

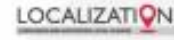


Localization at USAID

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Localization is the set of internal reforms, actions, and behavior changes USAID is undertaking to ensure our work puts local actors in the lead, strengthens local systems, and is responsive to local communities.

Source: www.usaid.gov/localization



LOCALIZATION AT USAID: THE VISION AND APPROACH

AUGUST 2022



"If we truly want to make aid inclusive, local voices need to be at the center of everything we do."

ADMINISTRATOR SAMANTHA POWER

A RENEWED COMMITMENT TO LOCALIZATION IN PURSUIT OF LOCALLY LED ACTION FOR SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS

Today's global development and humanitarian challenges are vast, demanding, and complex. They are also inherently local, shaped by the unique histories, power dynamics, and other factors specific to each context in which they occur. Our response to these challenges must build on the priorities, knowledge, and aspirations of the people who live there every day and know their best.

USAID is reaffirming our commitment to shift more leadership to priority setting, project design, implementation, and measuring results to the people and institutions with the capabilities and credibility to drive change in their own countries and communities. Our engagement must become more inclusive, equitable, and responsive to the needs, priorities, and solutions of the communities, organizations, and people in the countries in which we work. This is both the right thing to do and a smarter use of resources. When USAID empowers local actors—and our efforts are responsive to local priorities, draw upon local capacities, diverse networks, and resources, and are accountable to local communities—we expect that results are more likely to be sustained by local organizations and institutions. Our engagement helps elevate the voices of marginalized populations who have long been silenced. We recognize that development agencies such as USAID cannot, on their own, drive lasting change in the places they work. Instead, our role is to support and catalyze local change efforts and processes.

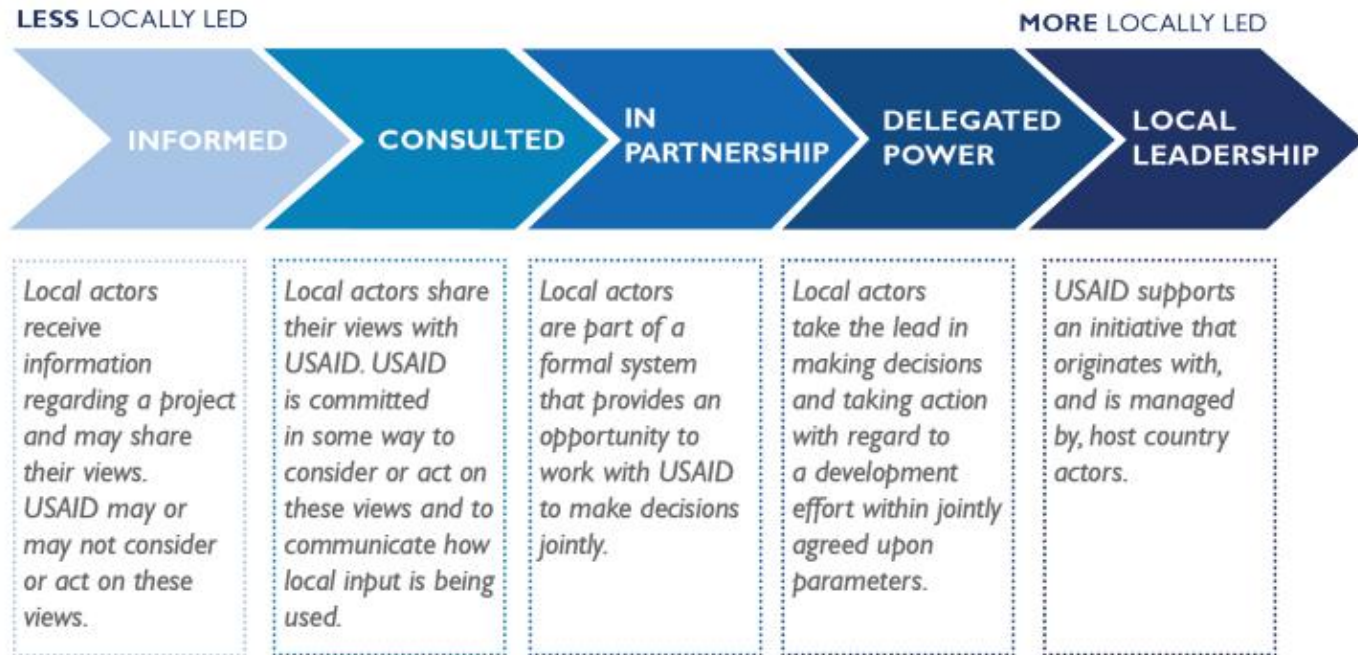
Localization is the set of internal reforms, actions, and behavior changes USAID is undertaking to ensure our work puts local actors in the lead, strengthens local systems, and is responsive to local communities. Over the past decade, we have redistributed thought leadership, invested in innovative processes, and adopted acquisition and assistance reforms to elevate local leadership and strengthen local systems. We have partnered with local organizations, provided project-based assistance to governments, and sought to shift power from foreign intermediaries to local implementers. But we must

