





WHO IS THE USGLC?

The U.S. Global Leadership Coalition (USGLC) is a broad-based influential network of over 500 businesses and NGOs; national security and foreign policy experts; and business, faith-based, academic, military, and community leaders in all 50 states who support strategic investments to elevate development and diplomacy alongside defense in order to build a better, safer world. The USGLC works in our nation's capital and across the country to educate and inspire support from the American public and policymakers on the importance of America's international affairs programs.

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2023 Global Impact Project Report

ABOUT THE GLOBAL IMPACT PROJECT

The Global Impact Project tells the story of how America's businesses, NGOs, foundations, and universities partner with the U.S. government and others to tackle some of the toughest global challenges to help make the world a better, safer, and healthier place.

Over the past two decades, American innovation, partnerships, and assistance have helped to cut extreme poverty in half and save millions of lives around the world—creating impact felt both abroad and in the United States. The return on investment has been unmatched here at home—working for America's economic and national security, while promoting our humanitarian values.

Now, rising conflicts and threats to democracy around the world, global humanitarian crises, food insecurity, global health threats, and climate disasters are threatening these gains, disproportionately impacting developing and emerging economies and risking setbacks to decades of progress for vulnerable populations worldwide.

Sustainable solutions to these threats can only be achieved when the private and public sectors partner together and develop innovative programming to capitalize on the strengths of one another.

That is why the public-private partnerships in this report with the U.S. Government, including the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and America's development agencies, as well as with NGOs, multilateral organizations, and others are now more important than ever.

And it is why America must keep catalyzing private sector resources to lead new approaches to solve the world's most pressing challenges—advancing our nation's security and economic interests during one of the most unprecedented global environments in history.

The following stories can also be found at usglc.org/impact



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Empowering Commercial Farming of Safe Bananas



Bangladesh

Supporting Farmer Productivity and Increased Incomes to Improve Food Security

SOWING THE SEEDS FOR SAFE AND PLENTIFUL FOOD

The impacts of escalating conflict, climate threats, economic uncertainty, and poverty have left nearly 800 million people worldwide facing chronic hunger, with more than 333 million people's lives in danger from acute food insecurity. Despite being one of the fastest-growing economies in the world, 40 million people in Bangladesh are still food insecure and 11 million continue to endure acute hunger. While Green Revolution technologies have been central to improving food security in Bangladesh, that progress is limited by the over-application of pesticides and the lack of a certifying authority for safe food that consumers trust. Creating the conditions for businesses and farmers to profit from providing safe and plentiful food starts with a systemic change to food market systems.

Bananas represent

20% of all fruits

produced in Bangladesh and are consumed by over 95 percent of the population





STRENGTHENING AGRIBUSINESS AND PROMOTING SAFE BANANAS

Bananas represent 20 percent of all fruits produced in Bangladesh and are consumed by over 95 percent of the population. The leading challenge in expanding banana production and consumption is adoption of agricultural practices that deliver predictably high quality and safe bananas. Currently, most bananas are ripened with calcium carbide, a ripening agent banned across South Asia for the risk it poses to both consumers and handlers. Given the lack of any accepted certifying authority or standard, convincing Bangladeshi consumers that a food product is safe is a challenge.

In response, the U.S. Agency for International Development's Feed the Future Bangladesh Horticulture, Fruits, and Non-Food Crops Activity (USAID Feed the Future Bangladesh Horticulture Activity) recognized the benefits of capitalizing on an opportunity to increase farmer incomes, banana productivity, and profit by linking Hanay FoodsPro, an innovative agribusiness, with three agri-based social enterprises, two agri-input companies, and a government agency. Hanay FoodsPro anchors the initiative, purchasing raw bananas from farmers and then managing washing, sorting, grading, and ripening in chambers using a globally-recognized safe process. The agri-based social enterprises connect Hanay FoodsPro to 6,000 banana farmers, while input providers deliver ripening bags, bio-pesticides, and fertilizers. Beginning in 2024, they also plan to deliver disease-free banana plantlets.

