

Speaker 1: [Video Playing 00:00:00]

Sherrie Westin: Hi, I'm Sherrie Westin from Sesame Workshop.

Chamki: Miss Sherrie, Miss Sherrie.

Sherrie Westin: Hi Chamki, and this is my good friend Chamki from Gallipoli Simpson, the local Sesame Street production in India.

Chamki: Hello everybody. Miss Sherrie?

Sherrie Westin: Yes.

Chamki: I just came up with the coolest idea.

Sherrie Westin: Wow.

[00:00:30]

Chamki: I love being a detective and I just discovered a new way to solve problems.

Sherrie Westin: Good for you, that sounds very innovative.

Chamki: Innovative, what's that?

Sherrie Westin: Well, being innovative is thinking about something in a brand new way or coming up with a whole new idea.

Chamki: So anyone can be innovative, even me?

Sherrie Westin: Even you, good ideas can come from anyone or anywhere. That makes you an innovator.

[00:01:00]

Chamki: Wow, I never knew I was an innovator.

Sherrie Westin: And what else? If it weren't for a very innovative idea to use television to teach, there would be no Sesame Street.

Chamki: No Galli Galli Sim Sim.

Sherrie Westin: That's right, and you what else Chamki? When you show little boys and girls in India how much you love to learn and go to school, you're inspiring them and you're opening minds and changing attitudes.

Chamki: Wow, I am an innovator.

[00:01:30]

Sherrie Westin: Absolutely, so just keep doing what you do, loving to learn, coming up with new ideas and inspiring others.

Chamki: I will miss Sherrie. Aha, Miss Sherrie, I just had another idea.

Sherrie Westin: What's that?

Chamki: Detective Chamki is off to innovate.

Sherrie Westin: All right, good luck Chamki and good luck to all of you innovators and thank you so much for all you do to make the world a better place. We are truly grateful.

[End of Video 00:01:56]

[00:02:00]

Speaker 1: Ladies and gentlemen, please welcome yourselves to the 2017 Global Innovation Week; innovation to action. Your mistress of ceremonies tonight is USAID's own Alexis Bonnell.

Alexis Bonnell: Hello, good evening. Does anyone have anything left or do you have ... are you full of too much evidence, too much knowledge or do we have a little bit left to see some really amazing things tonight? Yeah, all right.

[00:02:30]

So I'm going to give you a little bit of a tidbit of what we're going to be going into but first of all, I want to tell you the frame of tonight and the frame of tonight is really important. A lot of times I have the great privilege of serving at USAID and being able to focus on innovation and more importantly how we get innovation used. And so a lot of times people ask me what is innovation. And there's a lot of great answers to that, but the one that I really love and the one that I've learned after being at USAID and working with so many of you, is an innovator is really someone who has a voracious appetite for excellence. Whether that is thinking about how they do something a little better, a little faster, a little smarter or taking huge leaps. And today was really about celebrating that.

[00:03:00]

[00:03:30]

My husband's in the audience and I'm not going to point him out because he would be mortified, but I wanted to wear these shoes today because he calls these my do boots. He knows that if I show up in these, I'm serious about getting things done and I wanted to draw attention about the other partners with us today that were serious about getting things done and we are so honored to have all of the organizations on this list and I want you to know that this idea, this drive to do this came up just a few weeks/months ago and we had so many people that wanted to join us in this effort. So first of all, I just want to give our partners, our sponsors and all of those who helped us pull today off, a big round of applause. Thank you.

[00:04:00]

The other thing we want to emphasize today is the idea of using innovation. So an idea is amazing, a concept is amazing and today you probably saw a lot of those, but really what we're going to focus on tonight is using innovation, getting it in the mix and most importantly what your job is around that. The other thing I'm going

[00:04:30] to share with you is there's some fun and mostly incredible things that are going to happen later that you're going to hear from different people in different announcements. But in a spirit of doers, I want to absolutely have the privilege and the honor to introduce our deputy administrator, Wade Warren who if I know anyone that is focused on getting things done, it is this gentleman.

[00:05:00] And what really excites me is not just the fact that he's here with us tonight, that he's going to be speaking but most importantly that he's going to be sharing some wonderful insights and announcements about new things that we're going to be doing together with others. So without further ado, Wade Warren.

