DRG LEARNING, EVALUATION, AND RESEARCH (DRG-LER) II ACTIVITY: NORC FY2022 QUARTER I PROGRESS REPORT

OCTOBER 1, 2021 - DECEMBER 31, 2021

Contract No. GS-10F-0033M / 7200AA18M00016

January 31, 2022

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ACRONYMS

ACCESS	Advancing CSO Capacities and Engaging Society for Sustainability
AG	Advisory Group
DDI	Bureau For Development, Democracy, And Innovation
E3	Bureau for Economic Growth, Education, and Environment
DRG/EL	Center of Excellence on Democracy, Human Rights and Governance
CCE	Centers for Civic Engagement
CoP	Chief of Party
CSAT	Civil Society Assessment Tool
CSO	Civil Society Organization
CSSP	Civil Society Strengthening Program
CLA	Collaborating, Learning, and Adapting
CM	Comunitatea Mea
COR	Contracting Officer Representative
C-TIP	Counter-Trafficking in Persons
CVE	Countering Violent Extremism
D-Arch	Democracy Arch
DCHA	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
DRG	Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance
DRG-LER II	DRG Learning, Evaluation, and Research II
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
DEC	Development Experience Clearinghouse
EGM	Evidence Gap Map
FY	Fiscal Year

FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GBV	Gender-based Violence
GOV	Good Governance
GDRC	Government of The Democratic Republic of the Congo
HR	Human Rights
IE	Impact Evaluation
IP	Implementing Partner
IM	Independent Media
IPA	Innovations for Poverty Action
ICRW	International Center for Research on Women
3ie	International Initiative for Impact Evaluations
IOM	International Organization for Migration
J2SR	Journey to Self-Reliance
KII	Key Informant Interview
LAC	Latin America and the Caribbean
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
GenDev	Office of Gender Equality & Women's Empowerment
OVC	Orphans and Vulnerable Children
PDG	Peace, Democracy, and Governance
PDR	People's Democratic Republic
PE	Performance Evaluation
PRO-IP	Policy on Promoting the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
PEA	Political Economy Analysis
PPE	Portfolio Performance Evaluation

PI	Principal Investigator
RoL	Rule of Law
SFCG	Search for Common Ground
SBU	Sensitive but Unclassified
SBC	Social and Behavioral Change
SI	Social Impact
SME	Subject Matter Expert
TIP	Trafficking in Persons
TWP	Thinking and Working Politically
TPI	Transparent Public Investment
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
HHS	United States Department of Health and Human Services
USG	United States Government
V-Dem	Varieties of Democracy Institute
VE	Violent Extremism
WELD	Women Empowered for Development

INTRODUCTION

USAID's Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance (DRG) Center contracted with NORC at the University of Chicago to implement the DRG Learning, Evaluation, and Research (DRG-LER) II Activity. Assisting NORC on this project are consortium subcontracting partners Duke University, Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA), International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie), ME&A, National Conferencing (dba Federal Conference), Social Impact (SI), and the University of Pittsburgh.

Through DRG-LER II, NORC provides services to advance learning activities in the DRG foreign assistance sector and critical data on the impact of DRG activities in the field to assist with decision making. DRG-LER II builds on the work of DRG-LER I, implemented by NORC and SI under separate prime contracts with USAID to support the design and implementation of rigorous evaluations, provide analyses, and conduct other research within USAID's contracting and program rules and procedures. It also allows for substantial involvement and collaboration between the DRG Center staff and academics, thus resulting in better learning opportunities and internal USAID staff capacity building.

The objectives of DRG-LER II include: (1) providing U.S. Government (USG) and other stakeholders with timely, reliable evidence on impact and costs, as needed, for decision making about DRG foreign assistance intervention expansion and scale up or elimination/scale back; and (2) contributing to the knowledge base of what works and does not work in the DRG sector. This contract includes (1) impact evaluations (IE); (2) performance evaluations (PE), survey research, and qualitative case study research; (3) auxiliary studies; (4) learning agenda development for missions; and (5) utilization and dissemination. Implementation occurs in selected countries, with no specific regional focus, including in complex and multi-country environments as dictated by the evaluation agenda defined by USAID/DDI/DRG.

NORC's FY2022 Quarter I Progress Report for the USAID DRG-LER II Activity describes project achievements between October 1 and December 31, 2021. As described in Section 1 (Project Updates), during this reporting period NORC was involved in 27 active Taskings (including management) and five Taskings that were under development. Each Tasking is divided into three subsections: **Tasking Description**; *Major Accomplishments and Challenges of the Past Quarter*; and, *Major Issues That Need to be Resolved.* Section 2 (Financial Report and Projected Expenses by Tasking) provides an itemized financial report by Tasking.

1. PROJECT UPDATES

TASKING N001: BASIC MANAGEMENT FUNCTIONS

Begin Date: 8/15/2018

End Date: 8/14/2023

Ceiling Amount: N/A

Team Members: Protik Ali (Chief of Party), Matthew Parry (Project Manager), May Noureddine (Middle Level Evaluation Expert), and Haset Solomon (Junior Level Evaluation Specialist)

Tasking Description

This Tasking covers basic management functions such as attending general meetings with and reporting to, USAID; preparing status reports, quarterly performance reports, financial reports, annual reports, pipelines and accruals, and annual work plans; discussing preliminary development for Tasking activities; invoicing and financial management related to the overall DRG-LER II Activity; and other general management tasks.

Major Accomplishments and Challenges of the Past Quarter

Management tasks this reporting period included:
- Participating in monthly status meetings with Contracting Officer Representative (COR) Brandy Witthoft and Alternate COR (ACOR) David Jacobstein.
- Submitting weekly Tasking status updates and participating in at least weekly telephone calls.
- Submitting FY2021 Annual Report on October 29.
- Submitting lists of DRG-LER Publication Uploads onto the DEC for October and November.
- Monthly meetings with USAID, NORC and Social Impact (SI) in October and December (November was cancelled due to Thanksgiving).
- On December 15 USAID approved NORC's request to replace Leslie Hodel with Carly Mphasa as Key Personnel (Middle Level Evaluation Expert).
- Closing Tasking N037 (Social and Behavioral Change (SBC) Field Guide) after having received USAID COR approval on December 22.

Major Issues That Need to be Resolved

None.

TASKING N008: USAID GBV LEARNING AGENDA

Begin Date: 11/2018

End Date: 12/2020

Approved Budget: $601,381

Team Members: Lorena Alcazar (SME), Jennifer Schulte (SME), Andrew Friedman (SME), Angela Hattery (SME), Assata Zerai (SME), Dani Poole (SME), Judith-Ann Walker (SME), Seloua Zerhouni (SME), Audra Grant (Task Manager - Senior Evaluation Expert), and Letitia Onyango (Evaluation Expert)

Tasking Description

This Tasking synthesized evidence about the various contextual factors influencing GBV, and the practices that can be applied to address GBV. To fully understand the universe of political, social, historical, and economic variables that influence the emergence and prevalence of GBV, NORC developed a series of scholarly literature reviews focusing on 11 core GBV-related questions. The literature reviews look to existing rigorous, peer-reviewed research in both the academic and gray literature and focus on research questions from five USAID offices: (1) DCHA / DRG; (2) DCHA Women Peace and Security; (3) Bureau for Economic Growth, Education and Environment, Office of Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (E3/GenDev); (4) the Africa Bureau Education Office; and (5) the Middle East Bureau Democracy, Governance, Peace and Security Office.

Major Accomplishments and Challenges of the Past Quarter

NORC completed all activities during FY2020 and received COR approval to close this Tasking on October 7 after confirming the required uploads of 508-compliant documents (the 11 Literature Reviews and associated two-page summaries) to the DEC.

Major Issues That Need to be Resolved

None.

TASKING N009: DRG MEASUREMENT II

Begin Date: 12/2018

End Date: 8/2023

Approved Budget: $300,000

Team Members: Matthew Parry (Project Manager), D-Arch (subcontractor)

Tasking Description

The objective of this Tasking is to develop specific products using Varieties of Democracy Institute (V-Dem) data to help support data-driven strategies and programming development in the DRG sector

related to USAID's policy priority of helping countries on their Journey to Self-Reliance (J2SR). Such products and services include index construction; hypothesis testing using multivariate statistical models; statistical modeling based on social science theory; and academic literature on democracy, human rights, and governance. This Tasking is a follow-on to USAID's DRG Measurement I Tasking issued under DRG-LER I to use the V-Dem cross-national datasets to produce a variety of analytical products, including a menu of standard USAID/DRG reports; standard country data portraits; customized sector and/or country data portraits; research papers; on-line tools; new and disaggregated indicators and/or new indices; and written, online, and in-person training with USAID staff.