Growing Impact

With assistance from the USAID Feed the Future Bangladesh Horticulture Activity, sales of branded safe and high-quality bananas by Hanay FoodsPro have quadrupled in only four months, even with a sales price higher than regular bananas. Farmers have received training in improved farming and harvest methods, with topics including plot land and planting preparation, application methods for biological pesticides, and proper use of biodegradable banana bags. It is clear that investing in public-private partnerships can effectively drive innovation and create impact—adding immense value in ways that benefit farmers and promote food security. Providing targeted training and improving the quality of bananas is just one facet of how Chemonics is partnering with USAID to support farmer productivity and increase incomes through the Feed the Future Bangladesh Horticulture Activity.

Closing the Gender Gap in Climate Finance and Spurring Innovation



Global

Boosting Climate Funding to Support Women and Female Entrepreneurs

GENDER EQUITY AND THE CHALLENGE OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate change continues to exacerbate global hunger, migration, and conflict, with women and girls often bearing the brunt of these negative impacts. When taken together, gender inequality and the climate crisis represent one of the greatest threats to society, amplifying inequalities that adversely affect the well-being, livelihood, and security of women and girls around the globe.

Committed a total of

\$53M

to reduce existing barriers for women and girls as they seek access to climate finance





ACCELERATING WOMEN'S CLIMATE INNOVATION

As leaders, innovators, collaborators, and entrepreneurs, women are essential to solving the climate crisis and are powerful advocates at the forefront of finding climate solutions. Despite this potential for impact, the gender gap persists in the climate finance ecosystem with women and girls facing significant hurdles and barriers to accessing financing for designing and scaling gender-responsive climate solutions.

In 2021, more than \$600 billion was directed toward climate-related investments. However, gender-lens investing and investments focused on women-led solutions to climate change accounted for less than \$20 billion. However, research and data shows that women-led businesses driven by social responsibility and a commitment to innovation—informed by their own life experience on the front lines of climate change—are likely to produce a better return on investment. Thus, reducing the gender disparity in access to climate finance is not only the right thing to do but also represents an immense opportunity for change and growth.

Impact

In an effort to tackle the challenge of gender equity in climate finance and spur women and girls' climate innovation, Amazon partnered with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to help launch the Climate Gender Equity Fund (CGEF) at COP27 in November 2022, serving as the first private sector funding partner. Amazon has committed a total of \$53 million, including \$3 million toward the USAID partnership, to reduce existing barriers for women and girls as they seek access to climate finance. As part of Amazon's Climate Pledge—a commitment to becoming a net-zero company by 2040—the company allocated an additional \$50 million to accelerate investment in women-founded and women-led climate tech companies through the Female Founder's Initiative of The Climate Pledge Fund, which is Amazon's corporate investment arm that invests in climate tech that can help Amazon decarbonize its operations.

Since announcing these commitments, Amazon's Climate Pledge Fund has invested in a woman-led climate tech called Genecis—which uses organic waste as an alternative to plastic packaging by creating a biodegradable bioplastic. Additionally, in January 2023 at the North American Leaders' Summit in Mexico City, Amazon joined with the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) to launch a new public-private partnership in support of the Academy for Women Entrepreneurs (AWE) program in Mexico and Brazil to promote gender equity. Advancing gender equality and equitable access to climate finance is a critical step toward solving climate change, and these investments will help ensure that women innovators and entrepreneurs have the resources they need to continue to innovate and scale climate solutions.

Unlocking Economic Potential

Global

UPS Advances the Global Economy through Women's Economic Empowerment



CLOSING THE ENTREPRENEURSHIP GAP

Between 2016 and 2021, 15 out of the 26 OECD countries saw the gender gap among entrepreneurs close. But much of that progress was undone by the COVID-19 pandemic which had an outsized impact on women-operated businesses. As half of the world's population, closing this gap and empowering women can play a key role in boosting the economy and uplifting many out of poverty.

According to a 2022 World Bank Report, women continue to face challenges, from structural and legal barriers to normative stereotypes around gender and education, that inhibit their ability to participate in trade. As many as 288 million to 433 million jobs worldwide could be created by closing the disparity between men and women entrepreneurs worldwide

That's why the UPS Foundation launched the Women Exporters Program (WEP) to help address the disparity in education and workforce participation between men and women by providing targeted assistance to women-owned small and medium-sized businesses (SMBs) worldwide.

