



Community Solutions

INVESTING IN LEADERS FOR STRONGER COMMUNITIES



About the Community Solutions Program

The Community Solutions Program brings the best and brightest global community leaders working in Transparency & Accountability, Tolerance & Conflict Resolution, Environmental Issues, and Women & Gender Issues from around the world to the U.S. for an intensive professional development program. Leaders bring years of experience to community development in the U.S. while strengthening their capacity for leadership and development in their home countries. Through tailored fellowships, leaders gain hands-on experience in community work; collaborate and learn best practices through an online leadership institute; and create action plans for community-based initiatives back home.

Program Activities

Four-month U.S. Fellowship: Community Solutions leaders work in community-based, non-profit organizations or government offices across the U.S. where they work in partnership with American counterparts to address local issues.

Community Leadership Institute (CLI): Community Solutions leaders develop leadership and organizational management skills through online courses and in-person training that complement their community placements.

Follow-on Projects: Community Solutions leaders develop follow-on community projects in partnership with their U.S. hosts. Follow-on projects will be completed after leaders return to their home countries.

Eligible Countries

2016

Albania, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Cambodia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ghana, Guinea, Haiti, Hungary, Indonesia, Israel, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Moldova, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Romania, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syria, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad & Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, Vietnam, West Bank/Gaza, Zambia, Zimbabwe



“ Through the Community Solutions Program, I learned what I am capable of— moving, living in a foreign country, working in a new environment— and it made me understand that I am good at what I do and have a lot to give in different contexts and to my organization. ”

**Maria Clara Piedrahita,
Colombia**



Profile of a Leader: Rosebill Satha

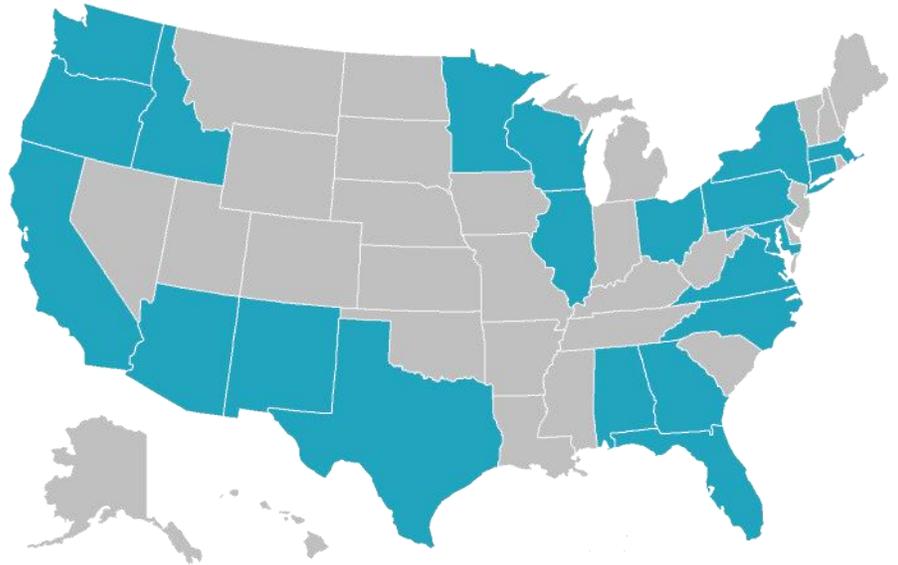
Home Country: Malawi

U.S. Host Organization: Micro-Enterprise Training & Assistance (META), Boise, ID

CSP Focus Area: Women & Gender Issues

Rosebill Satha is the founder and manager of JARDS Products, an innovative social business that produces unique, eco-friendly bamboo products while empowering youth and women through job skills development and stable employment. She also trains women entrepreneurs and others on the importance of gender equality and equity in the provision of business development services. At META, Satha worked on a business plan with the META Loan Coordinator, as well as developing green business and business skills trainings for META's clients. Upon her return to Malawi, Satha worked to identify female operated businesses and link them with mentors.

In 2015, **53** leaders from **30** different countries are participating in the Community Solutions Program. These leaders are working at **50** different organizations in **21** U.S. states and the District of Columbia.



The Community Solutions Program helped me understand that people have power— power is not just in the government or elites with money. I now teach everyone I can that people can stop waiting and need to act now because they have power within. I continue to teach the power of networking, power of self-confidence and self-worth, all of which I learned in the U.S.

Marie Soudnie Rivette, Haiti



Application Information

For eligibility requirements and the program application, please visit <http://www.irex.org/application/community-solutions-information-applicants> or email csp@irex.org.



The Community Solutions Program is a program of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) of the U.S. Department of State. Please see <http://exchanges.state.gov/> for more information about ECA.



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