Major Accomplishments and Challenges of the Past Quarter

During this quarter, V-Dem edited and re-submitted tutorial video one and prepared a budget for the remaining seven tutorial videos. V-Dem also worked on an e-governance research paper identified as high-priority by USAID during the selection process in Q3 2020. The final draft of this paper was submitted on November 12. After USAID approved the paper on November 12, NORC uploaded a 508-compliant version to the DEC on November 18.

This quarter's primary accomplishments were submitting one research paper and one tutorial video. In addition, at USAID's request, on December 17, NORC submitted a budget with production costs for seven additional videos.

Major Issues That Need to be Resolved

There were no significant challenges, but a typographical error in the training video could not be resolved before the end of the reporting period, which prevented the deliverable from be approved.

TASKING N018: DRG-LER II DISSEMINATION

Begin Date: 5/2019

End Date: 8/2023

Approved Budget: $198,827

Team Members: Protik Ali (CoP)

Tasking Description

Under this Tasking, NORC produces products, such as infographics, and organizes dissemination events to USAID and non-USAID audiences. These products summarize and attractively communicate research and evaluation findings, DRG learning priorities, and other messages.

Major Accomplishments and Challenges of the Past Quarter

At USAID's request, NORC created an infographic summarizing the follow-up visits to communities and lessons learned under the DRG-LER Tasking N066 (IE of USAID/Guatemala Peace Building Project). Following USAID/DRG and USAID/Guatemala's approval, NORC uploaded the infographic to the DEC. on October 7, 2021.

NORC finalized a six-page infographic presenting the results of the Youth Civic Engagement Survey, which USAID approved on November 29; NORC uploaded the 508-compliant version to the [DEC](#) on the same day.

On December 16 NORC received a sub-Tasking for two Social and Behavioral Change Strategies Infographics. The first drafts will be submitted by February 11, 2022.

Major Issues That Need to be Resolved

None.

TASKING N020: HARVEST OF USAID DRG LEARNING

Begin Date: 6/2019

End Date: 08/2021

Approved Budget: $135,556

Team Members: Mawadda Damon Gartner (Senior Level Evaluation Expert); Catherine Caligan, Baily Fohr (Social Impact)

Tasking Description

The DRG Learning Center contracted NORC to assist them with harvesting learning produced since 2011 under several DRG learning mechanisms. This entailed gathering available relevant learning products – specifically those that are generalizable or otherwise applicable to USAID's work. These products were reviewed and catalogued and made available in a user-friendly database. Technical executive summaries were also produced summarizing key findings and recommendations for each of DRG's six program areas[1].

Major Accomplishments and Challenges of the Past Quarter

During this period, NORC began work on updating the Learning Harvest (LH) database to version 4 (V4). On November 26, USAID requested the LH database be updated to V4. Per prior approval from USAID, NORC Research Scientist Mawadda Damon Gartner took over the Tasking lead from Ritu Nayyar-Stone and recruited staff to support the effort.

Major Issues That Need to be Resolved

None.

TASKING N027: TRANSPARENT PUBLIC INVESTMENT INTEGRITY NETWORKS EVALUATION

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[1] Rule of Law, Good Governance, Political Competition / Elections, Civil Society, Independent Media, and Human Rights

Begin Date: 9/2019

End Date: 8/2023

Approved Budget: $258,124

Team Members: Ingrid Rojas (Tasking Manager) and Angelo Cozzubo (Research Analyst)

Tasking Description

As part of the DRG Learning, Evaluation, and Research (DRG-LER) II Activity, NORC will determine the efficacy of the Transparent Public Investment (TPI) integrity networks in Peru. TPI is a five-year activity (2020-2025) implemented by Chemonics International that seeks to strengthen the integrity of key government processes to reduce corruption in public investment. More specifically, TPI is expected to: (1) strengthen appropriate controls and supervision mechanisms to reduce corruption; (2) enhance civic oversight of public investment processes; and (3) build effective alliances with private sector firms to promote public integrity and combat corruption.

The TPI timespan includes a "proof-of-concept" phase and a "scale-up" phase. During the proof-of-concept phase (2020-2022), the project supports integrity networks in five regions (Cusco, Lambayeque, Lima, Loreto, and Piura). Each integrity network monitors two public investments within each region. Subsequently, during the scale-up phase (2022-2024), the project may expand to support additional integrity networks in other regions and monitor more public investments in each region. The main deliverables of the evaluation include a Baseline Report (2021) and a Midline Report (2022).

Major Accomplishments and Challenges of the Past Quarter

In October 2021, NORC finalized downloading the administrative data and submitted the Evaluation Design and Baseline Report. NORC received feedback from USAID and the Mission, as well as questions from the IP in November 2021, and additional comments from USAID and the Mission regarding the data collection instruments in December 2021. NORC will submit the revised version of the Evaluation Design and Baseline Report in January 2022.

NORC, the Mission, and the IP attend monthly calls organized by USAID. NORC and the IP share updates on the evaluation and implementation of the project, respectively. NORC also had a call with USAID/Peru, the Comptroller's Office, and the IP on November 29. NORC received data on the treatment and comparison projects from the Comptroller's Office as a result of this call.

Major Issues That Need to be Resolved

None.

TASKING N029: HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (HHS) – USAID DATA SHARING

Begin Date: 12/2019

End Date: 6/2020

Approved Budget: $94,986

Team Members: Protik Ali (Team Leader); Ellen Compernolle (Middle Level Evaluation Expert)

Tasking Description

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has offered to share their dataset on trafficked minors coming into the U.S. USAID seeks to use the dataset to examine the geographic origins of the minors as well as the types of risk factors and reasons they were trafficked, among other information, so that they can better target country interventions to be more impactful and cost-effective. To do this, NORC will first review the dataset structure and data dictionary against source record forms, for a sample of records, to validate the coding done by HHS for the FY2001-FY2017 records. Additionally, NORC will code the un-coded data for FY2018-FY2019 in a manner consistent with the already coded records from earlier years.

Once the dataset is coded and all personal identifiable information (PII) has been removed, NORC will summarize and analyze the data by region or country, if applicable, in a short report intended to be shared with USAID field offices.

Major Accomplishments and Challenges of the Past Quarter

During this reporting period, USAID and some staff from HHS provided comments on NORC's draft final report (October 21 and November 17, respectively). NORC addressed these comments, incorporated suggested language from HHS, and submitted a revised report to USAID on December 30.

While we received comments from some HHS staff they also let us know that they expect to provide comments from additional staff. However, comments from additional HHS staff on the draft final report remain pending as of the end of this reporting period. NORC updated USAID regularly through weekly meetings and requested that Kacy Mixon from the CTIP team send follow-up emails to HHS, which she did multiple times in November. In early December, NORC and USAID agreed to revise the report based on comments provided.

Major Issues That Need to be Resolved

Comments from key HHS staff on the final report remain pending.

TASKING N031: ASIA C-TIP AND COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM ANALYSIS

Begin Date: 12/2019

End Date: 1/2022

Approved Budget: $1,374,779

Team Members: Novametrics: **Team Members:** Gregory E. van der Vink (PI), Michael E. Jackson (Senior Scientist), Jeffrey J. Park (Senior Scientist), Katherine N. Carlson (Lead Data Analyst), Sabrina H. Szeto (Lead Geospatial Analyst), Erica Phillips (Database Manager). NORC: Ali Protik (CoP) and Matthew Parry (Program Manager).

Tasking Description

The purpose of this Tasking is to reveal causal relationships between geographically specific characteristics and vulnerability to inform USAID countering trafficking in persons (C-TIP) and countering violent extremism (CVE) programmatic decisions. SI, in partnership with Novametrics, is exploring TIP and violent extremism (VE) in Bangladesh and the Philippines, and TIP in the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR). This research is expected to use big data to reveal causal pathways through which certain factors impact vulnerability to TIP and VE. Novametrics is relying on its Weak-Signal Analysis methodology to produce separate reports and maps for each country, including recommendations of vulnerable populations and innovative interventions that will be most effective in each location. The reports will include a presentation and discussion of the underlying relevant causal relationships as evidence for the Missions as they endeavor to develop more effective, geographically targeted interventions. The analysis will be customized to on-the-ground decision-making requirements and the U.S. State Department TIP Report prioritized recommendations.