Trained over

110,000

women & small business owners
to grow their businesses worldwide





SMALL BUSINESS IS THE CORNERSTONE OF GLOBAL ECONOMY

As part of its commitment to advancing global women's economic empowerment, the UPS Foundation works with government agencies—from the U.S. State Department, the United Nations, and the World Trade Organization—and other non-governmental organizations stakeholders in implementing the UPS Women's Exporters Program (WEP) to help address the gender disparity in education and workforce.

The program assists women-owned small and medium-sized businesses (SMBs) worldwide navigate the international trade export process, expand business reach, grow revenues, and hire and invest in their families and local communities.

To help women overcome those challenges, WEP provides education access through webinars and training on international trade subjects, such as skills to build skills in e-commerce and digital trade, access to financing, warehousing, logistics and packaging, and instructions for tariff and trade regulations.

Impact

Since its inception, the UPS Women Exporters Program has trained over 110,000 women and small business owners to grow their businesses worldwide. In Latin America, WEP has trained more than 4,500 women and SMBs. In Turkey, 15,000 women and small business owners have been trained, and in Vietnam, 700 women underwent the training, which led to an estimated \$2.3 million in trade generation. The program also enabled US\$382 million in trade and investment opportunities.

The private and public partnerships also aim to overcome barriers to free trade and identify suitable channels for export to the United States. The women trained in Ecuador through the program, for example, have expressed a strong interest and desire to export products to the United States. The WEP training allowed the participants to scale their businesses and promote economic growth in local communities.

To ensure the success and growth of the program, UPS surveyed small and medium-sized business programs. The finding suggested that there was an equity shift. In the last year, women opened more businesses than men. And women-owned businesses tend to have more women in management roles. In Indonesia, 73% of female-led firms registered positive revenue growth, up considerably from 56% in 2020.

The survey also indicated that female-led small and medium-sized businesses have prioritized digitizing operations and sales over the last three years to grow their business. SMBs with an online and multimarket presence had much stronger revenue growth in the last year than those that did not.

Restoring Watersheds

Global

Water Scarcity

WATER RUNNING OUT

A quarter of the world's population—between 2 and 3 billion people—are currently without access to safe drinking water. In the United States alone, 2.2 million people have no water at home and 44 million Americans are served by water systems with quality issues. And the supply of available fresh water—is shrinking. Soon, there will be 40% more demand for water than global supply. This brings real risks to global health and safety. With 3.6 billion people lacking access to safely managed sanitation, diseases are more likely to spread. It hurts prosperity and opportunity as millions of people—usually women—who must travel for hours each day to get fresh water are unable to learn or earn a living. Without the needed groundwater for agriculture, people cannot grow the food they need, making mass migration more likely.



Replenished

159%

of the water used in their finished beverages globally and returned 291 billion liters of water to nature and communities





Photo Credit: Natalie Hood / Getty Images

A FRESHWATER NATURE

Water is not only essential to life, it is the nexus that links the health and wellbeing of people and communities, economic prosperity, and environmental health. It is essential to global businesses like The Coca-Cola Company, which depends on water resources for the beverages and the communities they serve. That is why, with operations in more than 200 countries and territories, Coca-Cola has made water a priority. Starting in 2015, it became the first Fortune 500 company to replenish all water used in its global beverage production—a goal they have continued to meet each year. And, to build on that, it launched its 2030 Water Security Strategy with a goal of 100% regenerative water use in water-stressed areas by reducing, reusing, recycling, and locally replenishing the water they use. The strategy accelerates actions needed to increase water security where it operates, sources ingredients and touches lives with a focus on priority watersheds. It also aims to improve the health of 60 critical watersheds and return a cumulative 2 trillion liters of water to nature and communities between 2021 and 2030.

Impact

In 2022 alone, The Coca-Cola Company replenished 159% of the water used in their finished beverages globally and returned 291 billion liters of water to nature and communities.

