussed in Part I, during Q3 W&M recruited 11 students from W&M and UT-Austin to serve as AidData Summer Fellows during the summer of 2013. At the end of May, W&M brought the AidData Summer Fellows to Williamsburg for a week-long intensive bootcamp to prepare them for their fellowships abroad. The bootcamp included courses on teaching geocoding and GIS, working in development countries, and communications strategy, among others.

Following the bootcamp, the 11 AidData Summer Fellows traveled to Mexico, Uganda, Senegal, Nepal, and Timor-Leste to build the capacity of development stakeholder institutions to use geocoded aid information in their work. Our fellows stationed at Kathmandu University and Makerere University this summer will continue to work with students at those institutions throughout the summer to train them in the geocoding methodology as well as the use of GIS to analyze and visualize geocoded aid information.

As discussed in Part I, W&M has engaged students by creating knowledge sharing opportunities on campus. The student Map Off competition that began in Q2 engaged students to apply their ArcGIS and geocoding skills to produce maps and research leveraging geocoded aid information. This competition ended in Q3 with the announcement of winners whose blog posts appeared on the AidData blog, *The First Tranche*.

Additionally, we have engaged students through presentations by development scholars, including a presentation by Dr. Sagar Sharma in the beginning of Q3, several AidData research lunches in which faculty present their research to AidData student researchers, and a presentation by Dr. Steve Radelet at the International Relations and Global Studies graduation ceremony in May.

### 3.4. Lessons Learned/ Good Practices

We have learned that effective communication across implementing partners is essential to successfully complete the activities of our workplan. For example, ensuring the success of our upgrades to the AidData.org web portal has required the efforts of AidData staff working for multiple implementing partners in multiple countries. To address this challenge, we have scheduled regular phone meetings to ensure that we are proceeding according to schedule and that all of the various components of the project are proceeding under the same agreed-upon architecture. Additionally, in order to develop procedures to enable AidData to manage the growing size and complexity of our geocoding operation, the AidData Center organized a project manager's summit for the beginning of Q3 to bring together the project managers across W&M, DG, UT-Austin, and BYU to align expectations and determine a process to facilitate the successful completion of the activities in our workplan.

We have also come to appreciate the importance of scheduling our in-country engagement to enable us to take advantage in the surge in geocoding capacity that occurs during the summer research session. Because our engagement with four of our five year one partner countries will begin during the summer, much of the geocoding work for those countries will not begin until after the end of the summer research session. We have designed our geocoding schedule for year two based upon these lessons learned from year one. Specifically, we will be front-loading the countries with a larger project portfolio to geocode to allow for more time to complete the portfolio within year two. Additionally, we will undertake the geocoding kick-off trip for all three year two countries well in advance of the summer research session to take advantage of the surge in research assistant labor that we experience at W&M, BYU, and UT-Austin during the summer.

## Part 4: USAID Engagement

### 4.1. Interactions

During Q3, the AidData Center engaged with USAID staff both in Washington and in Mission offices.

- Identification of AidData Summer Fellow Placements: W&M staff worked with our USAID counterparts to identify placements for AidData Summer Fellows to ensure that priority was given to leveraging this human capacity to address USAID priorities. With USAID assistance, we were able to place one AidData Summer Fellow in the USAID Mission in Timor-Leste and two Fellows with the ResilientAfrica Lab at Makerere University.
- Engagement with partner country USAID Missions: During Q3, we engaged with USAID Missions in Nepal, Senegal, Timor-Leste, and Mexico. Throughout Q3, Dina Abdel-Fattah, the DG Aid Management Fellow in Nepal, continued to participate in the weekly staff meetings for the USAID Nepal Program Office, briefing the Mission on the progress of the program and

identifying ways in which the Mission can best leverage the work being done in-country. Working with our USAID HESN counterparts, we engaged the USAID Senegal Mission in advance of our geocoding kick-off trip in May to set up meetings with USAID Senegal staff and collect the necessary project information from the Mission to geocode our projects. Through our AidData Summer Fellows program, we were able to engage with the Timor-Leste and Mexico Missions during Q3. One of our fellows will be embedded in the Timor-Leste Mission this summer where she will help build their GIS capacity. Our fellow in Mexico, though not directly working with USAID Mexico, will be engaging with the Mexico Mission through her fellowship at Instituto Mora to implement a pilot geocoding project of USAID Mexico aid projects.