Major Accomplishments and Challenges of the Past Quarter

During this reporting period, Novametrics produced reports for submission to USAID. After submitting initial drafts to USAID, Novametrics began revising the reports and preparing final reports, based on the six presentations made to USAID in August and September 2021, and based on Novametrics' own review of the analysis and the draft reports. On November 15, Novametrics received comments from USAID on the draft reports. Additional revisions were made based on Novametrics' own internal review. These revisions included clarification of language, increased specificity of statements for improved accuracy, and refinement of figures.

On December 9, NORC submitted the five revised report: Bangladesh CTIP, Bangladesh CVE, Philippines CTIP, Philippines CVE, and Lao PDR CTIP report. On December 29, Novametrics received comments from USAID on the three revised CTIP reports (Lao PDR, Bangladesh, and Philippines). Novametrics did not complete revising these reports before the end of the reporting period.

Major Issues That Need to be Resolved

None.

TASKING N033: 3IE EVIDENCE GAP MAPS

Begin Date: 3/2020

End Date: 4/2022

Approved Budget: $1,206,374

Team Members: Douglas Glandon, Katherine Quant, Miriam Berretta, Tomasz Kozakiewicz, Constanza Gonzalez, Charlotte Lane, Sridevi Prasad, Jane Hammaker, Etienne Lwamba, Birte Snilstveit

Tasking Description

USAID requested NORC to work with its consortium sub-contractor, International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie), to produce an Evidence Gap Map (EGM) for each of the six DRG program areas: Rule of Law (RoL), Human Rights (HR), Civil Society (CS), Independent Media (IM), Political Competition (PC), and Good Governance (GOV).

The objective of this activity is to produce EGMs that identify high-quality, relevant impact evaluations, and systematic reviews. Where rigorous evidence does not exist, a complementary objective will be to identify critical knowledge gaps. The final products will complement the DRG Learning Division's stock-taking exercise, provide an evidence-informed understanding of common approaches, and identify areas where further research is needed.

Major Accomplishments and Challenges of the Past Quarter

During this reporting period the 3ie team worked on all six EGMs, including Rule of Law (RoL), Human Rights (HR), Civil Society (CS), Independent Media (IM), Good Governance (GOV), and Political Competition (PC) and the EGMs User Guide. Accomplishments and challenges are summarized below for each.

Accomplishments for the RoL EGM include work in progress for Task 8. Work for Task 8 involved reviewing the briefs content to include the findings from the qualitative studies, an extensive consultation with the USAID DRG RoL experts and a substantial revision of the practitioner brief framing, design, and content to best meet USAID mission officers' information needs in the context of their responsibilities. 3ie will continue working to address the substantial modifications requested in the format and content of these briefs, and once finalized, this revised practitioner brief format 3ie will prepare it for publishing (expected Feb 2022).

Accomplishments for the CS and IM EGMs include substantial progress in Tasks 7 and 8. For Task 7, 3ie shared with USAID on October 4 the CS and IM summary reports, and on October 7 3ie shared the practitioner briefs proposals. On October 27, received confirmation of the three practitioner briefs topics (closed civic spaces, monitoring interventions and decision-making interventions) for the CS EGM, and feedback on the summary report. A meeting with the USAID IM experts was not possible but 3ie received on October 29 a confirmation from USAID on one practitioner brief topic for the IM EGM on "the dissemination of media content for accountability and democracy promotion". 3ie shared drafts of

both CS briefs with USAID colleagues and received feedback on December 15. The ongoing work for Task 8 includes the draft writing and risk of bias assessment of included studies of IM EGM practitioner brief, and the draft writing and risk of bias assessment of the third CS EGM brief on decision-making interventions. All briefs are expected to be completed by late-March 2022.

Accomplishments for the HR EGM include substantial progress in Tasks 7 and 8. Task 7 involved 3ie shared the HR summary brief with the Advisory Group and requested feedback, and on November 4, 3ie sent the summary brief to USAID. Task 8 involved the 3ie team meeting with the USAID JRS experts on October 8 to discuss the ideas for the practitioner briefs topics. The continuous consultation with the USAID JRS experts resulted in two confirmed topics for the HR EGM practitioner briefs: Social Behavior Change Communication (SBCC) and counter-trafficking in persons (C-TIP). As part of the practitioner brief development, on November 23, 3ie sent to USAID confirmation of the definitions of the Prevent-Protect-Response framework and the USAID approaches to SBCC. On December 3, 3ie shared with USAID the first draft of the C-TIP practitioner brief, and on December 16, 3ie received the first round of feedback from USAID on the CTIP practitioner brief. On December 20, 3ie shared with USAID the first draft of the SBCC brief, which is expected to be completed by March 2022.

Accomplishments for the GOV and PC EGMs include completing Tasks 3 and 4, and work in progress of Task 5. Task 3 involved 3ie sharing with USAID on October 6 the intervention-outcome framework of the PC and GOV EGMs for final approval. 3ie received additional feedback from USAID and reviewed and incorporated the feedback into the PC EGM framework and sent it back to USAID on October 13. On November 3, USAID sent the approval of the PC EGM framework. Task 4 involved the finalization of the protocol writing of the GOV and PC EGMS and final approval of both. The online matrices and preliminary findings are expected by early-February, 2022, for the PC EGM and late-February, 2022, for the GOV EGM.

Accomplishments for the EGM User Guide included substantial consultation with the USAID DRG Evidence and Learning team. 3ie sent on October 22 the first draft of the User Guide and received the first round of feedback from USAID on November 12. 3ie incorporated USAID's feedback and returned it to USAID on December 21. The User Guide is expected to be completed March 2022.

In response to a request from USAID colleagues, 3ie began drafting an updated concept note and budget estimates for an expanded scope of work, that includes a Chapeau Summary of DRG Sector Evidence, a DRG EGM Comparative Analysis, a Practitioner Brief on Technology for Democracy, a Practitioner Brief on Women's Political Empowerment, and an EGM Platform Enhancement for DRG Evidence Dissemination and Uptake.

Major Issues That Need to be Resolved

None.

TASKING N034: CHINA AND SUB SAHARAN AFRICA DEMOCRATIC NORMS AND VALUES

Begin Date: 6/2020

End Date: 12/2021

Approved Budget: $315,551

Team Members: Audra Grant (Senior Level Evaluation Expert – Tasking Manager), Carl Levan (Senior Level Evaluation Expert – Team Leader), Susan Abbott (Senior Level Evaluation Expert – Subject Matter Expert), Robert Wekesa (Senior Level Evaluation Expert – Subject Matter Expert), Jonas Bunte (Senior Level Evaluation Expert – Subject Matter Expert),

Tasking Description

NORC is conducting a study that explores the relationship between China's increasing investment in Sub-Saharan Africa and changing democratic norms and values on the continent (e.g., resurgent authoritarianism, changing attitudes towards democracy, and democratic backsliding). The study will examine the nature of these interactions to the extent they exist, with the aim of informing recommendations for USAID programming and policy in Sub-Saharan Africa. Specifically, the research is expected to (1) help the Bureau for Africa and its Missions develop effective strategies to respond to anti-democratic sentiment, informed by knowledge of how leaders and citizens shape anti-democratic narratives, and the extent to which China is relevant or not; (2) help Missions identify spaces in which they can improve relationships and create more touch points between USG actors and citizens, especially in domains where China has a high degree of influence; (3) identify interventions that will develop the capacity and resilience of communities negatively impacted by malign influence or investment projects, especially at the intersection of local government, civil society and affected citizens; identify and build strategically on Chinese investments that may align with J2SR (i.e., information sharing, participation in public debate, increasing access to markets); and (4) develop strategies to identify and counter state surveillance practices, including how to minimize foreign influence in elections processes, and increase the space for an active civil society and accountable and responsive government.

Major Accomplishments and Challenges of the Past Quarter

NORC worked on a new Executive Summary (ES) of the report with a framework that will tie all analysis and results in the report together and submitted the new ES on September 28, right before this reporting period. In this reporting period, NORC finalized the ES and redrafted the Introduction section of the report to align with the new framework of the ES, upon receiving USAID comments. Both the revised and final ES, as well as the revised Introduction section, were submitted on October 10. Finally, NORC revised the entire report to align with the new framework and submitted it to USAID on November 18. The team had not received USAID feedback by the end of the reporting period.

Major Issues That Need to be Resolved

None.