Wade Warren: Good evening everybody. I'm so embarrassed because nobody told me I was supposed to wear knee-high sneakers to tonight's event. But I'm really glad to be here with all of you. I know it's been a long day and you're probably tired but Alexis is right we've got some great announcements coming later in the evening and so if you can maintain your energy for a little while longer, I think you'll be really glad that you stayed. I'm really pleased to see so many people in the room who are so passionate about innovation and who are willing to help advance our work around the world on behalf of people who are in need of development and humanitarian assistance.

[00:06:00] Some of you were probably here this morning and heard our new administrator Mark Green speaking. If you heard him this morning or if you've heard him in other venues, one of his challenges to us is that we should always be better today than we were yesterday and not as good as we're going to be tomorrow. It's a difficult charge, it's something that we can't do without your help. We need the smart ideas and the innovative thinking of all of our partners in order to be an agency that continually improves itself.

[00:06:30] So I just wanted to thank you very much for your generous contributions to our efforts and for your willingness to partner with us in innovative ways. I have a statistic here that says that last year in fiscal year of 2016, USAID had 422 active public private partnerships. That's really remarkable when you think about it and we have calculated that for every dollar we put into a partnership, our partners put in two and a half dollars or more than two and half dollars. So when you think about it, we by partnering with you, we are more than tripling or nearly tripling our ability to bring development assistance and humanitarian assistance to people around the world.

[00:07:30] So partnering with you is not just a good idea, it's a smart thing to do and the right thing to do. And so for that reason, I am really happy to be able to announce this evening six new ways that USAID is tapping into your energy and enthusiasm. So I want to start by announcing three new partnerships that we have designed to spur growth and innovation starting this year. We're going to be working first with the Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs and the Ford Foundation to bolster entrepreneurial ecosystems and information sharing in East and Southeast Asia and Latin America.

[00:08:00] Second the Global Impact Investing Network and the Omidyar Network, it will be helping us to accelerate impact investing and catalyzing socially responsible private sector leg growth. And third, we have a new partnership with Open Capital Advisors to demonstrate how local talent can unlock investments from angel investors and funding for early stage businesses in Africa. So we're very happy about these three new partnerships.

[00:08:30] But as the administrator said this morning, we want to challenge ourselves and challenge you all to think big and to turn innovation into action. So we're also announcing this evening three new opportunities for you to work with us. The first is what we call a broad agency announcement or a BAA. We can't do anything in USA without giving it an acronym. Broad agency announcement, a BAA is an opportunity for you to co-create with us to mobilize private investment for development. So this BAA will be looking at creating new blended finance tools that will help expand private financing for development and we will be putting out more information about this BAA opportunity in October next month.

[00:09:00] Secondly the administrator already announced this morning but I wanted to call it to your attention if you weren't there to hear him. We are going to implement a new humanitarian assistance grand challenge. We have had great success in the development space with grand challenges over the last few years and we want to use those same ideas and that same model to try to get the most innovative ideas that we can think of in collaboration with you to bring innovation to our delivery of humanitarian assistance. So we were really excited about that new grand challenge, and then finally I want to announce that we are putting out 25 new research awards to support local scientists working in partnership with US researchers to tackle global development challenges in health, water, education, agriculture and biodiversity.

[00:10:00] So those six new things as I said. We're very happy about those and we'll be providing obviously more information in the coming days and weeks. So that's all I really wanted to say. I just wanted to close again by thanking you. The development landscape is changing as we all know. We can only get the job done that we need to get done through the kinds of partnerships that are represented here in the room. So I wanted to express my appreciation, the appreciation of the agency. As Alexis said, we have some exciting announcements coming up in a little while. So I encourage you to sit back and enjoy the show and you will appreciate what you're about to see, I think. Thanks you very much.

[00:10:30] [Video Playing 00:10:52]

Oprah: Cue the drumroll. All right, open your boxes. Open your boxes. One, two, three. You get a car! You get a car! You get a car! Everybody gets a car!

[00:11:00] [End of Video 00:11:06]

Alexis Bonnell: All right, who wants a car? That was a very an enthusiastic potential car giveaway. So let's try that again, who wants a car? None of you are getting a car but I'm glad

[00:11:30] you're enthusiastic. But I'm going to give you something better and we are so excited about this. As many of you may have heard of our Securing Water for Food Grand Challenge as the deputy administrator mentioned, it is an amazing program that has had incredible results and one of the things I'm so excited to share with you today is a story about one of those.

