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# HIGHER EDUCATION SOLUTIONS NETWORK - ANNUAL REPORT (FY 2013)

The College of William and Mary  
AidData Center for Development Policy  
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## Acronyms

<b>AMF</b>	Aid Management Fellow
<b>AMP</b>	Aid Management Platform
<b>API</b>	Application Programming Interface
<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>SOPs</b>	Standard Operating Procedures
<b>SRI</b>	Strategic Response Innovation
<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 Year One, with critical support from USAID, the AidData Center for Development Policy made tremendous progress towards the achievement of its topline programmatic goal: enabling the international development community to improve geographic targeting, planning, and coordination of development programs.

The AidData Center developed foundational processes during FY2013 that it will employ throughout its five year partnership with USAID. The results of this effort will be the production the vast information infrastructure of publicly available geocoded aid information needed for high-quality research, advocacy, and evidence-based decision making. Over the past year, the AidData Center has refined its approach of working with developing country governments and country-specific donor offices to geocode current and historical development activities within the host government's aid information management system. It has also begun efforts to build local capacity to report geocoded aid information to ensure the sustainability of our data production processes. In Year One, the AidData Center began work in Nepal, Haiti, Senegal, Uganda, and Timor-Leste. By the end of Year One, the AidData Center had geocoded more than 1,200 projects across these five partner countries. This work included completion of the geocoding work in Nepal and the Ministry of Finance in Nepal, resulting in the release of a rich data set of more than 21,500 geocoded project locations via a public aid management portal (AMP). AidData Center student researchers also initiated geocoding project records within the AidData.org web portal, coding 6,900 project records in FY2013.

To make these data more accessible and actionable, the AidData Center worked to develop powerful data-driven software tools. During Year One, the AidData Center implemented significant upgrades to its AMP Advanced GIS Module, Geocoding Toolkit, and AidData.org web portal. The upgrades to the AMP GIS Module and Geocoding Toolkit responded to requests from key stakeholders to improve the functionality and usability of these tools to support the geocoded data produced under the HESN program.

The AidData Center overhauled its AidData.org web portal during FY2013. The finished product, AidData 3.0, will launch in the first quarter of FY2014 and will feature an updated data model that can support heterogeneously sourced data structures on several different development finance flows (aid, foreign direct investment, remittances, private foundation giving, and government spending), enhanced project pages that include maps displaying geocoded project data, an advanced GIS portal and analytic dashboards that will enable users to visualize and export geocoded aid data, and a completely new website look and interface.

The open aid and government movement rests on not just the supply of data, but also in the ability of key stakeholders, such as ministry officials, civil society organizations and recipients., to leverage this data in aid transparency and development effectiveness efforts. To build the capacity of stakeholders to use the geocoded data and software tools produced by the AidData Center, we embedded 5 Aid Management Fellows within our partner country government aid information management units and deployed 11 AidData Summer Fellows to work with civil society organizations in Haiti, Senegal, Mexico, Nepal, and Timor-Leste. These fellows provided trainings on geospatial data management, analysis, and visualization and build the capacity of their host organizations to use geocoded aid information in their work. The AidData Center also led GIS trainings for development stakeholders in Uganda and Nepal. ARC member and director of the Center for Geospatial Analysis at W&M, Stuart Hamilton, led GIS trainings for students and faculty at Makerere University in Q3 and AidData's Geospatial Database Analyst led a series of targeted GIS trainings for civil society organizations in Nepal in Q4. In total, the

AidData Center trained 644 development professionals and engaged 220 stakeholder organizations in the use of geocoded aid information in FY2013.

Importantly, during FY2013 the AidData Center also laid the groundwork for two programs that will catalyze cutting-edge development research and innovative applications using geocoded aid information. The first is the AidData Research Consortium, a network of 100 researchers from 50 universities throughout the world, that will bring together leading scholars across disciplines and borders to conduct policy-driven research using geocoded aid information. In Year One, we successfully identified six ARC team leaders and worked with our USAID counterparts to develop the process by which these team leaders will engage with identified technical counterparts in USAID to define shared research priorities for the ARC.

The second program is engaging students in challenge opportunities around use and application of data to address real world problems. We initiated our challenge program during Year One by embarking on a collaboration with another HESN development lab, UC Berkeley, to add an open data/open government challenge window to the annual Big Ideas student challenge competition.

The achievements of Year One have provided a strong foundation upon which the AidData Center will build to scale up its activities in Year Two and beyond.

## Part I: Major Milestones and Events Completed

### I.1. Milestones

During Year One the AidData Center achieved several significant milestones in field operations, development of software tools, and capacity building of partner organizations. The AidData Center initiated in-country work in five partner countries: Nepal, Senegal, Haiti, Uganda, and Timor-Leste. Work in each country focused on three areas: production of comprehensive multi-donor geocoded data, developing a sustainable data collection process within government and donor partners, and capacity building of local development stakeholders to use the geocoded data.

The AidData Center's work to build a sustainable supply of geocoded data began in each partner country with a geocoding kick-off trip in which a project manager and AMF (and in some cases where required, a software developer) traveled to country to introduce the project to government and donors, provide preliminary training, install the AMP GIS module, and embed the AMF within the government ministry tasked with aid information management. The AidData Center kicked off its in-country geocoding work in Nepal during Q2, Senegal in Q3, and Haiti, Uganda, and Timor-Leste in Q4.

During FY2013 we were able to complete the in-country geocoding work in Nepal and make significant progress towards completion of the in-country geocoding work in Senegal, Haiti, Uganda, and Timor-Leste. The AidData Center employed a team of 140 student researchers throughout Year One to complete the in-country geocoding work. For Nepal, students coded 21,500 project sites representing \$6 billion in commitments from more than 40 donors. The Ministry of Finance released this geocoded data to the public via a [public AMP portal](#) in June.

The geocoding effort in the other Year One partner countries- Haiti, Senegal, Uganda, and Timor-Leste- will be completed in FY2014, and upon completion these data sets will be released to the public. The AidData Center was also able to geocode active USAID Mexico projects through the AidData Summer Fellows program. This dataset was completed during Q4 and will be released to the public in the beginning of FY2014.

Importantly, to accompany these data the AidData Center developed software tools during Year One that will enable users to more effectively access, analyze, and engage with the geocoded aid information produced under the USAID HESN program. The AidData Center implemented significant upgrades to its AMP Advanced GIS Module, Geocoding Toolkit, and AidData.org web portal. The upgrades to the AMP GIS Module responded to requests from our in-country partners that focused on (a) performance in low bandwidth environments; (b) improved overall design and user friendliness; and (c) new features and filtering criteria requested by government stakeholders. The AidData Center improved administrative functionality of the Geocoding Toolkit to ensure efficient project management of the number of coders necessary to support HESN geocoding, created additional tools for quality assurance monitoring and improvement, and streamlined the geocoding interface.

Finally, the AidData Center undertook a comprehensive redesign of the AidData.org web portal to vastly expand the functionality and usability of the portal. The completed product, AidData 3.0, works towards providing a single harmonized interface where policymakers and practitioners will be able to mash-up, compare, visualize, and analyze the total resource envelope available to countries to plan for their development. Specific upgrades include an updated data model that can support OECD, IATI, and AMP (or other country system) data structures as well as data on other development finance flows (foreign direct investment, remittances, private foundation giving, and government spending) enabling AidData to serve as a powerful "aggregator" of heterogeneously sourced development finance information, individual project pages that provide the opportunity for users to provide feedback and include maps displaying geocoded project data and other sources of geospatial information (e.g. poverty,

conflict, or population density), an advanced GIS portal and analytic dashboards that will enable users to visualize and export geocoded aid data and other geospatial data, and a completely new website look and feel. This progress sets us up for a successful launch in Q1 of FY2014

The AidData Center worked during FY2013 to build the capacity of development stakeholders to use these geocoded data and software tools. During FY2013, the AidData Center embedded five Aid Management Fellows in the government aid management institutions of each of our Year One partner countries, housed within the Ministry of Finance or Planning. These AMFs helped to facilitate the geocoding process and build capacity within their host governments and donor partners to produce geocoded data to ensure the sustainability of our geocoding efforts. The AidData Center exceeded its goal of embedding 10 AidData Summer Fellows within development stakeholder organizations, deploying 11 Summer Fellows to Nepal, Uganda, Mexico, Senegal, and Timor-Leste. The AidData Center also led GIS trainings for development stakeholders in Uganda and Nepal. ARC member and director of the Center for Geospatial Analysis at W&M, Stuart Hamilton, led GIS trainings for students and faculty at Makerere University in Q3 and AidData's Geospatial Database Analyst led a series of targeted GIS trainings for civil society organizations in Nepal in Q4. Through these three capacity building efforts, the AidData Center engaged 220 stakeholder organizations and trained 644 development professionals in FY2013.

The AidData Center laid the groundwork for the AidData Research Consortium during FY2013, which will leverage geocoded aid information to undertake cutting-edge research to help inform the decision making of USAID and other development agencies. During Q4, the AidData Center made provisional offers to 6 ARC team leaders and made plans to bring these ARC Team Leaders to Williamsburg in the beginning of FY2014.

The AidData Center also initiated its challenge grant program during FY2013. In Q4, AidData collaborated with another HESN development lab, UC Berkeley, to add an open data/open government challenge window to the annual Big Ideas student grant challenge competition. This window, along with two others sponsored by USAID HESN, are available to students across all HESN campuses. AidData is co-funding the challenge prize and working to mobilize student participation across these campuses.

## 1.2. Events

- December 10-15, 2012, AidData Center and USAID staff attended Development Gateway's 5th AMP Best Practices Workshop in Dakar, Senegal. The workshop was attended by senior officials from a dozen AMP implementing countries who shared lessons learned and discussed best practices in managing the AMP system.
- January 14-18, 2013: AidData Center staff, including DG lead developers based in Argentina and W&M staff, convened in Washington, DC to outline the user requirements for the upgrades to the AidData.org database and systems architecture.
- February 5, 2013: Salim Sawaya from Esri traveled to Austin to provide ArcGIS trainings to UT-Austin student researchers.
- February 11, 2013: Dr. Alex Dehgan, Science and Technology Advisor to the Administrator, visits W&M to meet with AidData faculty, staff, and students as well as deliver a public talk entitled "Transforming International Development through Science, Technology, and Innovation"
- February 21- March 8, 2013: AidData Center staff and two USAID GeoCenter counterparts traveled to Nepal for the geocoding and civil society outreach kick-off trips. This trip initiated the in-country geocoding and civil society outreach and capacity building work in Nepal.
- March 2013: ARC Members Mark Buntaine, Stuart Hamilton, and Marco Millones traveled to Ecuador to meet with USAID Ecuador mission and collect data on forest preservation projects

from USAID implementing partners. This data will be used in their research through the AidData Research Consortium.

- March 14-15, 2013: Salim Sawaya from Esri and Ben Arancibia from DG traveled to W&M to train AidData research assistants, staff, faculty, and members of the broader campus community to use ArcGIS to visualize and analyze geocoded aid data as well as work closely with AidData research assistants competing in the Map Off.
- April 6, 2013: AidData Director of Operations David Trichler participates in W&M TedX giving a presentation on the AidData Center to a wide campus audience.
- April 9-10, 2013: 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 opportunities pertaining to the USAID HESN program.
- April 25-27, 2013: 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, 2013: W&M staff announced the winners of the two-month long student Map Off competition. The winning blog posts were featured on the AidData blog The First Tranche.
- May 10-11, 2013: 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 consult with AidData Center staff.
- May 12-18, 2013: Geocoding kick-off trip to Senegal to introduce the project to government and donors, provide preliminary training, install the AMP GIS module, introduce the AMF
- May 20-28, 2013: 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, 2013: The summer research session at W&M began, bringing 40 research assistants to the AidData Center for Development Policy to undertake geocoding work and research.
- June 6, 2013: Nepal Aid Management Fellow, Dina Abdel-Fattah [presents](#) on the AidData Center's geocoding work in Nepal at the [Open Nepal launch event](#).
- June 19, 2013: Jerry Kenney and Shahriar Kibriya from Texas A&M travel to Williamsburg to discuss opportunities for collaboration between Texas A&M and the AidData Center.
- June 20-29, 2013: Geocoding wrap-up trip to Nepal during which the DG project manager for Nepal uploaded the final geocoded dataset into the AMP system and provided additional trainings to the Ministry of Finance staff and donor partners.
- June 21, 2013: 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/>.
- June 29-July 5, 2013: Civil society outreach kick-off trip to Haiti to raise awareness of geocoding work within civil society partners identify capacity building needs, and develop partnerships.
- July 7-July 19, 2013: Geocoding kick-off trip to Haiti to introduce the project to government and donors, provide preliminary training, install the AMP GIS module, and introduce the AMF.
- July 7- July 14, 2013: Civil society outreach kick-off trip to Senegal to raise awareness of geocoding work within civil society partners identify capacity building needs, and develop partnerships.
- July 15-26, 2013: Geocoding kick-off trip to Uganda introduce the project to government and donors, provide preliminary training, install the AMP GIS module, introduce the AMF.
- July 23, 2013: AidData Executive Director Brad Parks travels to Berkeley to meet with staff at UC-Berkeley to discuss collaboration with AidData Center on Big Ideas challenge competition.

