

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2629

To establish in the United States Agency for International Development an entity to be known as the United States Global Development Lab, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 3, 2016

Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. COONS, Mr. KAINE, and Mr. MARKEY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

A BILL

To establish in the United States Agency for International Development an entity to be known as the United States Global Development Lab, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Global Development
5 Lab Act of 2016”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress makes the following findings:

8 (1) The effectiveness of United States foreign
9 assistance can be greatly enhanced by fostering in-

1 novation, applying science and technology, and
2 leveraging the expertise and resources of the private
3 sector to find low-cost, common sense solutions to
4 today’s most pressing development challenges.

5 (2) Breakthroughs that accelerate economic
6 growth and produce better health outcomes in devel-
7 oping countries can help support the growth of
8 healthier, more stable societies and foster trade rela-
9 tionships that translate into jobs and economic
10 growth in the United States.

11 (3) In 2014, the Office of Science and Tech-
12 nology and the Office of Innovation and Develop-
13 ment Alliances at the United States Agency for
14 International Development (USAID) were stream-
15 lined and merged into the United States Global De-
16 velopment Lab.

17 (4) The Lab partners with entrepreneurs, ex-
18 perts, nongovernmental organizations, universities,
19 and science and research institutions to find solu-
20 tions to specific development challenges in a faster,
21 more cost-efficient, and more sustainable way.

22 (5) The Lab utilizes competitive innovation in-
23 centive awards, a “pay-for-success” model, whereby
24 a development challenge is identified, competitions
25 are launched, ideas with the greatest potential for

1 success are selected and tested, and awards are pro-
2 vided only after the objectives of a competition have
3 been substantially achieved.

4 (6) Enhancing the authorities that support this
5 pay-for-success model will better enable the Lab to
6 diversify and expand both the number and sources
7 of ideas that may be developed, tested, and brought
8 to scale, thereby increasing USAID's opportunity to
9 apply high value, low-cost solutions to specific devel-
10 opment challenges.

11 **SEC. 3. UNITED STATES GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT LAB.**

12 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in
13 USAID an entity to be known as the United States Global
14 Development Lab.

15 (b) DUTIES.—The duties of the Lab shall include—

16 (1) increasing the application of science, tech-
17 nology, innovation and partnerships to develop and
18 scale new solutions to end extreme poverty;

19 (2) discovering, testing, and scaling develop-
20 ment innovations to increase cost effectiveness and
21 support United States foreign policy and develop-
22 ment goals;

23 (3) leveraging the expertise, resources, and in-
24 vestment of businesses, nongovernmental organiza-
25 tions, science and research organizations, and uni-

1 versities to increase program impact and sustain-
2 ability;

3 (4) utilizing innovation-driven competitions to
4 expand the number and diversity of solutions to de-
5 velopment challenges; and

6 (5) supporting USAID missions and bureaus in
7 applying science, technology, innovation, and part-
8 nership approaches to decisionmaking, procurement,
9 and program design.

10 (c) AUTHORITIES.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the duties of
12 the Lab under subsection (b), the Administrator, in
13 addition to such other authorities as may be avail-
14 able to the Administrator, including authorities
15 under part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961
16 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.), and subject to the limita-
17 tions described in paragraph (3), is authorized to—

18 (A) use not more than \$15,000,000 of
19 funds made available to carry out the provisions
20 of sections 103, 105, 106, 214, and sections
21 251 through 255, and chapter 10 of part I of
22 the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 in a fiscal
23 year to provide funding to improve health out-
24 comes;

1 (B) provide innovation incentive awards
2 (as defined in section 4(5) of this Act); and

3 (C) use funds made available to carry out
4 the provisions of part I of the Foreign Assist-
5 ance Act of 1961 for the employment of not
6 more than 30 individuals on a limited term
7 basis pursuant to schedule A of subpart C of
8 part 213 of title 5, Code of Federal Regula-
9 tions, or similar provisions of law or regula-
10 tions.

11 (2) RECOVERY OF FUNDS.—

12 (A) AUTHORITY.—

13 (i) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the
14 duties of the Lab under subsection (b), the
15 Administrator, subject to the limitation de-
16 scribed in clause (ii), is authorized to re-
17 quire a person or entity that receives fund-
18 ing under a grant, contract, or cooperative
19 agreement made by the Lab to return to
20 the Lab any program income that is attrib-
21 utable to funding under such grant, con-
22 tract, or cooperative agreement.

23 (ii) LIMITATION.—The amount of pro-
24 gram income that a person or entity is re-
25 quired to return to the Lab under clause

1 (i) shall not exceed the amount of funding
2 that the person or entity received under
3 the grant, contract, or cooperative agree-
4 ment.

5 (B) TREATMENT OF PAYMENTS.—

6 (i) IN GENERAL.—The amount of any
7 program income returned to the Lab pur-
8 suant to subparagraph (A) may be credited
9 to the account from which the obligation
10 and expenditure of funds under the grant,
11 contract, or cooperative agreement de-
12 scribed in subparagraph (A) was made.

13 (ii) AVAILABILITY.—

14 (I) IN GENERAL.—Except as pro-
15 vided in subclause (II), amounts re-
16 turned and credited to an account
17 under clause (i)—

18 (aa) shall be merged with
19 other funds in the account; and

20 (bb) shall be available for
21 the same purposes and period of
22 time for which other funds in the
23 account are available for pro-
24 grams and activities of the Lab.

1 (II) EXCEPTION.—Amounts re-
2 turned and credited to an account
3 under clause (i) may not be used to
4 pay for the employment of individuals
5 described in paragraph (1)(C).

6 (3) LIMITATIONS.—

7 (A) IN GENERAL.—Concurrent with the
8 submission of the Congressional Budget Jus-
9 tification for Foreign Operations for each fiscal
10 year, the Administrator shall submit to the ap-
11 propriate congressional committees a detailed
12 accounting of USAID’s use of authorities under
13 this section, including the sources, amounts,
14 and uses of funding under each of paragraphs
15 (1) and (2).

16 (B) INNOVATION INCENTIVE AWARDS.—In
17 providing innovation incentive awards under
18 paragraph (1)(B), the Administrator shall no-
19 tify the appropriate congressional committees
20 not later than 15 days after providing any such
21 award.

22 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

23 In this Act:

1 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
2 trator” means the Administrator of the United
3 States Agency for International Development.

4 (2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
5 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
6 mittees” means—

7 (A) the Committees on Foreign Relations
8 and the Committee on Appropriations of the
9 Senate; and

10 (B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and
11 the Committee on Appropriations of the House
12 of Representatives.

13 (3) INNOVATION INCENTIVE AWARD.—The term
14 “innovation incentive award” means the provision of
15 funding on a competitive basis that—

16 (A) encourages and rewards the develop-
17 ment of solutions for a particular, well-defined
18 problem relating to the alleviation of poverty; or

19 (B) helps identify and promote a broad
20 range of ideas and practices, facilitating further
21 development of an idea or practice by third par-
22 ties.

23 (4) LAB.—The term “Lab” means the United
24 States Global Development Lab established under
25 section 3.

1 (5) USAID.—The term “USAID” means the
2 United States Agency for International Develop-
3 ment.

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