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INTEGRATED LAND AND RESOURCE GOVERNANCE (ILRG) GLOBAL

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The majority of land in developing countries is not documented, and hundreds of millions of households in rural and urban areas lack secure rights to the land and resources they live and rely on. This impacts their ability and incentive to make long-term investments and it often limits access to finance. As a result, these individuals are particularly vulnerable, especially in the event of conflict or natural disaster. Countries where property rights are perceived as insecure are less attractive for investors and more reliant on donor funding. USAID recognizes that strengthening rights to land and natural resources is central to achieving a broad range of development goals on the journey to self-reliance including: conflict prevention and mitigation; countering violent extremism; realizing inclusive economic growth; managing biodiversity and natural resources sustainably; enhancing agricultural productivity; generating own source revenue; and empowering women and vulnerable populations.

USAID's Integrated Land and Resource Governance (ILRG) program – managed by the E3/Land and Urban Office – is a flexible field support mechanism that works with USAID Missions to provide both short- and long-term assistance. The program gives USAID operating units and missions around the world an opportunity to request support for a wide array of services to improve land and resource governance, strengthen property rights, and build resilient livelihoods as the foundation for strong economic growth, stability, resilience, and self-reliance. ILRG's services have been used to support a number of US government strategic foreign assistance initiatives and earmarks, including democracy and rule of law; gender equality and women's empowerment; Feed the Future; conflict mitigation and management; economic growth; biodiversity and natural resource management; and global climate change. A common approach is for the mechanism to work with a Mission to undertake assessments, and subsequently develop activities to address land and resource governance constraints.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Ceiling: \$25 Million

Period of Performance: July 2018 – July 2021 (plus 2 option years to July 2023)

Available for Mission Buy-in: Yes

Competitive Procurement Required for New Activities: No

ILRG's engagements to date have been focused on four countries: Ghana, India, Mozambique, and Zambia. In Ghana, the project collaborates with the private sector (Hershey's) to test a farm rehabilitation and land tenure strengthening model to increase cocoa productivity and reduce deforestation around smallholder cocoa farms. In India, the project supports a partnership between USAID and PepsiCo to economically empower women in PepsiCo's potato supply chain. In Mozambique, the project supports communities to document their land rights, make decisions about land use, resolve land disputes, and be prepared to engage with private sector agribusiness. In Zambia, the project supports the land policy process, customary land administration and service delivery, capacity-building for civil society and government, and natural resource governance and tenure around protected areas to improve wildlife management. ILRG will also work in Liberia to evaluate the impact of community land protection activities on livelihoods.

The ILRG consortium includes seven partners: Tetra Tech (prime contractor); Columbia University; Land Alliance; Landesa; Terra Firma; Innola Solutions; and Winrock International. The program will also work with in-country partners through a \$2.5 million grants under contract component.

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