- August 8-22, 2013: Geocoding kick-off trip to Timor-Leste introduce the project to government and donors, provide preliminary training, install the AMP GIS module, introduce the AMF.
- August 14, 2013: Brown bag lunch presentation to the USAID Asia bureau to present AidData's work in Nepal and brainstorm future collaboration.
- August 19-20, 2013: AidData project managers from W&M, DG, UT-Austin, and BYU gather in DC to discuss best practices and lessons learned from Year One and how to apply these lessons to maximize efficiency of Year Two implementation.
- September 3, 2013: Briefing to the Gates Foundation on the work of AidData, including the partnership with USAID HESN on geocoded data, research and tools.
- September 4, 2013: Briefing to the Deputy Assistant Administrator for the USAID Asia Bureau and the USAID Data Working Group. Discussed AidData's geocoding work in Nepal and gave a demo of the AidData 3.0 portal.
- September 6, 2013: The AidData Center and UC Berkeley Big Ideas Open Data/ Open Governance challenge competition kicks off at W&M.
- September 25, 2013: Mike Findley and Kate Weaver from UT-Austin travelled to Texas A&M to train Texas A&M students on the AidData geocoding methodology and discuss collaboration between the AidData Center and Texas A&M.

### I.3. Publications

The AidData blog, [The First Tranche](#), featured 94 blog posts during FY2013, 18 of which were directly pertinent to the USAID HESN award. These 18 blogs can be found here:

- [The Winding Road to AidData](#)– posted on Feb 13, 2013. This blog post describes the USAID/AidData partnership in creating the AidData Center for Development Policy.
- [AidData Map Off](#) – posted on March 27, 2013. This post highlights the premium AidData puts on student engagement by creating an activity that puts on display the creativity and innovation of William and Mary students.
- [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.
- [Is Open Data Just A Flash in the Pan Movement?](#) – posted July 3, 2013. This post is written by a Summer Fellow in Nepal about her experience participating in Open Nepal Week's Data Literacy Bootcamp.

- [Cleaning Up the Murky World of Geocoded Data](#) – posted July 11, 2013. This post uses geocoded, subnational data to analyze the relationship between aid targeting and poverty in Malawi.
- [Can Mapping Nutrition Assistance Help Uganda Solve Its Malnutrition Problem?](#) – posted July 16, 2013. This post was written by an AidData Summer Fellow in Uganda on how geocoded data can be used to improve targeting of nutrition programs.
- [African Students Leverage Open Data to Aid Communities Vulnerable to Disaster](#) – posted August 1, 2013. This post was written by a Summer Fellow in Uganda on how to incorporate geocoded data into the current research initiatives of the ResilientAfrica Program.
- [Beyond Access to Use: Building Local Stakeholder Capacity to Use Open Aid Data](#) – posted August 6, 2013. This post is about how AidData and HESN are working to strengthen local capacity for collecting and using geocoded aid information in countries such as Senegal and Haiti.
- [Emerging Donors and Development Cooperation: Can Mexico Lead the Charge for MICs?](#) – posted August 12, 2013. This post was written by a Summer Fellow in Mexico about Mexico's aid transparency and unique position as both a donor and recipient of development finance.
- [Students Catalyze Local Capacity to Use Geocoded Aid Information](#) – posted by August 14, 2013. This recaps the insights gained by Summer Fellows during their time within the various host institutions.
- [On a Quest for Aid Information That Is Actually Useful: Can Nepal Show the Way?](#) – posted August 19th, 2013. In this post, Nepal is used as an example of how aid information can be made more useful by documenting at the project level, georeferencing, and visualization of the data.
- [Visualizing Results: Can GIS Enable New Ways of Looking at Agriculture Projects?](#) – posted August 27, 2013. This post was written by a Summer Fellow in Nepal on how GIS and other data visualization tools can strengthen the agriculture sector.
- [Nepali Organizations Use ArcGIS Training to Answer Development Questions](#) – posted August 29, 2013. This post was written about the ArcGIS workshop in Nepal that was led by AidData's Geospatial Database Analyst.
- [New Student Competition Searches for Big Ideas Using Open Data](#)- posted September 4, 2013. This post introduces the Open Data/Open Government Big Ideas challenge window co-sponsored by UC Berkeley and the AidData Center.
- [Averting Crisis: What Can Donors Do About Ogaden?](#)- posted September 12, 2013. This post was written by an AidData Center student researcher based at UT-Austin about foreign aid in the Ogaden region of Ethiopia.

## I.4. Communications

The AidData Center for Development Policy's Communications and Policy Outreach team experienced significant growth during FY2013. This progress was catalyzed by hiring an AidData Director of Communications and Policy Outreach in June. During Q4, the Center also brought on a Communications Associate, Publications Manager and a Project Manager to coordinate the USAID HESN Technical Convening hosted at William & Mary. This Communications and Policy Outreach team has successfully increased the coverage of the AidData Center's work in local, national, and international news outlets, particularly in Q3 and Q4. A list of major communications during FY2013 is provided below:

- AidData was featured in a number of news outlets. The College of William and Mary media relations office frequently covers AidData in university publications, student publications, and online news articles. AidData's work was cited in online articles featured on [AllAfrica.com](#), [Moneyweb.com](#), [Reuters](#), DevEx, and [BusinessDay](#).

- The ONE Campaign, featured AidData in an [article](#) discussing the newly established AidData Center for Development Policy and the partnership with USAID.
- 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 student researchers, including [this post](#) from Map Off winner Lauren Harrison (WM '14). The blog is frequently cross-promoted by the Guardian's Development Blog, [Publish What You Fund](#), [DevEx Newswire](#), as well as influential research blogs such as [the Monkey Cage](#).
- In Q4, AidData Summer Fellow David Hensley's presentation at the West African Research Council in Dakar, Senegal was covered in [Le Soleil](#) and [Enquête+](#), two local Senegalese newspapers.
- In September 2013 the AidData Center released an issue of AidData Inside Look, a publication sent to university partners, researchers, and other AidData affiliates. The AidData Center also made plans during Q4 to release the first edition of the AidData Open Data Digest. This publication will be sent to over 3,000 policymakers and practitioners in October 2013.
- AidData is active on Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn, posting hourly for Twitter, daily for Facebook and weekly for LinkedIn. In terms of reach, AidData has over 5,500 followers on Twitter and 1,000 on Facebook.
- The Institute for the Theory and Practice of International Relations at the College of William and Mary regularly posts news stories on their website about AidData activities. A comprehensive list of published posts can be found [here](#).
- Dr. Alex Dehgan, public talk at William and Mary (see above) was publicized on the W&M Institute for the Theory and Practice of International relations website. Find the link [here](#).
- Development Gateway regularly publishes news about its activities on its own blog, including an [article on AidData's geocoding efforts in Nepal](#).
- 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 AidData's 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](#).
- AidData's Director of Operations was named one of [the top 99 leaders under 33](#) by Foreign Policy and the Diplomatic Courier. Trichler was also featured in regional publications including the Virginia Gazette and the [WY Daily](#).

## Part 2: Description of Key Activities

### 2.1. Annual Objectives

**Objective 1 – Gather geocoded data:** During Year One, the AidData Center aimed to achieve the following outcomes under objective 1:

- **Activity 1a:** Review and republish the AidData geocoding methodology.
- **Activity 1b:** Undertake geocoding kick-off trips to Nepal, Senegal, Haiti, Uganda, and Timor Leste to initiate geocoding work in those five Year One partner countries.
- **Activity 1c:** Make significant progress towards geocoding the project records in our five Year One partner countries and geocode at least 1600 projects from those countries, which

represents 10% of total partner country projects that we anticipate coding over the 5 year partnership.

- **Activity 1d:** Initiate geocoding of “geocodable” donor project information already existing in the AidData.org web portal, completing 3% of the total geocodable projects, which represents 6,000 projects.

**Objective 2- Create the ARC:** During Year One, the AidData Center aimed to achieve the following outcomes under objective 2:

- **Activity 2a:** Select team leaders for seven ARC thematic teams (global health, environment and climate change, economic growth, conflict, food security, humanitarian assistance, and democracy and governance).
- **Activity 2b:** Work with USAID counterparts to develop an iterative process for connecting ARC team leaders with relevant subject matter experts within USAID.

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

**information:** During Year One, the AidData Center aimed to achieve the following outcomes under objective 3:

- **Activity 3a:** Develop user requirements for the for the creation of a database and systems architecture that will make it possible for USAID staff, members of the AidData Research Consortium, and others to share, collate, visualize, and analyze heterogeneously-sourced and -generated data on the AidData.org web portal. These upgrades to the AidData.org web portal will produce AidData 3.0
- **Activity 3b:** Develop AidData 3.0 web portal based on requirements developed under Activity 3a to enable users of AidData.org to aggregate, visualize, and share heterogeneously-sourced data, develop a GIS portal that enables users to generate and export customized maps with geocoded aid information, and create an enhanced project page that includes maps which show AidData geocoded aid information.
- **Activity 3c:** Undertake upgrades to the AMP GIS Module to (a) improve performance in low-bandwidth environments; (b) improve overall design and user-friendliness; and (c) implement new features and filtering criteria requested by AMP governments.
- **Activity 3d:** Develop public AMP portal for Nepal which will include an interactive map of all geocoded activities in Nepal.
- **Activity 3e:** Undertake upgrades to the Geocoding Toolkit to (a) create a streamlined workflow for project managers and geocoders; (b) address user-friendliness enhancements suggested by Toolkit users; and (c) create a data flow from the Toolkit to the AidData.org web portal and the Aid Management Platform so that data can be pulled from those systems, geocoded, and exported back via web services.
- **Activity 3f:** In consultation with USAID GeoCenter develop requirements for 2-3 activities that strategically respond to USAID’s geospatial needs. At least one strategic response activity will be implemented in response to an expressed USAID need by the end of September, 2013.

**Objective 4 – Foster Innovative uses of geocoded aid data:** During Year One, the AidData Center aimed to achieve the following outcomes under objective 4:

- **Activity 4a:** Develop a preliminary process for implementing challenge grant competitions to award approximately \$750,000 in years 2-5.
- **Activity 4b:** Develop a procedure for soliciting kick-start funding proposals and criteria for making awards to support ARC members undertaking innovative research activities that use geocoded data and tools to help solve development challenges.

**Objective 5- Build partner country capacity:** During Year One, the AidData Center aimed to achieve the following outcomes under objective 5:

- **Activity 5a:** Develop a geospatial analysis curriculum to enable various user types (e.g. university researchers and students, aid management professionals, or local journalists/CSOs) to effectively use geocoded aid information
- **Activity 5b:** Deploy 5 Aid Management Fellows to embed within the government aid management institutions in Nepal, Senegal, Haiti, Uganda, and Timor-Leste.
- **Activity 5c:** Train at least 150 developing-country stakeholders in data management, visualization, and analysis to build their capacity to use geospatial data.
- **Activity 5d:** Deploy at 10 AidData Summer Fellows to build the capacity of development stakeholder organizations to use geocoded aid information in their work.

## 2.2. Summary of Key Activities and Outcomes

### Objective 1 – Gather geocoded data

#### **Activity 1a: Review and republish the AidData geocoding methodology.**

In Q2, AidData Center staff initiated discussions with the Open Aid Partnership (OAP) secretariat at the World Bank Institute, the USAID GeoCenter, and the IATI secretariat around upgrades to the existing geocoding standard. The proposed changes focused on the precision system of the IATI geocoding standard and around metadata requirements for projections. These changes will facilitate greater interoperability of geocoded data across donors as well as improved tracking of locations which are collected using GPS devices in the field. Those suggested improvements to the existing IATI geocoding standard are currently under review for inclusion in the 1.04 upgrade to the IATI standard (<http://wiki.iatistandard.org/standard/revision/1.04>).