- AidData staff worked closely with USAID to develop our Y1 Work Plan and our Monitoring and Evaluation Plan. Both of these documents were submitted to USAID for final review at the end of Q3. We will work with our USAID HESN counterparts during Q4 to finalize the Y1 Work Plan and the M&E Plan for the AidData Center.

## 4.2. Lessons Learned/ Good Practices

The following “Lessons Learned” and “Good Practices” emerged from our engagement with USAID this quarter:

- We learned that effective communication is essential with the USAID missions in our partner countries. We will work with our USAID counterparts in Q4 to develop a set of standard operating procedures (SOPs) in order to more effectively collaborate with the mission staff in each of our partner countries. These SOPs will include a communications strategy as well as a template for a Country Work Plan that will be completed for each country and shared with the mission staff to inform them of AidData’s upcoming work to align expectations and facilitate collaboration beginning in Y2.
- We will continue to work with our USAID counterparts to refine and finalize the Y1 Work Plan and the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan during Q4. We will work closely with USAID to ensure that we are effectively measuring the impact of our project activities and communicating our results throughout this program.

## Part 5: Collaboration with Other Development Labs

### 5.1. Interactions

At the beginning of Q3, ARC coordinator Sam Sadle and ARC member Clionadh Raleigh attended the Conflict & Development Workshop in Washington DC hosted by Texas A&M. While there, Sadle met with staff from the Center on Conflict and Development at Texas A&M to outline opportunities for future cooperation between the AidData Center and Texas A&M. This initial meeting led to a visit to Williamsburg by Jerry Kenney and Shahriar Kibriya from Texas A&M to meet with AidData Center staff in June. One outcome of this meeting was the plan to collaborate on our in-country work in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in Y2. We have also initiated the sharing of data between the AidData Center and Texas A&M development labs and have begun exchanging ideas about how to geocode the survey data produced by Texas A&M.

Additionally, AidData has begun to work with Makerere University to embed two AidData Summer Fellows at Makerere University this summer to train Makerere students, staff, and faculty on the geocoding methodology and the visualization and analysis of geocoded data. The Fellows will work with the ResilientAfrica team at Makerere to build their capacity to use geocoded data and GIS skills within the ResilientAfrica workplan.

W&M also facilitated the travel of Dr. Stuart Hamilton, director of the Center for Geospatial Analysis at W&M, to Uganda to lead a series of GIS trainings for Makerere faculty and students in June. We also worked throughout Q3 to identify the GIS software needs of our partners at Makerere University and meet those needs through an extensive GIS software package provided through our partnership with Esri. This summer's program will lay the groundwork for partnering with other ResilientAfrica partner universities in subsequent years.

## 5.2. Lessons Learned/ Good Practices

During Q3, we realized the potential of the AidData Summer Fellows program to be a vehicle to engage other HESN development labs. In subsequent summers, we hope to be able to leverage the AidData Summer Fellows program to build our partnership with Makerere University as well as collaborate with other development labs by including their students in the AidData Summer Fellows program or working with the development labs to identify host institutions for the fellows.

We also identified the good practice of coordinating with other HESN development labs where we are engaging in the same partner countries. In Year 2, we will engage with Texas A&M to identify opportunities for collaboration in our work in the Democratic Republic of Congo. We intend to continue working with other development labs to identify countries of overlap as well as to pursue opportunities to magnify our joint impact in those countries by working together.