TASKING N035: POLITICAL ECONOMY ANALYSIS LITERATURE REVIEWS

Begin Date: 6/2020

End Date: 8/2023

Approved Budget: $107,222

Team Members: Ali Protik (CoP)

Tasking Description

The Cross Sectoral Program (CSP) Team within USAID's DRG Center provides support across the Agency to enhance the impact and sustainability of USAID programs by creating and promoting methodologies, assessments, research, and collaborative platforms that rely on a deep understanding of political economy on a variety of topics. CSP does this by supporting missions to carry out political economy analyses (PEA), an analytical approach to help Missions understand the underlying reasons why things work the way they do and identify the incentives and constraints impacting the behavior of actors in a relevant system. USAID's *Applied PEA Framework* is intended to be used in an iterative and ongoing manner to deepen understanding of the context, and then reflect upon the implications of this understanding for adjusting and adapting programs as the context changes or new information becomes available. By helping identify these influences — political, economic, social, and cultural — PEAs support a more politically informed approach to working, known as "thinking and working politically" (TWP). Through TWP, USAID seeks to better understand the systems where they work and identify sustainable, locally generated solutions. This Tasking provides literature reviews for USAID Missions carrying out PEAs.

Major Accomplishments and Challenges of the Past Quarter

USAID approved the PEA literature review of El Salvador's water sector on October 15; following COR approval, NORC uploaded the 508-compliant version to the **DEC** on October 20.

In this reporting period, NORC worked on a PEA literature review to better understand the incentives underlying the development of the Azerbaijani healthcare system to date, and which shape the potential for future reform. NORC submitted the draft PEA literature review of the Azerbaijani healthcare system on December 3.

Major Issues That Need to be Resolved

None.

TASKING N036: RULE OF LAW ACHIEVEMENTS REVIEW

Begin Date: 5/2020

End Date: 11/2021

Approved Budget: $436,878

Team Members: NORC: Katie Mark. Social Impact: Aimee Rose, Catherine Caligan, Bailey Fohr, Marilyn Zelin, Victoria Ayer, Achieng Akumu, Chantal Agarwal

Tasking Description

USAID and partners have accumulated significant technical knowledge and expertise through the design and implementation of RoL activities over the past 15 years. However, there is inadequate awareness and understanding within the USAID's DRG Center of what USAID's RoL investments have achieved in the last 15 years. The objectives of this review are threefold: 1) provide an inventory of significant USAID RoL assistance activities in all regions for the period 2005-2020; 2) audit selected USAID RoL assistance activities for concrete and sustained achievements; and 3) develop a comprehensive analytical review of USAID RoL achievements at a country, regional, and global level.

Findings from this review are expected to inform DRG and USAID decision-making around what improvements to RoL assistance activities can be made to increase their effectiveness, as well as introduce innovations in the field where appropriate. Moreover, knowledge generated from this review will allow USAID to communicate more effectively with Congress and other key constituents in this core area of assistance.

Major Accomplishments and Challenges of the Past Quarter

During this reporting period, SI reviewed and incorporated feedback from USAID's DRG Center and Regional Bureaus before resubmitting the revised final report on December 23.

Major Issues That Need to be Resolved

None.

TASKING N037: SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL CHANGE (SBC) FIELD GUIDE

Begin Date: 8/2020

End Date: 11/2021

Approved Budget: $59,856

Team Members: Ali Protik (Team Lead/Senior Level Evaluation Expert).

Tasking Description

There is growing interest in and use of social and behavioral change (SBC) approaches to programming in Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance (DRG). USAID has emphasized focusing more on social and behavioral factors in DRG programming that are often overlooked but can be critical in affecting the intended outcomes of the programs. SBC as a methodological approach to developing programs has been explored by the health sector; USAID intends to adapt the approach to DRG programming moving forward. NORC is developing a field guide to define, discuss, and provide guidance for SBC approaches in DRG programming and research. The field guide, which will be distributed through the USAID/DRG website, is intended to provide guidance and serve as a reference point for implementing partners and evaluators of future USAID DRG programs. It will provide basic definitions and processes necessary for SBC approaches at USAID/DRG.

Major Accomplishments and Challenges of the Past Quarter

In this quarter NORC finalized the SBC Primer (USAID staff suggested that we call this a primer as opposed to a field guide) and submitted to USAID on October 22. Following COR approval, NORC uploaded the 508-compliant version of the Primer to the DEC on November 18.

Major Issues That Need to be Resolved

None.

TASKING N041: USAID POLICY ON PROMOTING THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Begin Date: 9/2020

End Date: 5/2022

Approved Budget: $138,928

Team Members: Kareem Kysia (Team Leader – Senior Survey Director), Carolyn Stephens (Senior Level Evaluation Expert), Ron Wendt (Mid-Level Evaluation Expert)

Tasking Description

USAID requested NORC to build an internal knowledge base and analysis framework on how USAID's operating units in Washington and in the field are integrating Indigenous Peoples into development activities. This work will be informed by USAID's Policy on Promoting the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (PRO-IP), which is an effort to correct the historical trend of informing of rather than involving Indigenous Peoples in decisions and activities that may impact them.

Major Accomplishments and Challenges of the Past Quarter

NORC solicited feedback on its Landscape Analysis Report from USAID staff who participated in the semi-structured interviews. Based on the feedback received, NORC finalized the report, which USAID approved on December 9. In December, NORC and USAID discussed the presentation related to the

Landscape Analysis Report, and NORC shared the timeline for the next phase of our work, the Learning Question and Indicator Development.

Major Issues That Need to be Resolved

None.

TASKING N042: DIGITIZED AUTOCRACY LITERATURE REVIEW

Begin Date: 3/2021

End Date: 10/2021

Team Members: Ben Morse, Catherine Caligan, Bailey Fohr, Andrea Kendall-Taylor, Erica Frantz (Social Impact)

USAID's Center of Excellence on Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance (the DRG Center) is committed to advancing learning and evidence-based programming around all aspects of DRG policy, strategy, program development, implementation, and evaluation. Since 2015, the DRG Center has commissioned research through the Democratic Theories of Change Research Initiative to better understand democratic backsliding, democratic openings in authoritarian systems, and democratization as a means to build peace in conflict states.

Building on the insights from this initiative, this literature review summarizes key findings from the academic and gray literatures on the use of digital tools by autocratic regimes. The lessons drawn from this literature review will be used to inform strategic planning, project and activity design, and implementation led by the DRG community.

Major Accomplishments and Challenges of Past Quarter:

During this reporting period, USAID approved the literature review report. SI formatted the report for 508 compliance and NORC it to the **DEC** on October 10. SI shared the DEC link to the report with USAID, which was sent to the September 8 dissemination event's attendees.

Major Issues that Need to Be Resolved:

None.

TASKING N043: MALI REINTEGRATION/ RECONCILIATION IE DESIGN

Begin Date: 1/2021

End Date: 10/2021

Approved Budget: $95,734

Team Members: Ben Morse, Rashmi Bhat, Alexa Aziz, Dan Posner, Chad Hazlett, Salma Mousa (Social Impact)

Tasking Description

The purpose of this Tasking is to design an impact evaluation of reintegration and reconciliation programming in Mali by USAID implementing partner Creative Associates International. The impact evaluation design will then inform the implementation of novel programming to encourage reintegration and reconciliation.

Major Accomplishments and Challenges of the Past Quarter

During a Findings Presentation at the end of September 2021, SI presented to USAID and other key stakeholders key findings from the study and ideas for the impact evaluation design. Following this, SI submitted the revised report on September 30. USAID approved this report on October 7, and NORC uploaded the 508-compliant version to the **DEC** on October 19. All other deliverables associated with this Tasking were completed in previous quarters

Major Issues That Need to be Resolved

None.

TASKING N044: PART-TIME RULE OF LAW REFORM RESEARCHER

Begin Date: 2/2021

End Date: 12/2021

Approved Budget: $99,378

Team Members: Gregory Gisvold (Senior Level Evaluation Expert) and Matthew Parry (Task Lead)

Tasking Description

This Tasking provides on-call research and writing support to the USAID Democracy Rights and Governance Center for Excellence's Rule of Law team (USAID RoL Team). The USAID RoL Team is engaged in a long-term effort to develop a new RoL policy for USAID. As part of that process, NORC contracted a senior rule of law expert; Gregory Gisvold to serve as an adjunct to the USAID RoL Team. The consultant has undertaken a significant share of the writing associated with the development of the policy.