**Activity 1b:** During FY2013, in-country geocoding activities were initiated in five countries: Nepal, Senegal, Haiti, Uganda, and Timor-Leste. In all cases, AidData worked directly with the host country institution that is responsible for aid management to ensure that the process is sustainable and maintained by the government after AidData's engagement is complete. Key activities per country include:

- **Nepal:** Geocoding was completed in July 2013. In June, AidData Center staff led a wrap-up trip to Nepal to upload the geocoded data set and provide additional training and capacity building support. During engagement in-country over 400 government and donor partner staff were trained on AMP and/or the mapping module of AMP. In July, the Ministry of Finance launched the public portal of the AMP, which is available online at <http://portal.mof.gov.np/>. The government also released its annual [Development Cooperation Report](#) for the first time with geospatial analysis.
- **Senegal:** Geocoding commenced in August and is ongoing. Since the AMP is linked with the Ministry of Finance's budget system, AidData has geocoded government-funded public investment projects as well as externally funded projects. During the Center's engagement in Senegal, AidData hosted two trainings with development partners in addition to working with the Ministry of Finance to update its AMP with the most recent project information. The Ministry of Finance intends to launch its public portal at the end of October 2013. Depending on the speed at which the AidData Center receives project information from donors, activities in Senegal could be completed as soon as November 2013.

- Haiti: Geocoding began in August and is ongoing as of October 2013. In Haiti, AidData is working to help collect data from non-traditional donors and south-south cooperation in addition to typical development finance. In particular, the AidData team has worked closely with the Ministry of Planning to ensure that geospatial information is collected as part of its regular data collection exercise that is currently ongoing. Depending on the speed at which the AidData Center receives project information from donors, activities in Haiti could be completed as soon as December 2013
- Uganda: Geocoding is ongoing as of October 2013. In Uganda, AidData is working with the Ministry of Finance to collect geospatial information on several dozen donors, as well as assisting the government to create a plan for data management and validation. Depending on the speed at which the AidData Center receives project information from donors, activities in Uganda could be completed as soon as January 2014.
- Timor-Leste: Geocoding is ongoing as of October 2013. In Timor-Leste, data management processes within the Ministry of Finance are well-established and donors are highly supportive of the project and process. As a result, significant focus is being placed on line ministry usage of geospatial aid information. Depending on the speed at which the AidData Center receives project information from donors, activities in Timor-Leste could be completed as soon as December 2013.

**Activity 1c:** During FY2013 the AidData Center began geocoding the project records in our five Year One partner countries. The AidData Center had previously geocoded 260 aid projects in Nepal using funding from AusAid, representing 50% of the universe of aid projects in Nepal. By the end of Q3, The AidData Center had completed the geocoding work in Nepal, in total coding 480 projects with 21,500 project sites representing \$6 billion in commitments from more than 40 donors. The AidData Center also made significant progress towards completing the geocoding work in our other four Year One partner countries. Due to the start-up process in Year 1, four countries came on-line within 4 weeks of each other in Q3 for geocoding operations. The three AidData Center university partners scaled up student engagement on their campuses to meet the surge. BYU quadrupled its student work force, employing 28 student researchers in FY2013. Throughout Year One, W&M maintained a workforce of 45 student researchers while UT-Austin scaled up throughout the year, closing Year One with a workforce of 10 Graduate Research Fellows and 42 student researchers.

AidData Center student researchers geocoded 230 projects for Uganda during Year One, 70 projects for Haiti, 407 projects for Senegal, and 60 projects for Timor-Leste. In total, the AidData Center coded 1,247 country projects during FY2013 (each project can have anywhere between 1 to 1000 plus locations). This falls under our initial target of 1,600 partner country projects coded in Year One. The lower than expected number is the result of unexpected start-up delays in securing government approval to initiate the geocoding work. Additionally, the flow of project information from in-country donors to student researchers was slower than initial assumptions. We have adjusted our implementation schedule and will maintain peak staffing levels for Year Two to enable us to both successfully complete the coding of our Year One partner country portfolios and meet our Year Two targets.

**Activity 1d:** The AidData.org web portal includes data from the OECD Creditor Reporting System (CRS), the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) Registry, as well as from donors that do not report to the CRS or IATI (such as South Africa, Brazil, and the UAE). However, as a "top-down" system that is populated with data supplied by staff from donor agency headquarters, the project descriptions in the AidData.org web portal often lack the detail needed to assign subnational project locations. AidData Center staff addressed the issue by creating customized open source software to identify which projects in the AidData.org web portal have project descriptions with "geocode-able"

information. During Year One, AidData Center staff developed a methodology to identify “geocode-able” records in AidData.org and, based upon this methodology, estimated that 15% of the total projects in the AidData.org web portal are “geocode-able.” AidData Center student researchers began geocoding projects in AidData.org during Q3, and by the end of FY2013 had geocoded 6900 projects in the AidData.org database. This exceeds the Year One target number of projects by 15%.

However, during the ARC team leader summit during the beginning of FY2014, we received feedback from our team leaders that the low percentage of “geocode-able” projects within the AidData.org web portal limits the potential research applications of the resulting data sets. By contrast, the data geocoded through our “bottom-up” method has much higher levels of granularity and completeness because it leverages rich project information provided by sources close to implementation, making this data highly useful for research. The ARC team leaders suggested that we adjust our planned allocation of resources between the “top-down” and “bottom-up” geocoding to concentrate our efforts on “bottom-up” geocoding methodologies. As a result of this feedback, the AidData Center began consulting a wide range of stakeholders- including AidData Center staff, student researchers, ARC member, and USAID policy makers- to assess whether there could be alternate uses of the human geocoding resources that have been dedicated to AidData.org project records that could take advantage of other sources of detailed “bottom-up” aid information (eg. data sets provided directly by USAID Bureaus or Missions). This approach would produce data with greater utility to the research and policy communities. The assessment will continue during Q1 2014 and will result in a process for soliciting geocoding ideas from USAID staff and ARC researchers and a set of criteria for adjudicating between submissions.

It is still possible that some AidData.org core data sets will be selected for geocoding based upon the criteria developed. However, based upon lessons learned during FY2013 we are moving towards a more demand-driven approach to allocate these geocoding resources to USAID and ARC research priorities, with the objective of prioritizing the creation of new datasets to answer critical USAID research questions. This does not impact our in-country geocoding work under activity 1b and 1c, which will continue as planned.

## **Objective 2- Create the ARC:**

**Activity 2a:** During Q3, AidData began the competitive search process for the 7 ARC Team Leaders and the Technical Grant Writers. By the end of Q4, AidData made provisional offers to 6 ARC Team Leaders: conflict mitigation, democracy and governance, economic growth, environment and climate change, global health, and humanitarian assistance and disaster response. The competitive search for the food security Team Leader is ongoing. The first Technical Grant Writer, for the Global Health ARC Team, was hired during Q3.

The ARC Team Leader Summit is planned for October 5, 2013, which will orient Team Leaders to their new positions and plan for the upcoming fiscal year. AidData has also started the process of creating a set of By-Laws and Resource Allocation Guidelines that will guide the operations of the ARC. These guidelines will be finalized during Q1 of FY2014.

**Activity 2b:** Throughout FY2013 the AidData Center for Development Policy worked with its USAID counterparts to design a process to identify the seven ARC Team Leaders and USAID technical counterparts for each of the 7 thematic teams. Throughout the course of the year, it became evident that identifying a one-for-one counterpart in USAID for each of the 7 teams was not feasible given the complex and varying research interests of the ARC members within each thematic team and the competing demands on the time of USAID personnel. AidData is working with USAID to identify a network of individuals who are interested in collaborating with ARC members.

In Q4, AidData hired a Research Manager, who is responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of the ARC. Additionally, AidData hired a Chief Social Scientist who will provide methodological expertise to ARC members, broker introductions between ARC members and the policy community, and conduct trainings for AidData staff, students, and ARC members.

**Activity 2c-2e:** AidData's Research Manager and Director of Communications and Policy Outreach will work with our USAID counterparts at the beginning of FY2014 to identify relevant technical counterparts for each ARC thematic team. They will arrange meetings during Q1 between each ARC team leader and their USAID counterparts to discuss research priorities.

The inaugural convening of the ARC will occur in January 2014 in Williamsburg, Virginia. This event will bring together the ARC membership for the purpose of identifying research questions to address during the upcoming year, receive feedback on initial research designs, and facilitate the process of creating interdisciplinary collaborative teams to address development questions.

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

**Activity 3a:** During Q1-Q3, AidData Center staff developed 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 agile software development processes, AidData drafted these technical requirements in phases to ensure the technical requirements fall in line with the software development process.

**Activity 3b:** The AidData Center initiated development of the AidData 3.0 web portal in Q3 based on requirements developed under Activity 3a to enable users of AidData.org to aggregate, visualize, and share heterogeneously-sourced data, develop a GIS portal that enables users to generate and export customized maps with geocoded aid information, and create an enhanced project page that includes maps which show AidData geocoded aid information. By the end of FY2013, the AidData Center had made tremendous progress towards the launch of the AidData 3.0 platform. Key progress included: 1) developing an updated data model that can support OECD, IATI, and AMP (or other country system) data structures as well as data on other development finance flows (foreign direct investment, remittances, private foundation giving, and government spending) enabling AidData to act as an "aggregator" of heterogeneously sourced development finance information; 2) enhanced project pages that include maps displaying geocoded project data; 3) an advanced GIS portal and analytic dashboards that will enable users to visualize and export geocoded aid data; and 4) implementation of a completely new website look and feel. This progress sets us up for a successful launch in Q1 of FY2014.

During FY2013, AidData presented the 3.0 platform to the GeoCenter, Data Working Group, and others. The AidData Center is closely collaborating with the GeoCenter to identify ways in which USAID can leverage the 3.0 GIS Portal to complement its ArcGIS Online implementation, as well as with the Data Working Group on how it can leverage the new AidData 3.0 API, data structure, and forthcoming file repository to support its Open Data Agenda.

**Activity 3c:** During Q2 and Q3, the AidData Center implemented upgrades to the AMP GIS Module to (a) improve the speed and performance of the GIS Module in low-bandwidth environments; (b) improve overall design and user-friendliness; and (c) implement new features for clustering many site-level locations together for improved visualization and filtering criteria requested by AMP governments. In Q4, the AidData Center developed user requirements for a second round of improvements to the AMP GIS portal, based upon direct requests from our Year One countries and strategic opportunities to increase the in-country impact of the geocoded data within the AMP system. These changes will be implemented in FY2014, and include allowing governments to create their own socioeconomic indicator layers in the AMP GIS without requiring GIS skills, optimizing the user experience, particularly focusing on low-resolution, low-speed computers and tablets. AidData Center staff at DG and Esri will work together to define the proper technical approach to implement these further improvements.

**Activity 3d:** During FY2013, the AidData Center worked with Nepal's Ministry of Finance to develop a public portal that would enable users to access the information in Nepal's Aid Management, including the geocoded data produced by the AidData Center. In July 2013 the Ministry of Finance launched the public portal of the AMP, which is available online at <http://portal.mof.gov.np/>. The AMP database contains [reports](#), visualization [dashboards](#), and an advanced [mapping module](#) enabling development stakeholders to track development financing at a level of precision previously unavailable. More than 40 development partners have reported nearly 700 projects into the AMP to date, representing over \$US 6 billion in aid disbursements. Nepal's newly launched Portal enables the public to visualize where development finance is going, analyze gaps in service and identify duplication of efforts with interactive maps.

**Activity 3e:** The AidData Center undertook upgrades to the Geocoding Toolkit to (a) create a streamlined workflow for project managers and geocoders; (b) address user-friendliness enhancements suggested by Toolkit users; and (c) create a data flow from the Toolkit to the AidData.org web portal and the Aid Management Platform so that data can be pulled from those systems, geocoded, and exported back via web services. In Q3, the AidData Center completed the first round of upgrades to the 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. In Q4 AidData Center staff completed the second round of improvements to the Geocoding Toolkit, including enhanced project management tools to analyze which coders are more efficient and/or accurate in geocoding. The new administrator dashboard arms geocoding project managers with the information they need to maximize efficiency and quality of geocoded data. In FY14, additional improvements to the user and administrator dashboard will be implemented, as well as an IATI XML export of the location data, to facilitate easier import of geocoded data into AidData 3.0 and AMP.