In the United States, the company works with a variety of partners on water restoration projects. They have closely collaborated with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) over the last decade to restore watersheds on National Forest system lands, replenishing 2.4 billion liters of water to communities and nature through 25 projects across nine states. A new agreement with the USDA will advance their goal to return a cumulative 2 trillion liters of water to nature and communities globally between 2021 and 2030.

In Bursa, Turkey, The Coca-Cola system is taking action to improve water-use efficiency and watershed health across its operations while supporting local farmers and communities. A local watershed stewardship plan is driving water efficiency improvements in its İçecek bottling plant and with support from The Coca-Cola Foundation, helping local fruit farmers adopt effective irrigation practices and improve water quality.

In Latin America and the Caribbean, 25% of the population lack access to safely managed drinking water services. Climate change, urbanization, accelerated water usage, and inadequate infrastructure are among the leading causes. In response to this, Coca-Cola Latin America, in alliance with the Global Environment Technology Foundation and local civil society organizations, designed and launched a platform called Aliados por el Agua (Aliados) to help improve access to water, sanitation and hygiene across 18 countries by 2030. In 2022, the program implemented more than 30 projects across 12 countries, in partnership with 26 civil society organizations, as well as local municipalities, utility providers and communities, and funding from the foundation.

Powerful Partnerships Drive Efforts to Eliminate Neglected Tropical Diseases



Global

Working Together to Improve Lives

More than one billion people around the world are impacted by neglected tropical diseases (NTDs). A diverse group of conditions disproportionately affecting poor and marginalized populations, NTDs can cause disability, including blindness, stigma, and pain. The impact of NTDs can be far-reaching, leading to malnutrition, cognitive impairment, stunted growth, inability to attend school, and billions of dollars in lost productivity each year.

Five of the most prevalent NTDs—trachoma, lymphatic filariasis, onchocerciasis, schistosomiasis, and soil-transmitted helminth infections—can be addressed through the administration of safe, effective medicines to whole populations. Effective treatment of at-risk communities for a number of years, combined with the strengthening of health systems, can result in the control and elimination of the diseases. Alongside non-governmental and private sector partners, the U.S. government has been steadily progressing the fight against NTDs for decades, thanks to longstanding bipartisan commitment.

More than

\$29.9B

in medicine

have been donated to the countries supported by USAID's NTD program

SUPPORTING THE SUSTAINABLE DELIVERY OF NTD SERVICES

For more than 17 years, RTI International has supported governments to deliver successful, integrated, cost-effective, and sustainable programs to control and eliminate NTDs. To date, RTI's initiatives have supported governments to provide more 2.2 billion treatments to more than 223 million people living in NTD endemic areas, often in the most remote and hard-to-reach communities.

Through the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) Act to End Neglected Tropical Diseases I East program, RTI and partners are supporting governments to reach their populations with treatment, conduct surveys to assess impact, and strengthen health systems to deliver NTD services. From technical assistance on policy and governance, and human resources, to support for domestic resource mobilization, USAID and RTI are working hand-in-hand with governments to integrate NTD priorities into routine planning, financing, service delivery, and monitoring.

Through internally funded research, RTI is also identifying critical knowledge gaps and piloting innovative approaches to accelerate progress toward NTD elimination.





Photo Credit: USAID

Photo credit: Sala Lewis/International Trachoma Initiative



Photo credit: Sala Lewis/International Trachoma Initiative

CHANGING THE WORLD ONE DOSE AT A TIME

Trachoma—the leading infectious cause of blindness globally—is a public health threat for an estimated 125 million people who remain at continued risk, living in hyperendemic areas of Africa, Latin America, Asia, Australia, and the Middle East. An estimated 1.9 million people suffer visual impairment because of infection, and women are up to four times more likely to be blinded by trachoma than men.

For over 25 years, Pfizer and the International Trachoma Initiative (ITI)—which is a program of the Task Force for Global Health—have galvanized trachoma elimination efforts in support of the World Health Organization (WHO) 2030 NTD control and elimination roadmap. With governmental and nongovernmental agencies at local, national, and international levels, such as United Nations agencies, WHO, and USAID, Pfizer, the ITI and others have delivered more than 1 billion doses of Pfizer donated antibiotics as part of the WHO-endorsed S.A.F.E. strategy, which includes: surgery to treat the blinding stage of trachoma; antibiotics to clear infection; facial cleanliness; and environmental improvement for water and sanitation access.

