

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**  
**FOR**  
**COORDINATION ON FIFTH-GENERATION (5G) BROADBAND INTERNET**  
**TECHNOLOGY AND TRAINING IN INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS**  
**TECHNOLOGY**  
**BETWEEN**  
**THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**  
**AND**  
**THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**

**Purpose**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) articulates common objectives and approaches between the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) (each a “Participant” and, collectively, “the Participants”) to promote open, interoperable, reliable, and secure Internet and digital infrastructure, and to advance interagency coordination on network security in developing countries. Specifically, this MOU establishes a basis for ongoing dialogue and cooperation between the Participants, consistent with the National Strategy to Secure 5G and in furtherance of the goals and objectives of the USAID Digital Strategy and the FCC’s 5G FAST Plan.

**Authority**

USAID enters into this MOU pursuant to its authority in the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, as the world’s premier international development agency and a catalytic actor that drives development results. USAID’s work advances U.S. national security and economic prosperity, demonstrates American generosity, and promotes a path to recipient self-reliance and resilience.

The FCC enters into this MOU pursuant to its authority under the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and Section 151 of Title 47 of the United States Code (U.S.C.), *et al.* As the United States’ primary authority for communications law, regulation, and technological innovation, the Agency capitalizes on its competencies in the following:

- Promoting competition, innovation, and investment in broadband services and facilities;
- Supporting the nation’s economy by ensuring a competitive framework for evolving communications networks and services;
- Encouraging the highest and best use of spectrum domestically and internationally; and
- Providing leadership in strengthening the defense of the nation’s communications infrastructure.

## Participants

1. USAID is an independent Federal Government Agency that receives overall foreign-policy guidance from the United States Secretary of State. On behalf of the American people, USAID promotes and demonstrates democratic values abroad, and advances a free, peaceful, and prosperous world. In support of America's foreign policy, USAID leads the U.S. Government's international development and disaster assistance through partnerships and investments that save lives, reduce poverty, strengthen democratic governance, and help people emerge from humanitarian crises and progress beyond assistance. USAID funds international development that advances U.S. national-security objectives by improving economic growth, food security, global health, education, democracy, and governance; addressing environmental and climate issues; and providing humanitarian assistance. USAID finances development activities in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America, the Caribbean, Europe, and Eurasia.

The Federal Communications Commission is an independent U.S. Government Agency overseen by Congress that regulates non-Federal interstate and international communications by radio, television, wire, satellite, and cable in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories. The Commission is responsible for implementing and enforcing America's communications law and regulations.

## Objectives

2. USAID and the FCC share the following strategic goals and objectives under this MOU:
  - Assist in the successful implementation of the *National Strategy to Secure 5G*, the *U.S. National Security Strategy*, and the *National Cyber Strategy*;
  - Promote access to open, interoperable, reliable, and secure digital infrastructure;
  - Promote the growth of secure, trusted 5G networks that are free of untrusted vendors in all parts of the network;
  - Promote global diversity of 5G vendors for a robust, secure 5G ecosystem;
  - Promote policies and transparent decision-making processes for information and communications technology (ICT) that support competition and market entry and that advance the multi-stakeholder model of Internet governance;
  - Improve coordination between USAID and the FCC to leverage the FCC's experience in implementing policies to promote open, interoperable, reliable, and secure Internet and digital infrastructure in the U.S. market to advance similar policies in developing countries, to the benefit of citizens in the United States and in other countries; and

- Increase the technical knowledge and capacity of USAID's staff to support their efforts to identify and design development programming that will improve the communications-policy frameworks in developing countries.