**Activity 3f:** During FY13, the AidData Center held several brainstorming sessions with GeoCenter staff to define Strategic Response Innovations (SRI) which could be developed on behalf of USAID. While no SRI was determined for implementation during FY13, the AidData Center and USAID have begun to focus on a list of potential FY14 innovations, including a light-weight geocoding and project data tool that could be leveraged by regional missions (e.g. RDMA) to facilitate multi-donor, multi-country geocoding efforts, creating geoprocessing applications to showcase GeoCenter analyses in interactive web maps, and assisting USAID in leveraging its ArcGIS Online implementation with enhanced look and feel.

#### **Objective 4 – Foster Innovative uses of geocoded aid data:**

**Activity 4a:** In Q2, AidData Center staff at W&M held a mapping competition to help AidData student researchers to gain skill in geospatial data visualization and analysis and provide an outlet for them to apply these skills to create compelling and innovative visualizations of geocoded aid information. The student Map-Off Competition kicked off in March, 2013 when Salim Sawaya from Esri and Ben Arancibia from DG traveled to the W&M campus to lead ArcGIS workshops. The trainings were attended by 61 W&M students and initiated the 2-month long Map Off competition, in which 11 students submitted geocoded aid maps that analyzed a pressing development research question. At the conclusion of the Map-Off in May, 2013, two student winners were selected who wrote blog posts that were featured on *The First Tranche*.

In Q4, AidData embarked on a collaboration with another HESN development lab, UC Berkeley, to add an open data/open government challenge window to the annual Big Ideas student grant challenge competition. This window, along with two others, are available to students across all HESN campuses. AidData is co-funding the challenge prize for the open data window and is working to mobilize student participation across these campuses. AidData is also working with Esri to host a student competition as part of USAID's upcoming TechCon that will challenge students to utilize ArcGIS online to map student engagement across the labs as part of the HESN award.

These two challenge programs will extend into FY2014. Based upon our experience in FY2013, AidData will look towards channeling challenge grant program towards catalyzing student creativity and promoting innovations of our developing country partners in FY2014-FY2017.

**Activity 4b:** During Q3 and Q4, the AidData Center outlined a procedure for awarding resources to support research activities of the ARC. Through a competitive process, ARC members have access to kick-start funding, RA hours, technical grant writer time, and strategic policy outreach support in Y2. To apply for resources, ARC members will submit an application detailing the requested resources, a summary of the research activities, and how this research will inform development policy or programming decisions. Finalizing this proposed process will occur during the first annual convening of the ARC membership in early January 2014.

### **Objective 5- Build partner country capacity:**

**Activity 5a:** During Q3, the AidData Center developed a geospatial analysis curriculum to teach basic GIS skills focused on the analysis and visualization of geocoded aid information. This curriculum was implemented in Nepal during Q4 by one of the AidData Center's GIS experts. During FY2014, the AidData Center will continue to expand and refine this curriculum to meet the diverse needs of our growing number of partners.

**Activity 5b:** During FY2013, the AidData Center deployed 5 Aid Management Fellows to embed within the government aid management institutions in Nepal, Senegal, Haiti, Uganda, and Timor-Leste. Fellows supported the government aid management institutions of each of our Year One partner countries, hosted in either the Ministry of Finance or Ministry of Planning. These AMFs helped to facilitate the geocoding process and built capacity within their host governments and donor partners to produce geocoded data and to ensure the sustainability of our geocoding efforts.

**Activity 5c:** During FY2013, the AidData Center built the capacity of stakeholders in our partner countries to use geocoded aid information through the Aid Management Fellows program (Activity 5b), the AidData Summer Fellows Program (Activity 5d), and through a targeted GIS Training held for development professionals in Nepal in July, 2013. These trainings focused on building the capacity of these stakeholders to use geocoded data in their work, including sessions on the geocoding

methodology, data management, GIS software tools, data visualization and cartography, and geospatial analysis. Through these three capacity building efforts, the AidData Center engaged 220 partner organizations and trained 644 development professionals in FY2013. This vastly exceeded our original estimates of 75 stakeholders trained and 40 stakeholder organizations engaged.

Activity 5d: During Q3 and Q4 the AidData Center deployed 11 AidData Summer Fellows to build the capacity of development stakeholder organizations to use geocoded aid information in their work. The AidData Summer Fellows were undergraduate and graduate students from W&M and UT-Austin, selected from AidData's pool of current and former student researchers. During Q3, AidData Center staff recruited the 11 Summer Fellows through a rigorous competitive process, based on their exceptional expertise in sector coding, geo-coding, data management, data visualization, and statistical analysis. In late May, the AidData Summer Fellows came to Williamsburg for a week-long intensive bootcamp at the College of W&M 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 bootcamp, the 11 Summer Fellows deployed to Mexico, Uganda, Senegal, Nepal, and Timor-Leste to build the capacity of development stakeholder institutions (including universities, think tanks, advocacy groups, NGOs, and USAID Missions) to use geocoded aid information in their work.

### Part 3: High Value Areas of Collaboration [HVAC] (Lab-to-Lab)

In Year One, the AidData Center initiated collaborations with three HESN development labs: Makerere University, Texas A&M, and University of California-Berkeley. During summer 2013, the AidData Center embedded two AidData Summer Fellows with the ResilientAfrica Network (RAN) Team at Makerere University. These Summer Fellows worked with RAN staff to identify opportunities to incorporate geocoded aid information and geospatial analysis into the work of RAN faculty and staff. They also provided several trainings for the RAN team, including coordinating a GIS training for Makerere faculty and students led by ARC member Dr. Stuart Hamilton. These fellowships has ignited a continuing conversation with the RAN team around the use of geocoded aid information, which has also been facilitated by the participation of AidData Center and RAN staff in the Data Working Group.

The AidData Center’s partnership with Texas A&M has been cemented through several meetings and site visits between the staff of the two development labs. In Q3, Jerry Kenney and Shahriar Kibriya from Texas A&M visited the AidData Center in Williamsburg to discuss collaboration opportunities. The discussion centered around opportunities to co-locate resources in the Democratic Republic of Congo and to facilitate research collaboration between the researchers in the Center on Conflict and Development and the ARC Conflict team. In Q4, AidData Center staff at UT-Austin traveled to Texas A&M to provide a training for their students on the AidData geocoding methodology.

In Q3, AidData Center and UC Berkeley staff met at Clinton Global Initiative-University (CGI-U) in St. Louis and began discussing potential collaboration opportunities. Later in Q3, Brad Parks, Executive Director of AidData, met with UC Berkeley staff in California to discuss the collaborating within the Big Ideas competition. In Q4, AidData worked with UC Berkeley to add an open data/open government challenge window to the annual Big Ideas student grant challenge competition. This open data/ open government window will engage students at W&M, UC-Berkeley, and across the HESN campuses to identify innovative applications of development data.

#### 3.1. Data

Partner	Completed / Ongoing Activity [Indicate tie to activity number]	Outcome(s)
Texas A&M	Activity 1d- The AidData Center has initiated discussions with the Center on Conflict and Development at Texas A&M regarding exchanging data produced independently by each lab and working together to geocode data produced by Texas A&M.	The Center on Conflict and Development will undertake household survey work is interested in working with the AidData Center to geocode the survey data. As AidData begins work in-country work in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in Y2, AidData will reach out to the Center on Conflict and Development to identify opportunities to collaborate around the geocoded DRC data.

### 3.2. Solutions (Creation, Testing, Scaling)

Partner	Completed / Ongoing Activity [Indicate tie to activity number]	Outcome(s)
<b>Texas A&amp;M</b>	Activity 2b and Activity 2e- 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. In June, Jerry Kenney and Shahriar Kibriya from Texas A&M traveled to Williamsburg to discuss opportunities for collaboration between Texas A&M and the AidData Center. In September, Mike Findley and Kate Weaver from UT-Austin traveled to Texas A&M to provide trainings to UT-Austin student researchers in the AidData geocoding methodology.	The reciprocal visits of the labs sparked conversations regarding possible research collaboration with the AidData Research Consortium in areas of conflict, food security and environment and coordinate engagement with USAID technical counterparts. A particular interest of the ARC is the rich, granular details of Texas A&M's surveys, and the potential to collaborate in geo-referencing future collection efforts.
<b>University of California-Berkeley</b>	Activity 4a- In Q3, AidData and UC Berkeley staff met at CGI U in St. Louis and began discussing potential collaboration opportunities. Later in Q3, Brad Parks, Executive Director of AidData, met with UC Berkeley staff in California to discuss the collaborating within the Big Ideas competition. In Q4, AidData worked with UC Berkeley to add an open data/open government challenge window to the annual Big Ideas student grant challenge competition.	The open data/ open government challenge window along with two others, are available to students across all HESN campuses. AidData is co-funding the challenge prize and working to mobilize student participation across these campuses.

### 3.3 Student Engagement

Partner	Completed / Ongoing Activity [Indicate tie to activity number]	Outcome(s)
<b>Makerere University</b>	Activity 5c and 5d- The AidData Center embedded two AidData Summer Fellows at Makerere University during Q3 and Q4 to train Makerere students, staff, and faculty on the geocoding methodology and the visualization and analysis of geocoded data. The Fellows worked with the ResilientAfrica team at Makerere to identify areas where the team can leverage geocoded data within their work. 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.	This summer's program will lay the groundwork for sending future AidData Summer Fellows back to Makerere University and to other ResilientAfrica partner universities in subsequent years. Through the Summer Fellowships and GIS Trainings, the AidData Center identified the GIS software needs of our partners at Makerere University and met those needs through an extensive GIS software package provided through our partnership with Esri.
<b>University of California-Berkeley</b>	Activity 4a- In Q4, AidData embarked on a collaboration with another HESN development lab, UC Berkeley, to add an open data/open government challenge window to the annual Big Ideas student grant challenge competition.	The open data/ open government challenge window along with two others are available to students across all HESN campuses. AidData is co-funding the challenge prize and working to mobilize student participation across these campuses.

### 3.4. Co-Location of Resources

Partner	Completed / Ongoing Activity [Indicate tie to activity number]	Location (City and Country)	Outcome(s)
<b>Texas A&amp;M</b>	Activity 1b, 1c, and 5b- The AidData Center is in discussions with Texas A&M to explore possibilities for co-	Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo	No concrete outcomes determined in Year One, but potential co-location of resources heading into year 2.

locating resources in the  
Democratic Republic of  
Congo.

## **Part 4: Intra-Development Lab/ University Engagement**

As highlighted below, the AidData Center collaborated with a diverse group of partners across disciplines in FY2013. The AidData Center implementing consortium itself represents a diverse group of stakeholders- containing three universities, a technology non-profit, and a private software company- collaborating closely to leverage our comparative advantages to maximize results. As discussed in section 4.2, the implementing partners of the AidData Center consortium worked together extensively during FY2013.

We are also working to engage a wide range of developing country partners- representing central government ministries, universities, donor partners, advocacy groups, think tanks, and NGOs. The content and results of these engagements are described in detail in section 4.2 below.

We have also successfully engaged individuals and institutions on campus across disciplines. The AidData Center raised awareness of its work at several high-profile events on campus during FY2013. The impact of this is evident in the wide range of disciplines represented in the W&M faculty members of the ARC, as discussed in detail in section 4.1 below.

The AidData Center created a strong foundation of engagement with other HESN Development Labs during FY2013- including Texas A&M, Makerere University, and University of California-Berkeley- which we will build upon in the coming years. This is discussed further in section 4.3 below.

Finally, AidData's student researchers were central to the work undertaken during FY2013. Student engagement activities are discussed in section 4.4 below.

### **4.1. Interdisciplinary Collaboration**

Throughout FY2013, the AidData Center for Development policy undertook several activities to provide knowledge-building opportunities for the William and Mary community. One opportunity was through speakers and public talks on campus facilitated by the AidData Center. During February, the AidData Center co-sponsored a public talk by Dr. Alex Dehgan, Science and Technology Advisor to the Administrator, entitled "Transforming International Development through Science, Technology, and Innovation." The AidData Center also 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. Additionally, the AidData Center 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.