Major Accomplishments and Challenges of the Past Quarter

The Rule of Law Policy was finalized and shepherded through Agency review and comment. NORC's RoL expert supported this process with edits, research, new drafting, and presentations on the policy and its goals. The Policy links USAID's pivot to people-centered justice (PCJ) to the Biden Administration's and USAID's anti-corruption efforts as well as the challenge posed by authoritarianism.

NORC's expert revised a draft Practice Note on legal design, as well as a draft Practice Note on data for the PCJ project. Together, these Notes will be combined into the Policy's first support toolkit.

Also during this quarter, NORC's expert worked with USAID staff to develop a plan for a field team knowledge exchange session ("hang out") and for a "secretariat" in support of the Policy. The Rule of Law Innovation, Design, Evidence, Analysis, and Support (or ROL IDEAS) Lab is intended to serve as a knowledge hub for the data, experience, evidence, and support services necessary to support various missions implementing people-centered justice projects. USAID Missions in Kosovo, Ukraine, Georgia, and Kyrgyzstan are doing so now (and referred to as the "First Wave"), with more anticipated during 2022. NORC's expert helped USAID staff develop an initial concept of operations for the Lab and a write-up for presentation at the DRG Center's January 2022 Bi-Annual Portfolio Review.

Major Issues That Need to be Resolved

None.

TASKING N045: DRC C-TIP ASSESSMENT

Begin Date: 1/2021

End Date: 6/2022

Approved Budget: $213.566

Team Members: Kareem Kysia (Senior Survey Director—Team Leader), Rachael Jackson (Middle Level Evaluation Expert), Alexandre Monnard (Middle Level Evaluation Expert), Ruth Pojman (Senior Level Evaluation Expert), Amani Tom (Research Assistant), and Jocelyn Kelly (Senior Advisor)

Tasking Description

The objective of this Tasking is to conduct a situational analysis on trafficking in persons (TIP) in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) to assess the prevalence and types of TIP, regional trends, knowledge of TIP by government officials, and local capabilities to address TIP in the DRC. The results of the study will support USAID and the Government of the DRC to create a comprehensive strategy to tackle TIP and prioritize interventions. To this end, NORC will conduct an in-depth review of the literature related to TIP in the DRC; create a network map of current TIP programming in the DRC and the main stakeholders involved in confronting the issue; conduct and analyze Key Informant Interviews and focus groups with key stakeholders to assess the knowledge and capacity of institutions within each region to confront TIP; and provide TIP-related policy recommendations for possible USAID and GDRC implementation in the DRC coming from a solid evidence base.

The project's scope of work is divided between USAID and the International Organization for Migration (IOM). As such, project approvals were obtained from both organizations before proceeding.

Major Accomplishments and Challenges of the Past Quarter

In this quarter, NORC developed a database of organizations that currently or previously implemented TIP interventions in the DRC, as well as a detailed list of potential stakeholders in the eight provinces included in the project[2]. USAID and IOM both reviewed these documents and provided feedback, which has been incorporated into updated versions of the documents.

NORC also drafted two Key Informant Interview guides: one for the DRC government's Agency for the Prevention and the Fight Against Trafficking in Persons (APLTP), and one for NGO stakeholders. These will be reviewed and revised by internal team members before being shared with USAID and IOM in early 2022. NORC also received IRB approval for the study, which will allow us to begin data collection with human subjects in early 2022.

Major Issues That Need to be Resolved

The project fell a little more behind schedule this quarter. NORC has discussed this with USAID and IOM, and a new schedule has been agreed. We have also agreed to send weekly updates to USAID and IOM, and once data collection begins these updates will include informal sharing of key take-aways from that week's interviews so USAID and IOM can immediately begin using the data we are gathering.

TASKING N046: BOTSWANA C-TIP ASSESSMENT

Begin Date: 2/2021

End Date: 6/2022

Approved Budget: $291,204

Team Members: Ben Morse, Bailey Fohr, Alexa Aziz, Catherine Caligan, Ruth Rosenberg, Keneilwe Mooketsane (Social Impact)

Tasking Description

The purpose of this Tasking is to conduct a research study to fill in gaps in knowledge regarding trafficking in persons (TIP) in Botswana, which is expected to be a hotspot for TIP activities. However, there is little known about the locations and ways in which TIP occurs. This research project seeks to collect data from key stakeholders that will then be used to design evidence-based policies and programs to address human trafficking in Botswana.

To address this gap, this study will conduct a series of Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) and a survey of TIP survivors to identify which forms of human trafficking are most prevalent in Botswana, and how victim vulnerabilities, recruitment patterns, and servitude experiences vary across different types of human trafficking. Data collection will take place in two phases, with Phase I dedicated to speaking with key informants about their knowledge and experience with TIP, and Phase II dedicated to conducting survivor surveys with individuals who have experienced TIP in the past.

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[2] Nord-Kivu, Sud-Kivu, Haut Katanga, Haut Uele, Kasaï, Kinshasa, Mongala, and Kongo Central

Major Accomplishments and Challenges of the Past Quarter

During this reporting period SI began data collection on the project, conducted interviews in two locations within Botswana, and received approval for the Phase II Data Collection Plan. In October 2021 the SI team began data collection in Gaborone and the border town of Ramatlabama. In this quarter, the team conducted 31 Key Informant Interviews and 9 survivor surveys.

In December, SI met with USAID to discuss progress thus far, challenges experienced, and a path forward for the remainder of the study. SI submitted the Phase II Data Collection Plan on November 19, received final comments from USAID on December 6, and submitted a final version four days later.

Major Issues That Need to be Resolved

None.

TASKING N047: LIBERIA ELECTORAL ACCESS AND PARTICIPATION SURVEY III

Begin Date: 3/2021

End Date: 11/2021

Approved Budget: $284,071

Team Members: Brian Kirchhoff (Survey Director), Sarah Lord (Research Analyst), Matthew Parry (Program Manager)

Tasking Description

NORC will design and administer the third iteration of the Liberia Electoral Access and Participation Survey (referred to as LEAP III), which tracks the influence of civic and voter education efforts on voter engagement and perceptions of the performance of the National Elections Commission (NEC) work to facilitate national elections.

USAID/Liberia has partnered with DRG-LER, the NEC, and other stakeholders in Liberia to conduct the two prior LEAP surveys, the first of which NORC administered shortly after the December 2014 Special Senatorial elections, and the second administered following the 2017 Presidential election (and run-off election). Having credible, reliable data from the 2014 and 2017 LEAP surveys enabled the NEC to better target its resources for the 2020 elections and referendum. This data also informed USAID partners and the greater donor community. LEAP III will gather data on Liberians' political participation and measure exposure to and the responsiveness of citizens to civic and voter education efforts during the election period from October through December of 2020. This information will be critical for enabling the NEC and partners to adjust interventions for future electoral periods, with the 2023 election cycle being the next major milestone for Liberia's national elections.

Major Accomplishments and Challenges of the Past Quarter

NORC completed data collection, prepared the final LEAP III data set, weighted the data, and merged the LEAP III data file with the data files from LEAP I and LEAP II throughout FY2021 Quarter IV. In FY2022 Q1, NORC completed a first draft of the LEAP III report and submitted it on October 29; USAID provided comments and feedback on December 2. NORC will submit the revised report in the second half of January 2022.

Major Issues That Need to be Resolved

NORC used the LEAP II Analytical Report as the template for the LEAP III report that was submitted. However, USAID notified NORC that they expected a report that followed the LEAP II Topline Report rather than the more extensive Analytical Report that was used for this deliverable. NORC identified the correct report to use as a template and is rewriting the report to follow the Topline Report template, which will be delivered in January 2022. NORC will also take comments made on the Analytical Report and update that for USAID as it contains additional in-depth analysis that is beyond the scope of the Topline Report format.

TASKING N048: TECHNOLOGY-FACILICATED GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

Begin Date: 6/2021

End Date: 11/ 2021

Approved Budget: $194,166

Team Members: NORC: Kareem Kysia (Tasking Lead), Vaiddehi Bansal (Senior Analyst), Mayumi Rezwan (Research Analyst), Mithila Iyer (Research Analyst). ICRW: Laura Hinson (Senior Social and Behavioral Scientist), Poulomi Pal (Gender Consultant), Erin Leasure (Research Analyst)

Tasking Description

USAID contracted NORC in partnership with the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW) to conduct a rigorous landscape analysis comprising a systematic evidence review and case studies to research technology-facilitated gender-based violence (GBV). Specifically, the aim of the study is to identify what constitutes technology-facilitated GBV, analyze trends in the Asia and Pacific regions, and assess the influence of the COVID-19 pandemic on this form of gender-based violence (GBV). There has been growing interest among implementers and policy makers to address this relatively unexplored topic area that has inconsistent terminologies and perceptions of what constitutes various forms of GBV behaviors perpetrated online. Moreover, there has not been a systematic review to examine the numerous components of technology-facilitated GBV, regional and gender differences, interventions and their evaluations, and response mechanisms. The purpose of this study is therefore to conduct a comprehensive landscape analysis to summarize key findings, gaps, and recommendations to inform future research and programming, with specific attention on USAID Mission staff.