### **Roles and Responsibilities**

3. To achieve these mutual goals and objectives, USAID intends to do the following:

- Provide technical assistance, including through embedded advisors, to the governments of developing countries that request assistance in reforming telecommunications and other ICT regulations and policies, to advance policies that promote secure networks, private-sector investment, competition, and the free flow of data across borders, through the Promoting American Approaches to ICT Policy and Regulation (ProICT) program implemented by USAID's Global Development Lab;
- Support private-sector and civil-society organizations in developing countries, to educate those non-government actors on cyber risks, train them in cyber skills, and build their capacity to participate in national policy debates on Internet governance, policies on network-security and the flow of data, and telecommunications regulations;
- Demonstrate the business case for secure, open radio-access network architectures and other innovative solutions in developing countries and establish connections with companies that are building these solutions with developing-country governments to demonstrate the viability of these secure network alternatives;
- Provide ongoing interagency leadership in the Digital Connectivity and Cybersecurity Partnership (DCCP); and
- Conduct extensive training of USAID's internal staff on the importance of secure digital infrastructure, as a key part of the Journey to Self-Reliance.

4. Under this MOU, the FCC intends to provide the following:

- Technical experts on telecommunications and spectrum law and policy to participate in meetings, webinars, and training sessions with developing-country governments, subject to available funding;
- Technical experts on telecommunications and spectrum law and policy to participate in internal USAID staff training, to help the Agency grow the effective knowledge base of its Foreign Service Officers, Foreign Service Nationals, and other staff stationed around the world;
- Ongoing technical advice to USAID's staff that are implementing the DCCP, including, but not limited to, the ProICT project; and

- Collaboration on the implementation/development of work plans, as applicable, pursuant to MOUs between the U.S. Government and developing-country governments on 5G security and adoption of the Prague Proposals.

### **Implementation and Governance**

5. USAID and the FCC will meet or organize a conference call on a regular basis between the Designated Points of Contact identified in Paragraph 10 below to oversee progress on the MOU, exchange reports on existing and potential projects, and plan for future activities.

### **Reporting and Collaboration**

6. The Participants understand the need for regular reporting on activities and results and intend to collaborate to meet any information needs or applicable reporting requirements in connection with the cooperation under this MOU.

### **General Provisions**

7. **Duration of This MOU:** This MOU is effective upon its signature by both of the Participants, and is expected to continue for one (1) year from the date of the last signature. Either Participant may terminate this MOU, with or without cause, by giving written notice to the other Participant at least thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of such termination.
8. **Modifications of This MOU:** The Participants may modify or supplement this MOU written amendment mutually agreed to and signed by both. Any such amendment shall be an annex to this MOU, and shall form an integral part hereof.
9. **Effect of This MOU:** The Participants specifically acknowledge that this MOU is not an obligation of funds, nor does it constitute a legally binding commitment or create any rights in any third party. The Participants intend to maintain their own separate and unique missions and mandates, and their own accountabilities. Unless specifically provided otherwise, the cooperation among the Participants as outlined in this MOU shall not be construed as a partnership or other type of legal entity or personality. Each Participant shall accept full and sole responsibility for any and all expenses it incurs related to this MOU. Nothing in this MOU shall be construed as superseding or interfering in any way with any agreements or contracts entered into among the Participants, either prior to, or subsequent to, the signing of this MOU. Nothing in this MOU shall be construed as an exclusive working relationship.

**Points of Contact**

10. The primary Points of Contact for each Participant for administering this MOU appear below. Each Participant may, by written notice, replace or identify additional representatives.

**USAID**

Address:

1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20523

Phone: (202) 712-5104

E-mail: karha@usaid.gov

Contact Person:

Kaush Arha, Senior Advisor  
Bureau for Policy, Planning and Learning

**FCC**

Address:

445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Phone: (202) 418-0411

E-mail: thomas.sullivan@fcc.gov

Contact Person:

Thomas Sullivan  
Chief of the International Bureau

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Participants, each, acting through its duly authorized representative, have caused this MOU to be signed in their names and delivered as of this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

**UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR  
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

By:

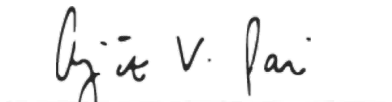
  
(Signature)

Date:

10/13/2020

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS  
COMMISSION**

By:

  
(Signature)

Date:

10/13/2020