AidData Center staff also strived to participate in major events on campus to improve our on-campus network. For example, 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, while AidData Director of Operations, David Trichler, presented on the AidData Center at TEDx William and Mary.

At the end of Q2, the AidData Center opened a course to the campus community entitled "GIS for Aspiring Hackers" taught by Albert Decatur, AidData's Geospatial Database Analyst. This course was attended by 9 W&M students and covered basic GIS concepts like map projections, map algebra, and querying and provides students with the necessary foundation to pursue large-scale spatial analysis tasks using programming. Example lessons from the course include making a spatial dataset from GDELT's 212 million record database, and querying Flickr's half million spatial files to georeference the

locations of the photos. AidData drew on the students who had completed the course for the AidData Summer Fellow programs, as well as Senior Student Research Assistant positions. Due to the popularity of this course, Albert began a second installation for 15 W&M students on September 23, 2013.

We have also offered informal courses on campus. In March, Salim Sawaya from Esri and Ben Arancibia from Development Gateway traveled to Williamsburg to lead three “Introduction to ArcGIS” sessions that were attended by more than 60 members of the W&M community. Also, during summer 2013, the AidData Center offered summer skills camps for our student researchers. These camps included 1) open source GIS app development, 2) data visualization and journalism, 3) monitoring and evaluation practices, 4) ArcGIS modules and training, 5) data analysis within excel, and 6) career development in the field of international development

Additionally, the AidData Center has engaged professors across disciplines through the AidData Research Consortium. The ARC represents scholars from the Biology, Mathematics, Government, Kinesiology and Health Sciences, International Relations, and the Center for Geospatial Analysis at W&M. During FY2014, the ARC will continue to facilitate interdisciplinary collaboration within the W&M community and across academic institutions.

In Q4, the AidData Center began to engage with students in the Masters of Public Policy program and Mason Business School at William and Mary through their graduate coursework. The Masters of Public Policy students are working with the AidData Center through Policy Research Seminar in fall 2013 to undertake a “consultancy” focused on measuring AidData’s policy impact. This program will engage three graduate students at W&M to work with AidData Center staff. AidData began collaborating with the Mason Business School in Q4 through a Marketing and Communications Class to assess AidData’s tools, data and research products under the HESN award and advise on the most effective messages and vehicles to encourage their uptake and use within the broad development policy and practice communities. Two teams of students are working to develop a pitch for AidData by the end of the semester.

## 4.2. 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-have collaborated extensively to achieve our programmatic objectives during FY2013. Inter-consortium engagement is essential during all stages of the geocoding cycle. AidData Center Staff at W&M and DG work together to determine the schedule for initiating geocoding in each partner country. In the case of Nepal, AidData Center staff from W&M and DG coordinated the geocoding and civil society outreach kick-off trips to maximize impact. For example, Alena Stern from W&M and Dustin Homer from DG presented together on the uses of geocoded aid information for impact evaluation at the Evaluation Conclave in Nepal.

In order to maximize the efficiency of our geocoding effort, the AidData Center moved towards a model of centralizing the geocoding work for each partner country within one of our three university consortium partners. Throughout the geocoding process, University program managers leading the geocoding effort coordinate closely with the Development Gateway project manager for that country to manage the inflow of project information, data cleaning and standardization, and geocoded data production.

We have collaborated closely across partners to ensure that all activities undertaken in FY2013 serve the collective interests and strategic objectives of the AidData Center. For example, AidData Center staff at DG, W&M, and Esri engaged extensively during Q1 and Q2 to develop user requirements for the planned upgrades to the AidData.org web portal to ensure that the upgrades meet the needs of the

diverse stakeholders served by the AidData Center. As development continued through the end of FY2013, each of these implementing partners will remain closely engaged in this process.

To ensure the success of these collaborations, the AidData Center partners convened at several key points during FY2013, as well as Year One review. In Q4, representatives from each of the ACDP partners meet in person for consultations in Williamsburg. After a look-back on Year One, the Year Two workplan was discussed and activities for the year were mapped against planned allocated resources (such as country engagement, standing up of the AidData Research Consortium, and AidData’s Innovation Pipeline). Discussions on such inflection points will continue through monthly partner calls in FY2014.

In addition to the ACDP partner meeting, geocoding program managers from W&M, BYU, and UT-Austin met in August in Washington DC for consultations with Program Managers at Development Gateway to discuss coding flows and agile development processes. With significant hires through the first year, the two-day workshop was a consolidation period of activities and relationships for the frontline staff.

These meetings are indicative of the close integration among the staff of the different partners, including but not limited to: weekly calls among university staff members (W&M, BYU, UT-Austin); flexible management structures that can allocate research assistant teams across universities and workspaces; weekly calls with W&M and DG coordinating field operations; and weekly calls between operation directors at W&M and DG to ensure smooth execution under the USAID award.

The AidData Center has also worked to develop partnerships with development stakeholders in our partner countries. Through the civil society outreach trips to Nepal, Senegal, and Haiti, the AidData Center engaged with more than 60 local stakeholder organizations. Following each outreach trip, AidData Center staff worked to cement these partnerships through collaborative activities. For example, 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. In Q3 and Q4, our Summer Fellows worked 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 and USAID Mexico in Mexico, and USIAD Timor-Leste.

We also worked with our partner country government institutions during FY2013 to undertake the in-country geocoding work. We worked with the International Economic Cooperation Coordination Division (IECCD) within the Ministry of Finance in Nepal, the Aid Effectiveness Project within the Ministry of Planning and External Cooperation (MPCE) in Haiti, the Department of Economic and Financial Cooperation within the Ministry of Economy and Finance within the Ministry of Economy and Finance in Senegal, Development Partnership Management Unit within the Ministry of Finance in Timor-Leste, and the Aid Liaison Division (ALD) of the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development (MoFPED) in Uganda.

The following partners were engaged during the past fiscal year:

Partner	Partner Type (Funded/ Unfunded)	Location (City and Country)	Outcome(s)
Development	Funded	Washington, DC,	Development Gateway

<b>Gateway</b>		USA	collaborated closely with William & Mary and other consortium partners on the following AidData Center activities during FY2013: 1a, 1b, 1c, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e, 3f, 5b, and 5c.
<b>University of Texas-Austin</b>	Funded	Austin, TX, USA	UT-Austin collaborated closely with William & Mary and other consortium partners on the following AidData Center activities during FY2013: 1b, 1c, 5c, and 5d.
<b>Brigham Young University</b>	Funded	Provo, UT, USA	BYU collaborated closely with William & Mary and other consortium partners on the following AidData Center activities during FY2013: 1b and 1c
<b>Esri</b>	Funded	Redlands, CA, USA	Esri collaborated with William & Mary and other consortium partners on the following AidData Center activities during FY2013: 3a, 3b, 5b, and 5d.
<b>International Economic Cooperation Coordination Division (IECCD), Ministry of Finance, Government of Nepal</b>	Funded (in-kind)	Kathmandu, Nepal	Worked closely with AidData Center staff at Development Gateway to implement in-country geocoding work. Hosted an Aid Management Fellow. Launched public AMP portal for Nepal.
<b>Aid Effectiveness Project within the Ministry of Planning and External Cooperation (MPCE), Government of Haiti</b>	Funded (in-kind)	Port-au-Prince, Haiti	Worked closely with AidData Center staff at Development Gateway to implement in-country geocoding work. Hosted an Aid Management Fellow.
<b>Department of Economic and Financial Cooperation (DCEF) within the Ministry of Economy and Finance, Government of Senegal</b>	Funded (in-kind)	Dakar, Senegal	Worked closely with AidData Center staff at Development Gateway to implement in-country geocoding work. Hosted an Aid Management Fellow.

<b>The Aid Liaison Division (ALD) of the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development (MoFPED), Government of Uganda</b>	Funded (in-kind)	Kampala, Uganda	Worked closely with AidData Center staff at Development Gateway to implement in-country geocoding work. Hosted an Aid Management Fellow.
<b>Development Partnership Management Unit within the Ministry of Finance, Government of Timor-Leste</b>	Funded (in-kind)	Dili, Timor-Leste	Worked closely with AidData Center staff at Development Gateway to implement in-country geocoding work. Hosted an Aid Management Fellow.
<b>Blum Center at University of California-Berkeley</b>	Unfunded	Berkeley, CA, USA	The AidData Center and UC Berkeley are co-sponsoring an open data/ open government challenge window along which, along with two others, is available to students across all HESN campuses.
<b>The Center on Conflict and Development at Texas A&amp;M</b>	Unfunded	College Station, TX, USA	Texas A&M and the AidData Center are discussing opportunities for data sharing and production, collaboration between the ARC and Texas A&M's conflict, food security, and environment researchers, and co-locating resources in DRC during FY2014.
<b>Makerere University</b>	Funded (in-kind)	Kampala, Uganda	Hosted two AidData Summer Fellows who provided training on the geocoding methodology and geospatial data visualization and analysis. The AidData Center provided ArcGIS software to enable the continued use of geocoded aid information.
<b>Instituto Mora</b>	Funded (in-kind)	Mexico City, Mexico	Hosted an AidData Summer Fellow who provided training on the geocoding methodology and geospatial data visualization and

			analysis. The AidData Center provided ArcGIS software to enable the continued use of geocoded aid information.
<b>USAID Mexico</b>	Funded (in-kind)	Mexico City, Mexico	Worked with the AidData Summer Fellow at Instituto Mora during Q4 to geocode active USAID Mexico projects. Dataset will be published in Q1 of FY2014.
<b>USAID Timor-Leste</b>	Funded (in-kind)	Dili, Timor-Leste	Hosted an AidData Summer Fellow who provided training on the geocoding methodology and geospatial data visualization and analysis.
<b>Kathmandu University</b>	Funded (in-kind)	Kathmandu, Nepal	Hosted two AidData Summer Fellows who provided training on the geocoding methodology and geospatial data visualization and analysis. The AidData Center provided ArcGIS software to enable the continued use of geocoded aid information.
<b>Transparency International-Nepal</b>	Funded (in-kind)	Kathmandu, Nepal	Hosted an AidData Summer Fellow who provided training on the geocoding methodology and geospatial data visualization and analysis. The AidData Center provided ArcGIS software to enable the continued use of geocoded aid information.
<b>Center for Environmental and Agricultural Policy Research, Extension, and Development</b>	Funded (in-kind)	Kathmandu, Nepal	Hosted an AidData Summer Fellow who provided training on the geocoding methodology and geospatial data visualization and analysis. The AidData Center provided ArcGIS software to enable the continued use of geocoded aid information.

### 4.3. Student Engagement

Throughout FY2013, the AidData Center has extensively engaged students on the campuses of our three university consortium partners: W&M, BYU, and UT-Austin. Over the course of Year One, these university partners collectively engaged 140 student researchers during FY2013: 60 at W&M, 28 at BYU, and 52 at UT-Austin.

These students have been central to the AidData Center's Year One activities: they geocoded aid projects in for our five Year One partner countries (activity 1c), geocoded more than 6900 projects in the AidData.org database (activity 1d), and served as AidData Summer Fellows (activity 5d). Beginning in FY2014, these students will also play a key role in providing research assistance to members of the ARC.

AidData Center students have also contributed extensively to The First Tranche: 8 of the 18 blog posts listed in section 1.3 Publications above were authored by AidData Center student researchers. Two AidData student researchers were also selected as winners of the HESN Student Summer Photo Contest.

The AidData Center has also worked extensively to provide training and capacity building opportunities to enrich the experience of its student researchers. All AidData Center student researchers receive extensive training on AidData's geocoding and activity coding methodologies and the software tools produced by the AidData Center. This effort often engages AidData students and staff across university campuses. For example, 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.

During Q2, W&M brought Salim Sawaya from Esri and Ben Arancibia from DG to campus to lead ArcGIS workshops that received tremendous student attendance. These training initiated the W&M AidData Map Off competition which engaged students to apply their ArcGIS skills to produce maps and research leveraging geocoded aid information.

In Q3, UT and DG sponsored a "DG Summer Internship @ UT" Program, through which an additional 28 students joined the team and were trained on geocoding and activity coding. These students helped webscrape project documents for Uganda and worked in the thematic teams mirroring the ARC teams to conduct summer research.