Major Accomplishments and Challenges of the Past Quarter

Based on two rounds of USAID feedback, NORC submitted revised iterations of all deliverables (report and four case studies) on October 15. As requested by USAID, NORC also conducted two webinars during the *16 days of Activism*. The first webinar, on December 1, was hosted for internal USAID staff where the study team presented study findings and recommendations to inform future research and programming for USAID. The second webinar, on December 8, was a larger external-facing event which was attended by more than 140 people. Both webinars were well-received and Karen Freeman, USAID's Acting Assistant Administrator for Asia, requested and received a copy of the slides to elevate the research internally.

NORC is waiting for USAID's final clearance on all deliverables before undertaking the 508-formatting process and uploading the products to the DEC.

Major Issues That Need to be Resolved

None.

TASKING N050: AFRICA FRAGILITY EVIDENCE REVIEW

Begin Date: 5/2021

End Date: 7/2022

Approved Budget: $291,196

Team Members: Audra Grant (NORC), Jaimie Bleck, Karen Kaplan, Ben Morse, Hyosun Bae, Aaron Ferguson (Social Impact)

Tasking Description

The purpose of this Tasking is to conduct an evidence review to investigate how governance patterns and relationships between state and society in fragile states contribute to vulnerability or resilience to extreme shocks and crises. In so doing, the research will contribute to current USAID priorities, including its renewed emphasis on conflict prevention and stabilization and good governance. The result of this project will be greater clarity to field Missions on the linkage between governance and resilience and how they can help foster self-reliance in fragile contexts.

Major Accomplishments and Challenges of the Past Quarter

On October 1, SI submitted the revised outline of the Literature Review based on USAID's feedback on a prior submission (September 10). While continuing to work on the draft, SI met with USAID and NORC to discuss the details of the draft. SI submitted the draft Literature Review on November 5, and the team continued to revise the draft while awaiting feedback from USAID. SI also met with NORC and USAID after submitting the draft to update the timeline and discuss its implications. SI and USAID met on December 16 to discuss USAID's feedback on the draft Literature Review. Throughout the

remainder of the quarter, SI revised the Literature Review, reflecting USAID's written and verbal feedback.

Major Issues That Need to be Resolved

None.

TASKING N051: TIMOR-LESTE C-TIP ASSESSMENT

Begin Date: 12/2021

End Date: 6/2022

Approved Budget: $199,901

Team Members: Erika Keaveney (Senior Level Evaluation Expert) Vaiddehi Bansal (Junior Level Evaluation Expert); Angelo Cozzubo (Junior Level Evaluation Expert)

Tasking Description

The aim of this assessment is to (1) provide USAID with an analysis of the nature and scope of TIP in Timor-Leste, (2) identify knowledge gaps about TIP in various sectors (e.g., health, social services, law enforcement/border patrol) and with relevant stakeholders, and (3) provide USAID with recommendations that inform effective TIP prevention, protection, and prosecution. This information is critical for establishing baseline data that may assist USAID in integrating C-TIP into programs and eventually evaluating impact.

Major Accomplishments and Challenges of the Past Quarter

USAID approved the Concept Note and budget on December 2. Thereafter, NORC subcontracted with Dili-based NGO Belun to provide local data collection and transcription/translation services. We also engaged Dr. Pyone Myat Thu as a consultant for the project. Fluent in Tetum, Dr. Thu is a qualitative researcher with extensive experience leading primary data collection activities in Timor-Leste, including in the labor and migration sectors. Dr. Thu will lead the interviewer trainings in Timor-Leste, train NORC analysts on qualitative coding/analysis procedures, and support all major deliverables.

NORC completed the preliminary stakeholder map as well as preliminary KII sampling, KII protocol, and KAP survey which were submitted to USAID on December 17. We also submitted the study protocol for review by NORC's internal institutional review board (IRB) on December 28. Translation of protocols and drafting of training materials were also underway toward the end of December.

Major Issues That Need to be Resolved

None.

TASKING N052: KENYA SOCIAL RETURN ON INVESTMENT

Begin Date: 6/2021

End Date: 7/2022

Approved Budget: $194,170

Team Members: Ali Protik (CoP), Search for Common Ground (SFCG), University of Southern California (USC)

Tasking Description

This Tasking is intended to develop a proof of concept to assess the social value created by youth-led peace and security efforts using the Social Return on Investment (SROI) model. The proposed SROI for #Youth4Peace analysis will help quantify the effect of youth-led peacebuilding-oriented efforts on (1) their peers – young people, (2) their communities, (3) various state & local institutions, and (4) the private sector.

Major Accomplishments and Challenges of the Past Quarter

Upon receiving USAID's approval of the Concept Note in early July 2021, NORC issued subcontract agreements to the University of Southern California (USC) and Search for Common Ground (SFCG). The subcontract negotiations with USC took longer than expected because NORC had to seek CO approval for publication rights; however, the subcontract with SFCG was executed expeditiously. NORC received CO approval in early September and executed the subcontract with USC before the end of Q4.

Major Issues That Need to be Resolved

None.

TASKING N053: UTILIZATION MEASUREMENT ANALYSIS

Begin Date: 6/2021

End Date: 2/2022

Approved Budget: $74,977

Team Members: Ben Morse, Catherine Caligan, Hjalmar Breit (Social Impact)

Tasking Description

The purpose of this Tasking is to measure the utilization of deliverables completed under both DRG LER and LER II contracts, by collecting retrospective information on the use and non-use of recently completed Tasking products. To limit the influence of recall bias, this Tasking will focus on research Taskings recently completed and work backward in time. The Evidence and Learning (E&L) team within

USAID's Center for Excellence on Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance (DRG Center) team will use the findings from this study to strengthen the utilization of its research products moving forward.

Major Accomplishments and Challenges of the Past Quarter

SI submitted the evaluation data collection plan on September 30, 2021, for USAID's review and approval. In October, SI held a kick-off call with USAID and Cloudburst to discuss the approach to data collection and analysis. SI received feedback and approval on the data collection report and finalized the list of stakeholders to be interviewed. SI began conducting interviews in November and held regular check-in calls with USAID and Cloudburst. SI continued data collection and outreach throughout the end of the reporting period.

Major Issues That Need to be Resolved

None.

TASKING N054: GENDER BASED VIOLENCE PORTFOLIO PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Begin Date: 9/2021

End Date: 7/2023

Approved Budget: $1,456,098

Team Members: Ritu Nayyar-Stone, Cathy Zimmerman, Audra Grant, Carlos Echeverria (Senior Evaluation Experts)

Tasking Description

USAID's Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Hub (GenDev) in the Bureau for Development, Democracy, and Innovation, advances gender equality and women's empowerment as fundamental for the realization of human rights, and key to effective and sustainable development outcomes. GenDev supports USAID's efforts to prevent and respond to GBV in more than 60 countries through its thought leadership, training and technical assistance, and programming initiatives. GenDev plans to carry out a performance evaluation of its GBV portfolio comprising four activity clusters: (1) the women's economic empowerment (WEE) activities directly funded by GenDev integrating GBV prevention and response activities; (2) Collective Action to Reduce Gender-Based Violence (CARE-GBV); (3) the Resilient, Inclusive & Sustainable Environments (RISE): A Challenge to Address Gender-Based Violence in the Environment; and (4) activities funded by USAID's Better Together Challenge with GBV prevention and response interventions.

Major Accomplishments and Challenges of the Past Quarter

NORC received approval for the Concept Note on October 8. They started work on Phase 1 of this evaluation to co-create the SOW version 1 with GenDev. A series of meetings were held with activity leads, CORs or point of contact for the 4 activity clusters to develop the first draft version of SOW1

which was submitted to USAID/GenDev on December 13. Feedback was pending at the end of the reporting period.

Major Issues That Need to be Resolved

None.