## Part 6: Monitoring & Evaluation

### 6.1. Preparation Activities

During Q3, we consulted with our USAID HESN counterparts to develop the AidData Center Monitoring and Evaluation plan. This process culminated in the submission of the updated Monitoring and Evaluation Plan to USAID for review at the end of Q3. Throughout Q4, we will work with our AOR and our USAID to finalize our Monitoring and Evaluation Plan. In particular, we will work with USAID to develop a process for collecting data from targeted USAID Washington staff and partner-country USAID Mission staff to assess the uptake and utilization of geocoded aid information and ARC research products within USAID.

We also made progress towards establishing procedures for collecting data on our performance indicators during Q3. The improvements completed on the Open Development Toolkit by DG in Q3 will enable the AidData Center to collect data on the number of projects geocoded by student research assistants at W&M, BYU, and UT-Austin.

W&M staff worked with one of the summer consultants at the AidData Center to develop recommendations for a methodology to collect data on ARC publications and the uptake and influence of ARC research. These recommendations will be reviewed by our Research Manager and Chief Social

Scientist when they begin in Q4. We will begin collecting data on ARC publications and the uptake and influence of ARC research beginning in Year 2.

During Q3, Vanessa Goas from DG and Alena Stern from W&M developed a procedure for Aid Management Fellows and AidData Summer Fellows to collect data on the results of their outreach and capacity building work in developing countries. This procedure will include a data collection methodology to capture the number of individuals trained and organizations reached as well as a survey to understand the effectiveness of the AidData Center's capacity building program. The AMFs in Nepal and Senegal as well as the AidData Summer Fellows began to implement this procedure in Q3.

## 6.2. Ongoing Monitoring & Evaluation

The data for all of the performance indicators for the AidData Center Monitoring and Evaluation plan will be collected on an annual basis. Thus, the comprehensive data for all performance indicators will be reported in the FY 2013 annual report. Several of our quarter three accomplishments directly worked towards our performance targets for year one. During Q3, we made progress towards IR1.1 in I “Number of geocoded data sets provided to or made accessible to USAID operating units and programs, HESN partners, and the broader development community with human, financial, or institutional resources contributed by HESN Development Labs” through the public release of the geocoded Nepal data set. We also made progress towards IR1.3 in I “Number of developing-country governments using the AidData Center’s geocoding services” and IR3.1 in I “Cumulative number of Aid Management Fellows who have been embedded in aid management institutions during the agreement” by initiating our geocoding work in Senegal during Q3 and embedding our Aid Management Fellow within the Ministry of Finance in Senegal. Finally, as mentioned above, we developed a methodology for collecting data on O3 in I “Number of development professionals proficient in data management and use due to human, financial, or institutional resources contributed by the AidData Center” during Q3, which will be implemented by Aid Management Fellows and AidData Summer Fellows during Q3 and Q4.

## Part 7: Looking Ahead

### 7.1. Calendar of Events

JULY 2013				
DATES	EVENT	DESCRIPTION	USAID Leadership/ Involvement	Development Lab Collaboration
6/30-7/05	Haiti Stakeholder Outreach Kick-Off	Alena Stern from W&M and AidData Summer Fellow David Hensley will meet with development stakeholder institutions to increase uptake and utilization of geocoded aid information.	USAID HESN counterparts will reach out to relevant Haiti-focused staff in DC and to the Haiti Mission.	
7/07- 7/19	Haiti Geocoding Outreach Kick-Off	Dina Abdel-Fattah, Christian Peratsakis, and Amy Cooper from Development Gateway staff will work with the Ministry of Planning of Haiti and the donor community in Haiti to kick-off geocoding activities and place the Aid Management Fellow (Amy Cooper) in Port-au-Prince.	USAID HESN counterparts will reach out to relevant Haiti-focused staff in DC and to the Haiti Mission.	
7/7-7/14	Senegal Stakeholder Outreach Kick-Off	Alena Stern from W&M staff and AidData Summer Fellow David Hensley will meet with development stakeholder institutions to increase uptake and utilization of geocoded aid information. Arrangements will be made for the Fellow to embed in an organization in Senegal to build their capacity to use geocoded data.	USAID HESN counterparts will reach out to relevant Senegal-focused staff in DC and to the Senegal Mission.	
7/15-7/26	Uganda Geocoding Kick-Off	Dustin Homer and Andrew Scott from Development Gateway staff will work with the Ministry of Finance of Uganda and the donor community in Uganda to kick-off geocoding activities and place the Aid Management Fellow (Andrew Scott) in Kampala.	USAID HESN counterparts will reach out to relevant Uganda-focused staff in DC and to the Uganda Mission; Carrie Stokes from the USAID Geocenter will accompany DG on the trip	