During summer 2013, William and Mary provided capacity building opportunities for their student researchers through summer skills camps. These camps included open source GIS app development, data visualization and journalism, monitoring and evaluation practices, ArcGIS modules, data analysis within excel, and career development in the field of international development.

AidData has also worked to engage students beyond the campuses of W&M, BYU, and UT-Austin. During summer 2013, 8 Summer Consultants worked at the AidData Center for Development Policy. These summer consultants recently finished their undergraduate education or are currently pursuing their graduate degrees and included students from SAIS, UVA, George Washington University, and Cornell University. They supported the AidData Center's communications team, partnerships and outreach team, GIS unit, and operations team. Additionally, our AidData Summer Fellows at Kathmandu University, Instituto Mora, and Makerere University worked with students at those universities to build their capacity to use geocoded aid information and GIS software in their studies and research.

## 4.4. Student Highlights

### [AidData Map Off](#)

This was posted on *The First Tranche* on March 27, 2013. It describes the AidData Map Off competition and highlights the premium that AidData puts on student engagement by creating an activity that puts on display the creativity and innovation of William and Mary students.

The blog posts from the two Map Off winners can be found below:

- [Dodd-Frank in the DRC: Regulation, Aid, and the “Resource Curse”](#)-
- [Transboundary Water Bodies and Conflict in Africa](#)

### [Students Catalyze Local Capacity to Use Geocoded Aid Information:](#)

This was posted on *The First Tranche* on August 14, 2013. This recaps the insights gained by AidData Summer Fellows during their time within the various host institutions.

The blog posts written by the AidData Summer Fellows during their time abroad are below:

- [Is Open Data Just A Flash in the Pan Movement?](#) – posted July 3, 2013. This post is written by a Summer Fellow in Nepal about her experience participating in Open Nepal Week’s Data Literacy Bootcamp.
- [Can Mapping Nutrition Assistance Help Uganda Solve Its Malnutrition Problem?](#) – posted July 16, 2013. This post was written by an AidData Summer Fellow in Uganda on how geocoded data can be used to improve targeting of nutrition programs (and was retweeted by former Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist!).
- [African Students Leverage Open Data to Aid Communities Vulnerable to Disaster](#) – posted August 1, 2013. This post was written by a Summer Fellow in Uganda on how to incorporate geocoded data into the current research initiatives of the ResilientAfrica Program.
- [Emerging Donors and Development Cooperation: Can Mexico Lead the Charge for MICs?](#) – posted August 12, 2013. This post was written by a Summer Fellow in Mexico about Mexico’s aid transparency and unique position as both a donor and recipient of development finance.
- [Visualizing Results: Can GIS Enable New Ways of Looking at Agriculture Projects?](#) – posted August 27, 2013. This post was written by a Summer Fellow in Nepal on how GIS and other data visualization tools can strengthen the agriculture sector

William and Mary’s student newspaper *The Flat Hat* also wrote a [profile](#) of four of our AidData Summer Fellows as well as ARC member Scott Ickes who worked with Emily Mahoney, one of the AidData Summer Fellows this summer.

## Part 5: USAID Engagement and Travel

### 5.1. USAID/Washington Interactions

#### GeoCenter

Throughout FY2013, the AidData Center engaged closely with Carrie Stokes, the director of the USAID GeoCenter. Carrie provided important technical guidance to the AidData Center during the scaling period at the beginning of Year One. She also traveled with AidData Center staff on kick-off trips to

Nepal and Uganda and helped to facilitate the initial engagement with those missions. In Q4, AidData staff presented to the GeoCenter around the forthcoming AidData 3.0 release. AidData Center staff have also begun conversations with the GeoCenter on how USAID can leverage its "Strategic Response Innovations" in Year Two to develop innovative tools, applications, or analyses in support of USAID missions, bureaus, or GeoCenter priorities. The AidData Center also has periodic meetings with the GeoCenter around various technical challenges and opportunities (e.g. discussing organization of USAID's ArcGIS Online platform).

### **Asia Bureau**

In Q4, AidData Center staff presented on AidData's work in Nepal to the Asia Bureau to raise awareness of our work and the HESN in general. We held a more informal brown bag presentation to Asia Bureau staff as well as an executive-level briefing which was attended by the Assistant Administrator for Asia and the incoming Country Director for Nepal. We will continue to keep the Asia Bureau updated on our results in Nepal as we look towards the 6-month follow-up trip during FY2014.

### **Data Working Group**

Josh Powell, the Innovation Team Leader for the AidData Center, was appointed to represent the AidData Center within the Data Working Group (DWG). He has regularly DWG meetings to discuss data-related issues and identify opportunities for collaboration around data. Josh will continue to represent the AidData Center within the DWG during Year Two.

During Q4, AidData Center staff presented to the Data Working Group around the forthcoming AidData 3.0 release. The purpose of this interaction was to raise awareness within the data working group of the data and tools being produced by the AidData Center and to discuss how we could work together to promote broader uptake of AidData 3.0. We are continuing conversations with the Data Working Group on how USAID and AidData can jointly promote the 3.0 platform as an important milestone in the USAID Open Data agenda.

### **Office of Science and Technology**

During Q4, we began working with USAID's Office of Science and Technology on an event to showcase AidData 3.0 as part of USAID's efforts to fulfill its Open Data mandate. During the beginning of FY2014, we will finalize preparations for this event which we expect to take place in November 2013.

Once we identified team leaders for the AidData Research Consortium in Q4, we began engaging with the Office of Science and Technology and other bureaus to identify the best process to connect our researchers with counterparts at USAID. During the first quarter of FY2014, we will work with the Office of Science and Technology to identify key technical counterparts for the ARC thematic teams within USAID and to facilitate meetings between the ARC team leaders and their USAID counterparts to discuss research priorities for FY2014.

AidData has also worked closely with OST to support the inaugural USAID Technical Convening (TechCon) to be held at the College of William & Mary in Year 2. Activities are on track for a collaborative session of the HESN labs November 16 to 18.

### **Legislative and Public Affairs**

AidData has worked with LPA to advise on language for how USAID can describe the partnership with AidData under HESN as helping USAID fulfill its open data commitments. In the lead up to Global Transparency Week, AidData coordinated with LPA on sending an AidData representative to provide

training during a TechCamp hosted by USAID, MCC and the State Department during the Open Government Partnership summit meeting in London this October.

### USAID Desk Officers

Prior to initiating work in Nepal and Timor, AidData held brief, informal meetings with the country desk officers to discuss the proposed scope of work in both countries. For Senegal, Haiti, and Uganda, specific meetings with Desk Officers did not take place, though USAID internal discussions occurred.

### 5.2. USAID Mission Interactions

Before beginning work in each of our Year One partner countries (Nepal, Senegal, Haiti, Uganda, and Timor-Leste) we consulted with the USAID missions to set up the kick-off trips in each country. During the kick-off trip, AidData Center staff from W&M and DG briefed the USAID mission staff on our scope of work and anticipated outcomes in country. Throughout our work in each partner country, the AMF has engaged with USAID missions on a regular basis. The frequency and nature of their interactions has been largely determined by the USAID mission and their level of interest in our work. For example, our AMF in Nepal met weekly with the USAID program office to report back on successes, challenges, and to request support from the mission where needed, whereas the AMF in Senegal has interacted with the mission mostly to collect their data to be geocoded.

We also embedded one of our AidData Summer Fellows within the USAID Timor-Leste Mission, where she built the capacity of the Mission staff to incorporate geospatial data into their planning, coordination, and analysis efforts. Our AidData Summer Fellow with Instituto Mora in Mexico City was also able to engage with the USAID Mexico Mission. She trained the students and staff at Instituto Mora in the AidData geocoding methodology which they then applied to geocode active USAID Mexico projects.

In the lead up to our work in Year 2, AidData staff have communicated over email and in-person with staff in the USAID Indonesia and Honduras Missions. This purpose of these interactions has been to prepare the Mission for upcoming work and, in certain cases, build support for the work up front.

Additionally, after Alex Deghan’s visit to W&M in February, he connected ARC researchers Stu Hamilton, Marco Millones and Mark Buntain with the Ecuador mission to research aquaculture and land conservation. They have visited with counterparts in the Ecuador mission on two occasions and will continue their research in FY2014.

### 5.3. Travel

The following travel (domestic and international) using HESN funding occurred during the past fiscal year:

Location (City and Country)	Number of Travelers	Partner(s) Engaged (If applicable)	USAID Engagement (If applicable)	Outcome(s) & Next Steps
Redlands, CA USA	2	DG		Discussions around Esri software and its use in tools developed by DG (Objective 3)
Palm Springs, CA USA	2	DG		Esri Developer Summit (trainings on Esri software) (Objective 3)

<b>New York, NY USA</b>	4	DG		Preparatory discussions on Ministry Data Science capacity building (Objective 3)
<b>Washington, DC USA</b>	2	DG		(From Cordoba, Argentina) requirements development for AidData 3.0 portal (Objective 3)
<b>Washington, DC USA</b>	2	DG		(From Cordoba, Argentina) final technical preparations for launch of AidData 3.0 portal (Objective 3)
<b>Dakar, Senegal</b>	3	DG, W&M, Government representatives from approximately 15 countries	Representatives from the GeoCenter and the Dakar mission attended the AMP Best Practices Workshop	Best practices from AMP implementations shared to guide in-country geocoding work under HESN program (Objective 1)
<b>Kathmandu, Nepal</b>	4	DG, W&M, Nepal Ministry of Finance, USAID, other donor partners and CSOs	Team met with the Nepal mission to kick-off work, work with GIS specialist and set up regular meetings between the AMF and the Program Office	Geocoding work (Objective 1) was kicked off; AMF was introduced; CSO engagement (Objective 5) was kicked off
<b>Kathmandu, Nepal</b>	1	DG, Nepal Ministry of Finance, USAID, other donor partners and CSOs		Geocoding work was wrapped up and AMF departed Kathmandu (Objective 1)
<b>Kathmandu, Nepal</b>	1	W&M, CEAPRED, Kathmandu University, TI-Nepal, and other CSOs		AidData Center GIS specialist from W&M traveled to Nepal to provide targeted GIS training to CSO partners (Objective 5)
<b>Dakar, Senegal</b>	3	DG, Senegal Ministry of Finance, USAID, other donor partners	Team met with the mission to kick-off work and work with GIS specialist	Geocoding work (Objective 1) was kicked off; AMP mapping module was installed; AMF was introduced
<b>Dakar, Senegal</b>	1	W&M, Senegal	Team met with the	CSO engagement

		Ministry of Finance, USAID, CSOs.	Senegal mission to discuss civil society outreach in Senegal.	(Objective 5) was kicked off
<b>Port-au-Prince, Haiti</b>	3	DG, Haiti Ministry of Planning, USAID, other donor partners	Team met with the Haiti mission to kick-off work, work with GIS specialist and set up regular meetings between the AMF and the Program Office	Geocoding work (Objective 1) was kicked off; AMF was introduced (Objective 5)
<b>Port-au-Prince, Haiti</b>	1	W&M, Haiti Ministry of Planning, CSOs.	Scheduled meeting with Haiti mission was cancelled by mission.	CSO engagement (Objective 5) was kicked off
<b>Kampala, Uganda</b>	2	DG, Uganda Ministry of Finance, USAID, other donor partners	Team met with the Uganda mission to kick-off work, work with GIS specialist and set up regular meetings between the AMF and the Program Office	Geocoding work (Objective 1) was kicked off; AMF was introduced (Objective 5)
<b>Dili, Timor-Leste</b>	3	DG, Timor-Leste Ministry of Finance, USAID, other donor partners	Team met with the Timor-Leste mission to kick-off work	Geocoding work (Objective 1) was kicked off; AMP mapping module was installed; AMF was introduced (Objective 5)
<b>Dili, Timor-Leste</b>	1	UT-Austin, USAID Timor-Leste	AidData Summer Fellow was embedded within USAID Timor Leste	AidData Summer Fellowship was completed (Objective 5). UT-Austin summer fellows were partially funded by HESN.
<b>Kampala, Uganda</b>	2	UT-Austin, USAID Uganda, Makerere University	AidData Summer Fellows met with USAID Uganda mission. Traveled with GIS Specialist Richard Okiello to undertake GIS trainings.	AidData Summer Fellowship was completed (Objective 5). UT-Austin summer fellows were partially funded by HESN.
<b>Mexico City, Mexico</b>	1	UT-Austin, USAID Mexico, Instituto Mora	AidData Summer Fellow worked with USAID Mexico to geocode active	AidData Summer Fellowship was completed (Objective 5). UT-Austin summer