TASKING N055: MOLDOVA PE LOCAL GOVERNANCE

Begin Date: 9/2021

End Date: 4/2022

Approved Budget: $330,060

Team Members: Ritu Nayyar-Stone, Katharine Mark (Senior Evaluation Experts)

Tasking Description

The purpose of this action is to conduct a performance evaluation of Comunitatea Mea (CM) Project - a USAID/Moldova flagship local governance program, which supports the Development Objective 1 of USAID Moldova/s Country Development Cooperation Strategy: "Strengthened Participatory Democracy" through IR 1.2 "Responsiveness of Targeted Public Institutions Strengthened". Results from this evaluation will inform USAID's next local governance program in Moldova and contribute to the Missions learning agenda.

Major Accomplishments and Challenges of the Past Quarter

NORC submitted a first draft of the Concept Note in September 2021 and after received approval on October 21. During this reporting period NORC submitted the draft qualitative questions (for KIIs and FGDs) to USAID and conducted the initial round of interviews with six IREX and three USAID staff. These interviews were used to finalize the qualitative instruments and develop the CATI survey, observation checklist for visits to the Citizen Information Support Centers (CISC) and exit user surveys for citizens using the CISC.

NORC received sign off on the qualitative instrument on November 29 and conducted a training of FGD moderators in early December. NORC received sign off on the following instruments on December 10:

- CATI of LPA officials
- CISC observation checklist
- Exit user survey of CICS users
- 5 questions for CISC operators

NORC conducted a couple of FGDs with citizens and CSO before Moldovans went on holiday for Christmas. NORC had bi-weekly meetings with USAID/Moldova to keep them informed about the evaluation.

Major Issues That Need to be Resolved

None.

TASKING N056: MALI JUSTICE PROJECT PE

Begin Date: 9/2021

End Date: 5/2022

Approved Budget: $225,313

Team Members: Jaimie Bleck, Moumouni Soumano, Ben Morse, Carly Mphasa, Terrence Porter (Social Impact)

Tasking Description

The purpose of this Tasking is to assess the performance and outcomes of USAID's Mali Justice Project's activities to inform future programming and for USAID/Mali's Peace, Democracy and Governance Office in general.

Major Accomplishments and Challenges of the Past Quarter

NORC submitted Social Impact's Concept Note to USAID on October 8. After receiving USAID's feedback on November 18, NORC submitted the revised Concept Note on November 24, which USAID approved on December 3. Social Impact and USAID hosted a kick-off call on December 14, to discuss potential focal activities for the evaluation. Utilizing feedback from the call and Mali Justice Project annual reports from the past three years, SI recommended to USAID project activities for the evaluation's focus. At the end of the quarter, SI was awaiting USAID feedback on the proposed activities and an introduction to the implementing partner.

Major Issues That Need to be Resolved

None.

TASKING N057: PERFORMANCE EVALUATION OF USAID'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19 ENABLED CORRUPTION

Begin Date: 10/2021

End Date: 11/2022

Approved Budget: $499,818

Team Members: Rick Gold, Tiernan Mennen, Chantal Agarwal, Ben Morse, Hyosun Bae, Bailey Fohr (Social Impact)

Tasking Description:

The purpose of the Anti-Corruption PE is to assess the nature of pandemic-enabled corruption and identify successful strategies used to curb those threats. The study will include a series of recommendations for how USAID can make optimal use of successful anti-corruption strategies during evolving emergency response scenarios, with the goal of strengthening governance capacity and furthering the Agency's overall development objectives.

USAID approved SI's proposed staffing on October 27. On November 5, NORC submitted the Concept Note and budget to USAID. Upon receiving USAID's feedback on November 18, SI revised and re-submitted the Concept Note on November 24. After USAID approved the revised Concept Note on December 10, SI onboarded the consultants and held a kick-off meeting with USAID on December 16. For the remainder of the reporting period, SI started gathering documents and materials to inform the evaluation design and put together the information to assist with determining the sampling approach.

Major Accomplishments and Challenges of Past Quarter:

N/A

Major Issues that Need to Be Resolved:

None.

TASKING N058: DRG POLICY EVIDENCE SUPPORT

Begin Date: TBD

End Date: TBD

Approved Budget: TBD

Team Members: Rola Abdullatif (Senior DRG Expert Practitioner), Dr. Erica Frantz, Senior DRG Expert Academic

Tasking Description:

On November 2, NORC received Tasking N058 which commissions a literature review, Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) and consultations with several key USAID internal and external stakeholders focused on key trends in the DRG sector, lessons learned, and emerging opportunities and challenges for democracy promotion. Findings and analysis from this research will provide an evidence base to inform the forthcoming policy.

The NORC research team will seek to address the following research questions through the literature review, KIIs, and stakeholder consultations. The study sub-questions will be further refined based on initial feedback and inputs from USAID:

1. Does the research evidence support the case for democracy?
2. How has the global context for democracy, human rights, and governance promotion changed since 2013 and what are the most important emerging DRG trends, challenges, and opportunities?
3. What are the lessons learned from implementation of the 2013 DRG Strategy and what were the strengths and weaknesses of USAID's approach?
4. Looking ahead, what needs to change in USAID's approach toward democracy, human rights, and governance promotion to increase aid effectiveness?

Major Accomplishments and Challenges of Past Quarter:

NORC submitted the Concept Note and budget to USAID on December 9 but had not received feedback or approval before the end of the reporting period.

Major Issues that Need to Be Resolved:

None.

TASKING N059: GEORGIA INTEGRATION PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Begin Date: TBD

End Date: TBD

Approved Budget: TBD

Team Members: Anna Solovyeva, Audra Grant (NORC), Melanie Reimer (Subject Matter Expert)

Tasking Description:

Tasking N058 assesses the effectiveness of five integration modalities in enhancing communities' (1) tolerance towards ethnic, linguistic, and religious minorities, and (2) ability to resist and counter attempts aimed at deepening the gap between minorities and the majority of Georgia's population implemented through the Promoting Integration, Tolerance and Awareness (PITA) and Pankisi Community Links activities. The five integration modalities to be assessed include:

1. Workshops, trainings, and discussion activities conducted in-person or online.
2. Grants to businesses, communities, and councils.
3. Thematic task forces.
4. Public awareness campaigns.
5. Internships with government and private sector entities.

Major Accomplishments and Challenges of Past Quarter:

NORC submitted the Concept Note and budget to USAID on December 20 but had not received feedback or approval before the end of the reporting period.

Major Issues that Need to Be Resolved:

None.

TASKING N060: ASSESSMENT OF THE WOMEN POLITICAL PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP IN GUINEA

Begin Date: TBD

End Date: TBD

Approved Budget: TBD

Team Members: Alexandre Monnard (Middle Level Evaluation Expert), and Elizabeth Côté (Subject Matter Expert)

Tasking Description:

A WPPL assessment is designed to identify key WPPL challenges and opportunities within a context, thereby guiding a Mission's program strategies and allocation of resources. The WPPL assessment has two principal key objectives:

● To measure the current state of WPPL in Guinea by analyzing key gender gaps related to political participation and leadership, drivers of WPPL, and the political economy of advancing WPPL and women's empowerment generally. Gender gaps may be psychological (e.g., self-efficacy, confidence), behavioral (e.g., participation in voting and other political and civic behaviors), or representational (e.g., number of legislators of each gender).
● To identify and prioritize challenges, barriers, and opportunities for advancing WPPL in Guinea, pinpointing areas where USAID investments are likely to have the greatest impact. Issue areas where reforms could remove substantial bottlenecks for WPPL and where local actors are already active in advocating for change are ideal candidates for investment.

Major Accomplishments and Challenges of Past Quarter:

NORC received this Tasking on November 30 but had not submitted the Concept Note and budget to USAID before the end of the reporting period. NORC had some difficulty identifying a consultant, partly because of the specialization needed on the Tasking and partly because of the holiday season. NORC communicated this to USAID during the weekly meetings.

Major Issues that Need to Be Resolved:

None.

TASKING N061: INDONESIA INTEGRITAS EVALUATION

Begin Date: TBD

End Date: TBD

Approved Budget: TBD

Proposed Team Members: Matthew Winters (Principal Investigator), Dr. Abdul Gaffar Karim, (Co-Principal Investigator), Berly Martawardaya (Co-Principal Investigator)

Tasking Description:

The *Integritas* evaluation will seek to address the following research questions as provided by USAID through a rapid evaluability assessment. NORC will refine these questions as necessary and add sub-questions during the evaluability assessment and the evaluation design phases in consultation with USAID, USAID/Indonesia, and the implementing partner:

1. What effect did *Integritas* have on improving perceptions of corruption as measured by Transparency International Indonesia's Corruption Perceptions Index in the target provinces/districts as compared to non-target provinces/districts?

