



## USAID/U.S. Embassy Beijing Newsletter February 2014

The mission of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID):  
We partner to end extreme poverty and promote resilient, democratic societies  
while advancing our security and prosperity.

Through this newsletter, we hope we can have more interactive communication with colleagues in the development sector, and your comments and suggestions are highly appreciated. Please contact us by sending emails to [beijingusaid@state.gov](mailto:beijingusaid@state.gov).

### Recent activities in USAID

#### USAID Unveils Mission and Core Values

Following a wide-ranging and collaborative process, USAID launched a refreshed [mission statement and core values](#) in early 2014. The new **mission**: *We partner to end extreme poverty and promote resilient, democratic societies while advancing our security and prosperity.* **Core Values**: *Passion for Mission, Excellence, Integrity, Respect, Empowerment, Inclusion, and Commitment to Learning.*

USAID's mission statement highlights two complementary and intrinsically linked goals: ending extreme poverty and promoting the development of resilient, democratic societies that are able to realize their potential.

One year ago in his State of the Union address, President Obama mandated USAID to work with partners to end extreme poverty over the next two decades. This commitment has put the United States at the forefront of global dialogue that will likely set ending extreme poverty by 2030 as the capstone goal of the effort to define the next set of Millennium Development Goals post-2015. The President has also repeatedly committed USAID to work in partnership with governments and civil society around the world to build democracy and further human dignity, even in the most oppressive environments. A mission statement capturing these goals tells the world what USAID strives to do and unifies us and our partners around what we want to achieve through our important work each day.

#### DuPont, USAID partnership seeks to reduce hunger, poverty

On the margins of the World Economic Forum at Davos, USAID and DuPont formally announced a joint agreement to deepen efforts to reduce global hunger and poverty by enabling smallholder farmers access to proven, safe, and transformative agricultural innovations.

Signed by USAID Administrator Rajiv Shah and DuPont Executive Vice President James C. Borel at the World Economic Forum, the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) delivers on commitments made

through the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition and builds on a strong history of partnership between DuPont, USAID, university partners, the private sector, and NGOs.

The USAID and DuPont MOU builds upon a partnership where in places like Ethiopia and Ghana we are working together to improve the maize value chain to improve the productivity and income of at least 35,000 smallholder farmers in each country through the adoption of new technologies. Additionally, Asia and Latin America are also earmarked for initiatives. In the coming months, DuPont and USAID leadership teams will convene to discuss project planning.

For more information, please visit <http://feedthefuture.gov/institutional-sponsor/usaid>

## **Satellite Data for the People: USAID Supports Launch of New Forest Watch Tool**

February 21, 2014, USAID joined partners to launch the Global Forest Watch. This powerful new tool combines satellite imagery and overlay maps with the latest open data and crowd-sourcing technologies to open up near-real-time information about the state of tropical forests to anyone with an internet connection.

Currently, tropical forests are being destroyed at a rate of about 50 field soccer fields per minute. Global Forest Watch unites more than 40 government, business and civil society partners to curb forest destruction by putting free and transparent information in the hands of people who care most about forests. Anyone with an internet connection can visit the GFW website and upload information about what is happening in their section of forest. And any government can visit the GFW website and find near-real-time information about what is happening in their forest territory.

For more information, please visit <http://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/usaid-supports-launch-new-forest-watch-tool>

## **What's new in Beijing USAID**

### **APEC First Senior Officials' Meeting in Ningbo**

Ms. Maria Rendon, Senior Development Counselor of USAID in Beijing, participated in APEC First Senior Official's Meeting (SOMI) from February 15-28 in Ningbo, Zhejiang Province. Delegates from the APEC members discussed cooperation on three topics: Advancing Regional Economic Integration; Promoting Innovative Development, Economic Reform and Growth; and Strengthening Comprehensive Connectivity and Infrastructures Development. The meetings covered a broad range of areas including food security, health, and emergency preparedness, trade and investment, standards and conformance, Customs procedures, business mobility, human resource development, electronic commerce, etc.

### **Technical Exchange on Food Security**

Ms. Melissa Ho, the acting Director of Technical Division of Food Security Bureau of USAID visited Beijing in the week of February 17<sup>th</sup>, and met with Chinese institutions and universities to understand China's overseas assistance in agriculture, and had a preliminary exchange with Chinese experts on potential cooperation between US and China to jointly promote global agricultural development and support other developing countries in enhancing food security and nutrition.