			USAID Mexico projects	fellows were partially funded by HESN.
<b>Kathmandu, Nepal</b>	1	UT-Austin, USAID Nepal, CEAPRED	AidData Summer Fellow met with USAID Nepal mission to discuss fellowship.	AidData Summer Fellowship was completed (Objective 5). UT-Austin summer fellows were partially funded by HESN.
<b>Dakar, Senegal</b>	1	UT-Austin, USAID Senegal, CSOs	AidData Summer Fellow met with USAID Senegal mission to discuss fellowship.	AidData Summer Fellowship was completed (Objective 5). UT-Austin summer fellows were partially funded by HESN.
<b>Washington DC</b>	5	W&M, BYU, DG		Program manager training on execution of HESN award
<b>Williamsburg, VA</b>	7	W&M, BYU, DG, UT, Esri		Annual HESN Review
<b>Williamsburg, VA</b>	2	W&M, DG, Esri		ArcGIS Training for W&M Research Assistants
<b>Austin, TX</b>	1	Esri, UT		ArcGIS Training for UT Research Assistants
<b>Berkeley, CA</b>	1	W&M, UC Berkeley		Initial discussions on Big Ideas Collaboration
<b>Austin, TX</b>	2	W&M, BYU, UT		Training of UT research assistants in geocoding activities
<b>Williamsburg, VA</b>	3	W&M, DG		Initial Year 2 Workplan Discussion
<b>Williamsburg, VA</b>	3	W&M, DG, USAID		Year 1 Review with USAID / Year 2 Forecast and Planning Exercise
<b>Washington, DC</b>	2	W&M, DG		Presentation to USAID Asia Bureau

## Part 6: Monitoring & Evaluation

### 6.1. Progress Narrative

The AidData Center for Development policy has set the foundation for successful execution of the award and performed strongly vis-a-vis its M&E targets for FY2013. One area in which the AidData Center particularly excelled in Year One is partner engagement and capacity building. The AidData Center engaged 220 partner organizations and trained 644 development professionals in data management, analysis, and visualization in FY2013. This vastly exceeded our original estimates of 40 stakeholder organizations engaged and 75 stakeholders trained.

The success of the Aid Management Fellows and AidData Summer Fellows programs was a key driver of the AidData Center's accomplishments in these areas. The AMF program has proven incredibly important to facilitate data uptake within government agencies and donor offices in the AidData Center's partner countries.

Nepal is one example of the success of the Aid Management Fellow's program. The AidData Center's Aid Management Fellow in Nepal, Dina Abdel-Fattah, worked in close collaboration with her colleagues within the Ministry of Finance to facilitate the production of geocoded aid information and incorporate those data into the government's resource allocation and planning efforts.

The AidData Center's Aid Management Fellow also helped Nepal's Ministry of Finance generate several development assistance maps for its 2012 [Development Cooperation Report](#). Using these maps, the Ministry of Finance discovered that too many donors are undertaking duplicative activities in the same sectors, and donors have paid insufficient attention to Nepal's Far Western development region. Under Secretary of Finance Bhuban Karki stated the government's willingness to make the geocoded data public and incorporate the data into their resource allocation processes demonstrates "the commitment of the Government of Nepal to aid transparency, and...shows how aid is being used [to] ensure public accountability." Tilak Bhandari, Senior Project Officer of the Ministry of Finance, noted that the Government is better positioned to effectively coordinate and manage aid. Additionally, after building a strong working relationship with her Ministry of Finance colleagues, the Aid Management Fellow was eventually asked to review and contribute to Nepal's new foreign aid policy for two of its most important donors.

The Aid Management Fellows also ensure that capacity to use geocoded aid information is not only built within the Ministry of Finance or Planning but also *outside* the central government – specifically, within donor agencies and local government institutions. The Aid Management Fellow in Nepal not only held 17 data-related trainings for government and donor officials in Kathmandu, but also was able to organize and implement four district level trainings throughout different regions of the country. This is critical to building both the *supply* and *demand* for the data.

The AidData Summer Fellows program was another important component of the AidData Center's capacity building efforts in Year One. The AidData Center exceeded its FY2013 target of sending 10 Summer Fellows abroad by embedding 11 W&M and UT-Austin students within stakeholder organizations in Uganda, Nepal, Senegal, Mexico, and Timor-Leste.

The AidData Summer Fellows trained staff and students at their host organizations on the AidData geocoding methodology and the use of GIS software to analyze and visualize geocoded aid information. Summer Fellows also worked closely with their host organizations to identify opportunities to apply

these data and skills to enhance the organization's work. For example, Nisha Krishnan worked with the USAID Mission in Timor-Leste to assess how geospatial analysis could be used in their Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment and Emily Mahoney trained stakeholders in the Scaling Up Nutrition movement geocode nutrition projects in Uganda and integrate this into the a major mapping initiative led by the Office of the Prime Minister.

This approach has proven to be catalytic, generating enthusiasm within the host institutions to continue to improve their skills to use geospatial data. According to Dr. Sagar Sharma, Director of the Masters of Development Studies Program at Kathmandu University that hosted Summer Fellows Sara Rock and Carleigh Snead, "Not only did [the AidData Summer Fellows] teach the students and the faculty the basics of ArcGIS and geocoding methods, but they also made all of them aware of what new technologies were being used for data coding and how to use them for development related research and activities." As a result of hosting AidData Summer Fellows, Kathmandu University is now working with AidData to design a GIS for Development course to be incorporated into the Masters of Development Studies curriculum so that they can continue to build the capacity of their students to use geospatial data.

The AidData Center will begin surveying USAID operating units and development stakeholder institutions in FY2014 to formally assess whether and to what extent the AidData Center's data collection, capacity building, and awareness raising efforts have informed decision-making. However, anecdotal evidence from FY2013 suggests that there are both high levels of demand for geocoded aid information among these target audiences and tremendous scope for impact. For example, the placement of an AidData Summer Fellow within Instituto Mora in Mexico City led to the Summer Fellow working with USAID Mexico staff, along with her colleagues at Instituto Mora, to geocode active USAID Mexico projects. This dataset will be publicly released in the beginning of FY2014 and the AidData Center is currently in discussions with USAID Mexico on how the geocoding work could be sustained and scaled.

In Senegal, the AidData Center's partnership with the Ministry of Finance has transformed the government's relationship with donors. The Ministry of Finance is now integrating geocoded data into reports about aid effectiveness in Senegal, using this as a basis to hold conversations with the legislature to plan for future development. In adopting a transparency pledge to work with the AidData Center, the Ministry of Finance is now able to demonstrate considerable local ownership in asking its donors to publish their project-level data more quickly.

Another area of success for the AidData Center in Year One is in the development of innovative, data-driven technologies. During FY2013, the AidData Center produced 9 different data-related technologies, tools, approaches, or best practices, exceeding its original goal of 6 by 50%. This included four different transformative innovations, technologies or approaches: the AidData 3.0 GIS module, analytic dashboards, and application programming interface (API) as well as the AMP GIS Module.

Building upon AidData's previous efforts to track all aid flows, the AidData 3.0 data portal seeks to capture the total resource envelope available to countries to plan for their development. When the AidData Center publicly launches AidData 3.0 in October, policymakers and practitioners will be able to compare data on over \$40 trillion in remittances, foreign direct investment, and aid from 90 donor agencies in one interactive interface. Private foundation grants and domestic public expenditure from developing countries will also be added in the coming months.

In order to make these vast stores of development finance data more accessible and actionable for policymakers and practitioners, the AidData Center has developed three transformative tools that will be housed within the AidData 3.0 portal: the AidData GIS portal, visual analytic dashboards, and an API.

The AidData 3.0 GIS portal is the first application of its kind, allowing users to explore the universe of geocoded aid data in an interactive map. The application allows users to filter by many criteria and exposes all aid information housed in AidData, even those projects tagged only to the national level. As AidData completes geocoding of each host country, those data will be imported into the 3.0 GIS Portal, allowing for comparison of geographic data both within and across countries. In addition to the aid information, 3.0 is revolutionary by allowing users to pull in their own GIS layers from a GIS server or Esri's ArcGIS Online platform, or by searching the layers AidData has already added into the system. This will enable limitless mash-ups of geocoded data, allowing users to quickly do their own analysis, fact finding, and visualization. Users can share their completed maps (including both filtered aid information and other geographic layers) via social media, email, or chat, or can embed their maps in their own blogs or websites to tell their stories.

The AidData 3.0 analytic dashboards begin to track a far higher percentage of the total resource envelope available to partner countries and their governments. By creating a flexible data model that can support both granular project-level information and higher-level aggregate data, AidData is now able to capture, filter, and visualize data on not only aid, but also remittances and foreign direct investment (FDI). AidData has exponentially increased its total resource tracking from roughly \$6 trillion to more than \$40 trillion total.

Past iterations of AidData provided access to the data only through the web interface or via export. While many users were satisfied with these options, AidData was often approached by software developers who were interested in leveraging the data for their own applications or visualizations. In the past, this required a heavy manual process. By creating a robust API for AidData 3.0, which will be available to the public in October, AidData 3.0 can serve as a platform for development and a catalyst of innovation. Already, the AidData Center is in discussions with the USAID Data Working Group on how the AidData 3.0 API can support the USG Open Data efforts by providing a simple and repeatable process for sharing data for mutual use.

The one area in which the AidData Center did not meet its FY2013 targets is in the number of geocoded data sets made available to the public. The AidData Center anticipated that we would release two new country-level data sets in Year One; however, the Nepal geocoded data set was the only full data set publicly released by the AidData Center this year. All of the remaining country data sets (Senegal, Uganda, Haiti, Timor-Leste) are currently in progress to be completed in early 2014, with the Senegal geocoded data set to be completed and released in Q1 of FY2014. The AidData Center also completed geocoding of active USAID Mexico projects in FY2013, but was not able to release the data publicly before the end of Year One.

The number of datasets publically available in September is the result of unexpected start-up delays in securing government approval to initiate the geocoding work in the Year One partner countries. Additionally, the flow of project information from in-country donors to student researchers was slower than initial assumptions, which increased the amount of time between the initiation and completion of the geocoding effort in each partner country. As a result of the lessons learned in Year One the AidData Center has adjusted the Year Two implementation schedule, which will maintain peak staffing levels for Year Two to enable us to both successfully complete the coding of our Year One partner country portfolios and meet our Year Two targets.

The AidData Center will also initiate tracking several performance indicators in Year Two with the commencement of AidData Research Consortium Activities. In Year Two, the AidData Center will scale up the production of cutting-edge research that leverages geocoded aid information. Our ARC Team Leaders will begin consulting with key USAID counterparts in Q1 of FY2014 to develop a research agenda that is responsive to USAID research needs. With AidData 3.0 and additional country datasets coming online, researchers will have cutting edge tools to powerfully engage with bureaus and missions, providing USAID with new platforms combining technology and research innovations. The AidData Center will begin tracking the influence and impact of this research in our Year Two M&E plan.

All of the AidData Center's M&E indicators are measured and reported annually, thus there are not Q4 targets to report against.

## 6.2. Monitoring & Evaluation Issues

Throughout Year One, the AidData Center refined the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Plan with its USAID counterparts. At the time of submission of this report, the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan has not been finalized (As a result, the indicators reported on in this Annual Report may be subject to change. Should this occur, the AidData Center will update the Annual Report to reflect the finalized indicators).

Another consequence of the as-yet-to-be-approved M&E plan, some indicators were added or refined after implementation of an activity had completed and the window for high-quality data collection had passed. For example, the post-training proficiency assessment was added into the M&E plan in the beginning of Q3, after the AMF in Nepal had completed their work and returned to the United States. As a result, none of the individuals trained by the Nepal AMF received the post-training survey, which accounts for a large proportion of the individuals trained by the AidData Center in Year One. Additionally, the decision to add a separate indicator to measure the success of the AidData Center trainings in equipping trainees to use geocoded aid information in their work was made in the beginning of FY2014. Therefore, none of the Year One trainees were surveyed on this indicator. Once the M&E plan is signed off on by USAID, the AidData Center will update its post-training questionnaire to incorporate questions that address this indicator, and will send a follow-up survey to its Year One trainees to retrospectively collect some additional training data.