2. What effect did *Integritas* have on improving organizational conflicts of interest, including the procurement and bidding processes, in Government of Indonesia agencies in the target provinces/districts as compared to non-target provinces/districts?

3. Did the *Integritas* corruption prevention interventions reduce corruption in the target areas as compared to the non-target areas, and what impact did Integritas corruption prevention interventions have on reducing the annual cost of corruption in Indonesia?

Major Accomplishments and Challenges of Past Quarter:

NORC received this Tasking on December 9 but had not submitted the Concept Note and budget to USAID before the end of the reporting period.

Major Issues that Need to Be Resolved:

None.

TASKING N062: COMBATING TRANSNATIONAL CORRUPTION: GRAND CHALLENGE LEARNING AGENDA

Begin Date: TBD

End Date: TBD

Approved Budget: TBD

Team Members: TBD

Tasking Description:

USAID's Anti-Corruption Task Force (ACTF) is developing a new ***Combating Transnational Corruption Grand Challenge*** (the Grand Challenge) to galvanize, mobilize, and collaborate with a wide range of both traditional and nontraditional partners and actors in the fight against corruption, including businesses, associations and alliances, technologists and other innovators, philanthropists, other governments and donors, civil society organizations, and media. The ***Grand Challenge*** *will focus on developing, testing, and scaling solutions to transnational corruption with a particular focus on high-risk supply chains and illicit flows.* The Grand Challenge will crowdsource, fund, co-create, and scale forward-thinking solutions from partners across the globe to identify, expose, and disrupt transnational corruption.

To assist in scoping the issue of transnational corruption, this work will focus on corruption in global supply chains and the movement of ill-gotten gains (proceeds of corruption) out of the country where it is hard to reach and recover. This Tasking will include the following activities:

- Review existing literature, stakeholder mapping, virtual Key Informant Interviews, and/or focus group discussions with key stakeholders within and outside of USAID.
- Convene or participate in up to three virtual and up to two in-person learning workshops focused on identifying the drivers and mechanisms behind transnational corruption and recommending entry points where the Grand Challenge and its partners are best placed to intervene.
- Develop a draft problem statement, results statement, and theory of change for the Grand Challenge.
- Convene up to three virtual co-creation workshops with key stakeholders to test and validate the Grand Challenge problem statement, results statement, and theory of change and collaboratively define the scope of subsequent Grand Challenge activities to address the problem.

- In collaboration with USAID stakeholders and partners, develop a monitoring, evaluation, and learning plan for the Grand Challenge, including portfolio-level and grantee-level output and outcome indicators and data collection methodologies. Develop a learning agenda with learning questions for the Grand Challenge.

NORC received this Tasking during the reporting period but had not submitted the Concept Note and budget to USAID before the end of the period.

Major Accomplishments and Challenges of Past Quarter:

NORC received this Tasking on December 16 but had not submitted the Concept Note and budget to USAID before the end of the period.

Major Issues that Need to Be Resolved:

None.

2. FINANCIAL REPORT AND PROJECTED EXPENSES BY TASKING

DRG Tasking	Description	Expenditures Through Dec. 31, 2021	Projected Expenditures Through Sept. 30, 2022
8389.001	Basic Management Functions	877,811.12	257,500.00
8389.002	Cambodia DRG Assessment	223,121.69	-
8389.003	USAID/Burundi Assessment of CSO Service Capacity in the GBV, Youth, OVC, and Livelihoods Space	157,626.00	-
8389.004	Black Sea Trust (BST) for Regional Cooperation	374,876.85	-
8389.005	Ukraine ENGAGE Mid-Term Performance Evaluation	170,209.19	-
8389.006	USAID/Sierra Leone WELD Project Performance Evaluation	174,073.00	-
8389.007	Southern Africa Regional Accountability and Rule of Law Assessment	398,433.53	-
8389.008	USAID GBV Learning Agenda	601,312.07	
8389.009	DRG Measurement II	240,900.30	50,899.70
8389.010	Jordan DRG Assessment	249,724.97	-
8389.011	Bangladesh DRG Assessment	238,822.79	-
8389.012	Information Safety and Capacity Project Performance Evaluation	149,592.12	-
8389.013	Sierra Leone DRG Assessment	243,673.79	-
8389.015	Libya C-TIP Drivers & Messaging	20,353.59	-
8389.016	Libya C-TIP Smuggling & Governance	97,130.15	-
8389.017	Georgia DRG Assessment	271,666.25	-
8389.018	DRG-LER II Dissemination	78,275.12	120,551.88
8389.019	Senegal DRG Assessment	245,032.10	-
8389.020	Harvest of USAID Learning	95,665.97	39,889.62
8389.021	Theories of Change Inventory	300,245.89	-
8389.022	Strengthening Eurasian News Media PE	152,508.96	-
8389.023	PT Research Disinformation	473,516.63	-
8389.024	USAID Iraq IE Design	7,305.80	-
8389.025	PE of USAID/Morocco	199,117.37	-
8389.026	Nigeria DRG Assessment	297,009.69	-
8389.027	IE of USAID/Peru's Transparent Accountable Public Investment (TPI) Project	126,608.71	131,515.29
8389.028	Ecuador DRG Sector Review	59,953.00	-
8389.029	Health and Human Services (HHS) -USAID Data Sharing	94,986.00	-

DRG Tasking	Description	Expenditures Through Dec. 31, 2021	Projected Expenditures Through Sept. 30, 2022
8389.030	PE of the Strengthening Civil Society Globally Leader with Associates Award	114,866.00	-
8389.031	Novametrics Asia C-TIP and Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) Analysis	1,244,628.88	130,150.12
8389.032	Benin DRG Sector Review	95,129.00	-
8389.033	3ie Evidence Gap Maps (EGM)	1,051,489.31	154,884.69
8389.034	China and Sub Saharan Africa Democratic Norms and Values	317,145.61	(1,594.61)[3]
8389.035	Political Economy Analysis (PEA) Literature Reviews	71,686.94	35,535.06
8389.036	Rule of Law Achievements Review	449,671.70	898.00
8389.037	Social and Behavioral Change (SBC) Field Guide	59,348.84	-
8389.038	Learning Agenda Support	58,853.43	-
8389.039	COVID-19 and Governance Impact Evaluation: Mali	58,370.08	-
8389.040	Georgia Access Performance Evaluation	162,561.35	-
8389.041	USAID Policy on Promoting the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: Knowledge Base and Analysis Framework	104,279.76	30,602.24
8389.042	Autocratization Research	72,392.40	-
8389.043	Mali Reintegration IE	95,734.01	-
8389.044	RoL PT Researcher	45,228.65	54,149.35
8389.045	DRC CTIP Assessment	77,743.98	135,822.00
8389.046	Botswana CTIP Survey	129,289.08	186,491.92
8389.047	LEAP III	252,027.64	32,043.36
8389.048	Asia Online GBV	182,209.47	11,956.53
8389.049	Survey Repository	475.39	-
8389.050	African Fragility	72,500.30	218,695.70
8389.051	Timor-Leste CTIP Assessment	42,484.93	157,515.07
8389.052	Kenya Social Return	53,855.36	193,629.63
8389.053	Utilization Measurement	31,717.31	43,259.69
8389.054	GBV PPE	81,492.92	1,374,605.98
8389.055	Moldova CM PE	128,420.09	184,026.91
8389.056	Mali Justice Project PE	8,257.56	216,742.44
8389.057	PE of USAID's Response to COVID-19 Enabled Corruption	10,797.79	474,202.21
8389.058	DRG Policy Evidence Support	14,200.79	105,799.21
8389.059	Georgia Integration Performance Evaluation	9,944.26	160,055.73
8389.060	Assessment of the Women's Political Participation and Leadership in Guinea	3,705.61	406,024.24
8389.061	Indonesia *Integritas* Evaluation	0	TBD

[3] NORC will credit $1,594.61 back to the contract in the February 2022 invoice

DRG Tasking	Description	Expenditures Through Dec. 31, 2021	Projected Expenditures Through Sept. 30, 2022
8389.062	Combating Transnational Corruption Grand Challenge Learning Agenda	0	TBD
TOTALS		**$11,724,723.81**	**$4,905,851.96**