Localization Pillars

1. Adapt policies & programs
 - Locally led development
 - Local systems practice
 - Local capacity strengthening
2. Shift power to local actors to ensure meaningful seat at table
 - Inclusive development
3. Channel a larger portion of assistance directly to local actors.
 - Assistance & acquisition
4. Serve as a public advocate and thought leader.
 - Global engagement



Approach: Locally Led Development



Source: *What is Locally Led Development*

Approach: Local Systems Practice

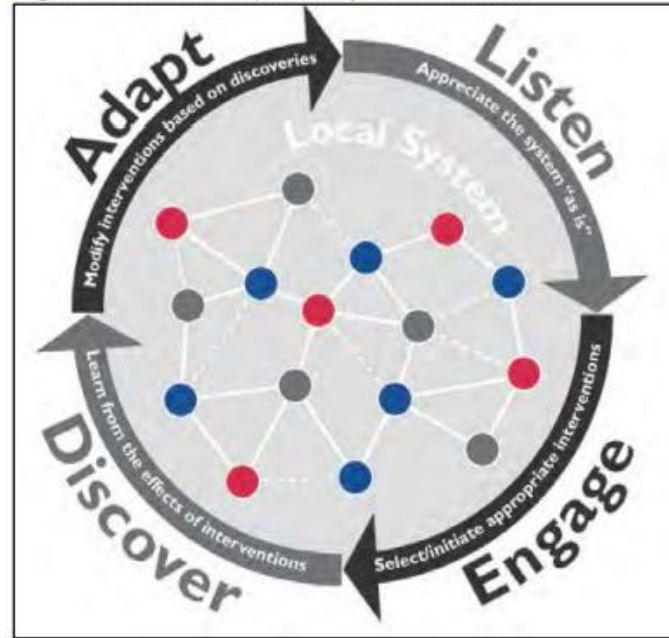


LOCAL SYSTEMS:
A FRAMEWORK FOR SUPPORTING
SUSTAINED DEVELOPMENT

APRIL 2014

Source: *USAID Local Systems Framework Policy*

Figure 1. The Four Phases of Systems Practice.



Source: *The 5Rs in the Program Cycle*

Approach: Local Capacity Strengthening

PRINCIPLES FOR EFFECTIVE PROGRAMMING OF LOCAL CAPACITY STRENGTHENING



Start with the local system.



Strengthen diverse capacities through diverse approaches.



Plan for and measure performance improvement in collaboration with local partners.

PRINCIPLES FOR EQUITABLE PARTNERSHIPS IN LOCAL CAPACITY STRENGTHENING



Align capacity strengthening with local priorities.



Appreciate and build on existing capacities.



Be mindful of and mitigate the unintended consequences of our support for local capacity strengthening.



Practice mutuality with local partners.

Source: www.usaid.gov/policy/local-capacity-strengthening



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