Even for those trainees who received the post-training survey, the AidData Center experienced mixed-results in year one in the collection of comprehensive and reliable data from our in-country counterparts. For some of the AidData Center's initial trainings, the trainers circulated the post-training survey via an email sent to the trainees after the completion of the course. This yielded a very low response rate. Based upon this lesson learned, our trainers began circulating paper surveys at the end of training sessions in Q4, which has produced a much higher response rate. As a result of these issues, that AidData Center has survey data for 14% of its 644 trainees in Year One. By consistently using paper surveys in Year Two, the AidData Center expects a much higher coverage rate for these indicators in Year Two.

Another lesson learned from Year One was the need to be flexible in the selection of partner countries from year-to-year in order to be responsive to changing conditions in-country and USAID strategic priorities. In Year Two, the AidData Center will deviate from its originally planned list of partner countries by undertaking in-country geocoding work in Indonesia per the request of USAID. Indonesia will represent the first partner country without an Aid Management Platform in which the AidData Center has implemented comprehensive multi-donor geocoding. Taking on a country with a very large aid project portfolio and a challenging implementation environment will have significant resource allocation impacts which may require the AidData Center to reassess the number of partner countries it is able to take on during the 5-year partnership with USAID. As implementation in Indonesia

commences during Year Two and the necessary resources required to successfully complete the work become more clear, the AidData Center may need to adjust the number of countries it plans to work in during FY2015-FY2017, which would have impacts on several indicator targets. Should recalibration of targets be necessary, the AidData Center will make these changes in the FY2014 Annual Report.

### 6.3. Update on Performance Indicators

Below are the updates on the performance indicators for Year I. A full M&E report was submitted along with this Annual Report to document the full set of performance indicators as detailed in the M&E Plan.

Lab Ref.	Performance Indicator	FY12 Baseline	FY13 Target	FY 13 Actual	FY14 Target	FY15 Target
Gin1	Ratio of total value of outside (non-USAID) resources utilized to the dollar value of USAID investments.	N/A	.5	1.22	.75	1.0
Gin2	Number of transformative innovations, technologies, or approaches that were developed with human, financial, or institutional resources contributed by HESN Development Labs	N/A	1	4	2	3
Gin3	Number of citations of white papers, articles, assessments, analyses, and evaluations (drafted with human, financial, or institutional resources contributed by the AidData Center) on development challenges, innovations, technologies, approaches, and contexts in targeted fora/publications/projects	10	10	10	50	110
Gin4	Number of US students via HESN partners serving as fellows in developing countries (for more than one month)	NA	10	11	20	30
Gin5	Number of development stakeholder institutions that use geographic analysis in their work	NA	0	0	25	40
Gin6	Number of USAID operating units using geographic analysis to prepare strategies and design, implement, monitor, and evaluate development projects	NA	0	0	6	10
Gin7	The percentage of those development stakeholder institutions and USAID operating units surveyed under Gin5 and Gin6 that respond that they use geospatial data in their work more frequently following engagement with the AidData Center than they did prior to engagement with the AidData Center.	NA	0	0	50	60
O1in1	Number of users who access data and tools made available with support from human, financial, or institutional resources contributed by the AidData Center	72030	110000	122218	140000	180000
O1in2	Cumulative number of developing-country governments and USAID Missions using the AidData Center's geocoding services	1	6	7	8	11
IR1.1in 1	Number of geocoded data sets provided to or made accessible to USAID operating units and programs, HESN partners, and the broader development	4	6	5	10	13

	community with human, financial, or institutional resources contributed by HESN Development Labs					
<b>IR1.2in 1</b>	Users of AidData.org are able to share, collate, visualize and analyze heterogeneously-sourced and -generated data	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>IR1.2in 2</b>	Users of AidData.org are able to generate and export customized maps with geocoded aid information	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>IR1.2in 3</b>	Individual AidData project pages include maps which show AidData geocoded data	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>IR1.2in 4</b>	Cumulative number of new data-related technologies, tools, approaches, and best practices supported or applied with human, financial, or institutional resources contributed by the AidData Center	NA	6	9	11	14
<b>O2in1</b>	Number of data-related analyses, mapping activities, and expert consultations provided for USAID operating units and programs, HESN partners, and the broader development community with human, financial, or institutional resources contributed by the AidData Center	NA	8	20	20	40
<b>IR2.1in 1</b>	Cumulative number of grant proposals and contract bids from ARC participants that involve analysis of geocoded aid information that receive funding from outside the AidData Center	NA	0	0	1	4
<b>IR2.1in 2</b>	Number of white papers, articles, assessments, analyses, and evaluations on development challenges, innovations, technologies, approaches, and contexts using geocoded data (drafted with human, financial, or institutional resources contributed by the AidData Center) published by the AidData Center/ ARC Members in targeted fora and publications OR provided to USAID operating units, HESN partners, and the broader development community	5	5	12	40	80
<b>IR2.1in 3</b>	Number of participants in Hubs, summits, and other problem-solving institutions that address geocoded data created with human, financial, or institutional resources contributed by the AidData Center	NA	0	0	60	90
<b>IR2.2in 1</b>	Cumulative number data-related analyses, mapping activities, and expert consultations provided by the AidData Research Consortium for USAID operating units and program	NA	0	0	10	25
<b>O3in1</b>	Cumulative number and percentage of development professionals and local partners surveyed who respond that the AidData Center training enabled them to effectively use geocoded data to enhance their work.	NA	0	0	50	55
<b>O3in2</b>	Cumulative number of public references made to the AidData geocoding methodology or geocoded aid information produced by AidData by development policymakers and practitioners	3	6	11	10	15

<b>IR3.1in 1</b>	Cumulative number and percentage of development professionals proficient in data management and use due to human, financial, or institutional resources contributed by the AidData Center	NA	75	644, 84%	200	350
<b>IR3.1in 2</b>	Cumulative number of Aid Management Fellows who have been embedded in aid management institutions during the agreement	NA	5	5	8	11
<b>IR3.2in 1</b>	Cumulative number of stakeholders engaged in problem solving with the AidData Center	NA	40	220	100	200
<b>IR3.3in 1</b>	Cumulative number of participants in crowd-sourcing or other open challenges created with human, financial, or institutional resources contributed by the AidData Center	NA	0	11	25	50
<b>IR3.3in 2</b>	Cumulative number of 'kick-start funding' applications from ARC members that receive funding from the AidData Center	NA	0	0	2	3

## **Part 7: Lessons Learned / Good Practices**

### **Partner Engagement:**

During FY2013, AidData Center staff have focused intently on streamlining our communications and operations across the AidData Center consortium. We have worked hard to create a culture in which problems are brought to the attention of leadership and partners quickly, and an environment where mistakes are accepted under a mantra of “failing forward” (in that we learn from missteps or miscommunications and adapt to become more agile and effective in our ability to deliver).

One example of such an improvement is in our training operations. Previously, each university had conducted its own training operation on geocoding methodology. However, to ensure consistent standards we have moved to cross-university trainings, which allows every program manager to be unified in terms of code rules and application of activities. We also moved to a weekly check-in calls and a system of shared documentation on Google Drive, instead of previous silos of storage efforts.

We have also learned that various methods of communication are useful when partners are not geographically co-located, and that some of those methods need to be routine. Thus, we now have systemic check-ins to highlight opportunities for partners, raise concerns, or provide feedback. We have also focused on more video conferencing engagements which have improved collaboration, as well as providing staff the tools for quick interactions through chat services or shared systems.

Moving into Year 2, we believe we have just scratched the surface of the potential of the various partners. A major challenge in Year One was scaling up with staff and creating processes to ensure accountability, where different tasks had clear project leads and teams. Staff are now on more sure footing in regards to workflow, and have some clear successes of collaboration to guide future interactions. This will allow us in Year Two to focus on a deeper dive into some of the assets, relationships, and vision of the individual partners and how we can work to better support activities under the HESN award.

### **Key Activities:**

During Year One, we gained an appreciation for 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 began during the summer, much of the geocoding work for those countries did not begin until after the end of the summer research session, hindering our ability to meet our Year One geocoding targets. 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 capacity that we experience at W&M, BYU, and UT-Austin during the summer.

As we look towards the slate of innovation activities scheduled for FY2014, AidData Center staff at DG and Esri have been under discussions of the best ways to fine-tune the collaborative process around software development and AidData Priorities. In particular, Strategic Response Innovations will provide an excellent opportunity for Esri to play a valuable role in the development of innovative tools that tie in to the broader USAID ArcGIS Server/ArcGIS Online environment.

As mentioned in Section 2.2 above, we are reassessing our initial plan to geocode the universe of “geocode-able” projects in the AidData.org web portal after the realization that a relatively low percentage (15%) of these projects would likely be “geocode-able” and after receiving feedback from our ARC team leaders that this limits the potential applications of the resulting data sets due to the gaps in the geocoded data. Based on this input, we are moving towards a demand-driven approach to allocate the geocoding resources that had been dedicated to AidData.org core geocoding. During Q1 2014 the AidData Center will develop a process for soliciting geocoding ideas from USAID staff and ARC researchers, as well as developing a set of criteria for adjudicating between submissions to determine what data sets will be of highest value to answering pressing development questions.

### **USAID Engagement:**

During FY2013, we learned that effective communication with the USAID missions in our partner countries is essential to our success. We began working 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 which we will continue to test and refine during Year Two. 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. We have also learned that maintaining frequent communication with our USAID counterparts is essential to maintain the flexibility to adapt these procedures to the unique circumstances of each partner country, while ensuring that everyone is on the same page in regards to strategy and activities.

We have also begun to learn which groups within USAID are playing leading roles in ICT4D and Open Data, as well as which Bureaus and Missions are forward leaning in embracing innovative tools and ideas that leverage GIS. In particular, the Data Working Group appears to be an excellent internal partner for AidData within USAID, which had not been well-explored in months prior to Q4. We also began working with our S&T partners to identify technical counterparts within USAID operating units that can work with the ARC team leaders to frame USAID research priorities for Year Two.

### **Student Engagement:**

Over the last year we have been reminded of the ingenuity and passion of students. In the early part of Year One, a great deal of effort focused on the geospatial tagging of thousands of aid projects under activities 1b and 1c. As the year progressed and we increased student engagement from the original baseline of 25 students to our current number, a priority was to ensure that they had sufficient support and training, as the pace of growth was intense. Over this summer we divided the students into teams of 15 to 20, with a focus on a particular country or research area. We have also brought onto the team students skilled in GIS and GIS technology platforms, and worked with Esri to develop a training curriculum to broaden the students’ depth in the discipline. We have also focused on cultivating a interdisciplinary workforce, and increasingly have students of the hard sciences on the team, in addition to more traditional social sciences, which provides a richer and more diverse research environment. We have also found that many programs on campus are eager to be involved in contributing that previously were not engaged in our work, such as the MBA and MPP programs. In Q3 we focused on outreach to those groups, and our early efforts with these new stakeholders in Q4 are already proving to leverage unique skillsets that we previously lacked. By expanding our internal student network, we are becoming more effective in our work. Students have also been engaged in innovation and challenge competitions, ranging from a Map Off utilizing geospatial and project level data to participating in the Big Ideas competition held in collaboration with UC Berkeley.

We have also learned that our trust in our students as AidData mentors and advocates is well placed, and that the AidData Summer Fellows program is a tremendous vehicle for creating in-country capacity around the value of the data and encouraging its uptake. In one example, the placement of an AidData Fellow with a collaborator university in Mexico City led to the USAID mission requesting our student to geo-reference their project portfolio – the creation of a valuable new dataset not originally in the workplan, but now in existence due to the passion and ability of the student. Other students in Nepal, Uganda, Senegal and Timor-Leste were able to train hundreds of university and civil society partners on the use of spatial data. In Year Two, as the ARC begins to engage with USAID, students will begin to move into direct support roles for USAID priority research projects. The students are well positioned for Year Two, and are, in a very real sense, global experts in the geocoding methodology and the spatial determination of aid projects. The more we empower them, the more we thrive.

## **Part 8: Appendix**

Please use the Appendix to attach any documents, figures, etc. that help to illustrate your progress or key activities. There is no page limit to this section, but please be selective with the materials you include and reference them in your narrative. If you have nothing to add, please delete this section. `