<b>AUGUST 2013</b>				
<b>DATES</b>	<b>EVENT</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>USAID Leadership/ Involvement</b>	
8/01	Year 2 Planning Summit	Kristina Kempkey, Carrie Stokes, and Ticora Jones from USAID will travel to Williamsburg to meet with AidData Center staff to discuss Year 2 program implementation.	Kristina Kempkey, Carrie Stokes, and Ticora Jones from USAID will attend the meeting.	
8/07-8/22	Timor-Leste Geocoding Kick-Off	Taryn Davis, James Herrera, and George Kvizhinadze from Development Gateway staff will work with the Ministry of Finance of Timor-Leste and the donor community in Timor-Leste to kick-off geocoding activities and place the Aid Management Fellow (James Herrera) in Dili.	USAID HESN counterparts will reach out to relevant Timor-Leste-focused staff in DC	
<b>SEPTEMBER 2013</b>				
<b>DATES</b>	<b>EVENT</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>USAID Leadership/ Involvement</b>	

## 7.2. Description of Future Activities

### 7.2.1. Milestones

During Q4, we expect to achieve the following milestones:

- Complete stakeholder outreach kick-off trips in Senegal and Haiti.
- Complete geocoding kick-off trips in Haiti, Uganda, and Timor-Leste,
- Embed Aid Management Fellows in aid management institutions in Haiti, Uganda, and Timor-Leste.
- Complete GIS trainings in Nepal.
- Complete recruitment process for ARC Team Leaders.
- Complete planned upgrades to the AidData.org web portal.
- AidData Summer Fellows complete fellowships.
- Develop a partnership with UC-Berkeley to implement a challenge grant competition in year 2.
- Complete upgrades to the OpenAid Geocoding Toolkit.
- Finish geocoding of 3% of projects in AidData.org web portal.
- Continue geocoding Senegal aid projects.
- Begin geocoding Haiti, Uganda, and Timor-Leste aid projects.

### 7.2.2. Events

During Q4, we anticipate the following events to occur:

- Stakeholder outreach kickoff trips in Senegal and Haiti.
- Geocoding kick-off trips in Haiti, Uganda, and Timor-Leste.
- Deploy Aid Management Fellows in Haiti, Uganda, and Timor-Leste.
- GIS training trip to Nepal.
- Year 2 planning summit with USAID HESN counterparts.

### 7.2.3. Publications

AidData does not anticipate any publications during the Q4. The ARC publication process will begin in Y2 with the ARC Convening in January 2014.

### 7.2.4. Communications

- During the fourth quarter AidData will be distributing an external newsletter to a wide range of interested parties and stakeholders. This newsletter will feature recent research initiatives, updates on projects, and other organizational successes.
- AidData will distribute a press release in conjunction with the launch of the AidData 3.0 web portal.
- AidData staff will continue to use the AidData blog, [The First Tranche](#), which provides regular updates on recent events and is used as a platform for publicizing the work of AidData staff and undergraduates at the College of William and Mary. In Q4, AidData will also include more posts from, and profiles on, our AidData Summer Fellows.
- AidData will be participating in the Publish What You Fund “Transparency Week.” We will release information related to that event.
- The William and Mary University Relations office is planning to publish profiles of current and former AidData student research assistants.
- The Institute for the Theory and Practice of International relations will continue to post news stories on their website about AidData activities.