In June 2022, Pfizer announced the extension of its antibiotic donation program through 2030, enabling continued trachoma elimination programs in 18 countries globally.

Lasting Impact

Decades of progress have demonstrated that the end of NTDs is within reach. Already 50 countries globally have eliminated at least one NTD, marking the halfway to the target set forth in the World Health Organization Road Map for NTDs.

While challenges remain, thanks to global elimination efforts, the global burden of trachoma has been reduced by 92% since 2002, with an estimated 217.9 million people now believed to live free from the risk of trachoma. At the national level, 18 countries have officially eliminated trachoma as a public health problem and additional countries nearing elimination, including Burkina Faso, Burundi, Eritrea, Guatemala, Guinea Bissau, Mauritania, Senegal, and Vietnam—a testament to the collaboration between Pfizer, ITI, WHO and USAID, country governments and civil society organizations.

Efforts to eliminate NTDs are one of the most successful public-private partnerships in global health history, thanks to the commitment of USAID, private-sector pharmaceutical partners like Pfizer, and non-governmental partners such as RTI. To date, more than \$29.9 billion in donated medicines have been donated to the countries supported by USAID's NTD program. For every \$1 invested by the U.S. government, \$26 have been leveraged in donated medicines, ensuring that treatments reach those in need. More than just big numbers, these programs have improved the quality of life for hundreds of millions of people and strengthened sustainable, country-led programs around the world.

Building a Democracy to Last

Iraq

Delivering Results That Build Faith in Government

Twenty years after the U.S. invasion of Iraq, the country is, according to a 2023 Washington Post editorial, “more peaceful and prosperous than at any time in the past two generations. It is a democracy, albeit a fragile one, which is a rarity in the Arab world. Baghdad is thriving. Oil exports are flowing. Foreign investors are betting on the country’s growth.” But this progress was never guaranteed. Over the past two decades, Iraq’s fledgling democracy has faced a number of challenges to building public trust, including periodic provincial protests over issues like corruption, unemployment, and water resource management.



More than

40M Iraqis

have been reached, with millions seeing measurably improved service delivery



Photo Credit: USAID IGPA



Photo credit: USAID IGPA



Photo credit: USAID IGPA

BUILDING TRUST

Launched in 2017 by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), DAI's Iraq Governance and Performance Accountability (IGPA/Takamul) Project directly addressed these concerns by working with Iraq's federal, regional, and provincial governments to improve accountability, transparency, efficiency, and delivery of services.

One of the greatest opportunities for change in Iraq's government that would create economic growth while improving access to resources, such as clean water was the contract and bidding process for new infrastructure projects. Government contracts remain a major source of economic activity in Iraq while also delivering public services, but the bidding process has historically been long and tedious, often slowing down the bidding preparation time, deterring companies from bidding, reducing competition, and causing construction problems during contract execution. Ending these delays would create new employment opportunities while fulfilling basic and essential government services like clean water and waste management.

Among its many contributions to Iraqi governance, DAI's IGPA/Takamul streamlined the bidding process—including developing standard bidding documents (SBD) for small- and medium-sized projects—to make procurement more responsive and transparent while reducing delays in contract execution. Since these small- and medium-sized projects represent 70% of all government projects, more competition and better delivery has had a real impact on the everyday lives of Iraqis. IGPA/Takamul also updated nine SBDs to streamline the bidding process, making the procurement more responsive and transparent, and reducing delays in contract execution.

Impact

Thanks to the IGPA/Takamul Project, more than 40 million Iraqis have been reached, with millions seeing measurably improved service delivery—something that is crucial to building faith in government and maintaining the social contract. That includes improved operations at critical water treatment plants serving 8.1 million Iraqis (18.4% of federal water production). And thanks to new waste management practices implemented at the municipal level, the cost of service has dropped 50% while serving 5 times as many households as before. Additionally, the more streamlined procurement process assisted with 495 projects worth \$3.6 billion and enabled another 195 projects worth \$946.8 million to be awarded for implementation. And 1,500 projects worth \$3.8 billion that had been suspended or delayed were reviewed in order to resolve the root causes for the delays.

Safeguarding Reconstruction and Recovery in Ukraine



Ukraine

Ensuring Transparency and Accountability in Ukraine's Reconstruction and Recovery Efforts

UNPRECEDENTED WARTIME SUPPORT

Ukraine's ability to survive and recover after Russia's full-scale war depends not just on territorial integrity but also on governmental integrity. Alongside the military battles, Ukraine continues to wage a less visible battle—a battle against corruption, which dates to the 2014 Revolution of Dignity. For several years, critical donor-funded programs to promote government integrity have been helping Ukraine in this fight. Now, hard-earned, democratic gains are paying dividends as Ukraine strives to meet conditions for European Union membership.

More than **45** civil society organizations

partnered with USAID to promote sustainable anti-corruption practices across Ukraine



Photo caption: Participants of the 3rd annual Whistleblowers Conference in Kyiv, July 2023.



Photo caption: SACCI COP Eka Tkeshelashvili and National Agency for Civil Service (NACS) Chairperson Nataliya Alyushyna during MOU signing ceremony between SACCI and NACS in Kyiv, April 2023.





Photo Caption: Architecture of Transparent and Accountable Recovery conference in Kyiv, September 2022.



Photo caption: Ukrainian Railways (UZ) employees during 'Resilience Against Corruption' workshop supported by SACCI and delivered by Basel Institute on Governance, Kyiv, May 2023. For security reasons the workshop was conducted in a hotel basement.

PROTECTING DEMOCRATIC GAINS

Since 2017, Management System International (MSI), a Tetra Tech Company, has implemented the Support to Anti-Corruption Champion Institutions (SACCI) program, funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), and builds upon previous programs it implemented for more than two decades. This project takes place alongside other critical programs implemented by Tetra Tech in energy, humanitarian de-mining, infrastructure and monitoring of non-security assistance.

As this project comes to a close in 2024, SACCI's efforts have been recognized by USAID and the U.S. Embassy as making significant contributions to anti-corruption efforts, in spite of the challenging war time conditions, including conscription of key staff and the challenges of hiring civil servants due to martial law.

SACCI was one of the first USAID projects to engage the newly established State Agency for Restoration and Development of Infrastructure, which is at the epicenter of effective and transparent implementation of the country's current rapid recovery and post-war reconstruction projects. SACCI provided critical assistance to boost the capacity of its anti-corruption unit.

The project also pivoted its activities when the war started to provide assistance to the Ministry for Restoration. This assistance is also integral to establishing the systems and capacity to safeguard the transparency and integrity of reconstruction. In summer 2023, SACCI brought together leaders of the reconstruction efforts from Ukraine and international partners to support the "Winning Ukraine's Future" Conference, sponsored by the Ministry. SACCI also supported the State Audit Service of Ukraine to establish effective procurement controls to ensure a more comprehensive approach to financial control, oversight, and anti-corruption.

EMPOWERING CITIZENS AND CIVIL SOCIETY TO LEAD

USAID and other donors are also supporting efforts to ensure that citizens and NGOs are further empowered to report corruption, particularly given civil society activism and the role of corruption watchdogs, which emerged more robustly after the 2014 Revolution of Dignity. SACCI finalized and completed the handover of a Whistleblower Reporting Portal, which allows anonymous reporting by any employee of select Ukrainian institutions who suspect or have witnessed corruption.

SACCI also supported NGO advocacy toward adoption of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy and assisted with the drafting of the State Anti-Corruption Program, which is the implementation plan for the Strategy and will drive the anti-corruption reform agenda through 2025. SACCI engaged with a wide range of civil society grantees, including the RISE coalition and the Digital Restoration Ecosystem for Accountable Management (DREAM) platform. The DREAM ecosystem interacts with nine systems including the registration of damaged and destroyed property and the DIIA citizen services app to contribute to a comprehensive online system to track restoration project implementation at every stage.

The SACCI project is proud to have supported the U.S. government, working side by side with Ukraine to help secure its future.



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