[00:12:00] So this is actually our latest set of award winners, many of which are here today but we're going to focus on one in particular and that one had a really interesting story. So Claire was 16 and she in essence wanted to make some extra pocket change, and so she tried growing vegetables in South Africa, and she found that she was wasting a lot of water, she thought she knew where she planted them, they weren't exactly there. And she thought there had to be a better way. And so sure enough she got together with some of her friends and family and created what is called Real Gardening, and one of the things that we're so excited about this is not only has it saved millions of gallons of water, created a thousand tons of food, but most importantly it has put food where it's needed most and it has taken farmers in South Africa and changed them from subsistence to surplus.

[00:12:30] If there's anything that we care about it's results. But what's so exciting today is why you're not going to get a car, I do have the incredible privilege of inviting some of our local Girl Scouts and Girl Scout supporters who will be passing out real gardening. So I get to say, "You get a garden the box, and you get a garden in a box, and you get a garden in a box." So please clap and welcome our Girl Scouts. You might ask why are there Girl Scouts handing me this, and that's the even more exciting thing. Sometimes we support innovation and we support it for over there. A lot of times our innovators are American, they're amazing but really we do this to help people in the developing world. But sometimes, and more and more often those innovations actually come home and are as equally useful here.

[00:13:30] So what we're so excited about is the collaboration between Girl Scouts and Real Gardening to actually be bringing the garden in a box to dinner plates and gardens here in the US. So congratulations and if you want to talk about scale, I don't know anything bigger than our Girl Scout. So congratulations again to Real Gardening, the girls. And don't worry if you didn't get one, there will be some afterward and everyone will get a garden in a box. I would not break the Oprah standard of everyone getting what they need to get.

Now I'm really pleased to introduce a new announcement as well and that is our partners with Australia, World Vision and USAID are very excited to be focusing on how we can increase inclusiveness and learning with our new sign on challenge.

[Video Playing 00:14:31]

[00:14:30] Alexis Bonnell: All right. So part of our announcements are about what's coming. But what's most important about this announcement, it is that we are looking for people to join us in this. So where is Tony Bloom? Tony you're out there, I know you are, I can smell you. All right, everyone look behind them. Tony wave your hands. If you're

[00:16:30] interested in helping Sign on for Literacy, go see that dashing handsome gentleman at the reception and he will buy you a drink. Yes. I'm so pleased to announce and to welcome to the stage one of my dear friends. One of the great things about working at USAID, is that we get to work in partnership and one of the partners that I've enjoyed working the most with have been our colleagues in Australia and specifically in the innovation and exchange.

So I'm so pleased to welcome to the stage Stephanie Kimber from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in Australia.

[00:17:00]

Stephanie Kimber: There should be a video that's going to play first to get you all excited.

[Video Playing 00:17:05]

Female:

Are you part of a new generation of innovators improving people's lives through your work? Innovative market-based approaches to development play an important role in finding lasting solutions in the Asia Pacific. Businesses, entrepreneurs and social enterprises and private firms everywhere are at the frontier of the modern market place pioneering new ideas to better the world and creating unique opportunities for investment. If your business is delivery impact in the Asian Pacific, you have the chance to share in \$1.5 million from the Australian government in a customized support program and join with others in the region who are working to do the same.

[00:17:30]

How is your business delivering a positive impact? Apply now at www.frontierinnovators.org.

[End of Video 00:18:01]

[00:18:00]

Stephanie Kimber: Did anyone else get goosebumps? I love that video, something inspiring. Really pleased to be here and it's been a great day. I've learned a lot already. The Australian government basically believes that the private sector has a really important role to play. Both large and small in helping us achieve the sustainable development goals. So that's why we created this program Frontier Innovators. It's just one of the things that we're doing working in partnership with the private sector. But we're basically looking for innovative businesses that whether it's an established business or a social entrepreneur or a growing startup who are already delivering impact in the Asia Pacific region.

[00:18:30]

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And the program is basically going to provide seed funding and training and mentorship to these businesses. The training they'll receive is impact measurement and storytelling so that they are better able and better equipped to find that follow on funding when they're talking to investors in the future. The deadline, to close this agency September 30th, this is like my last ditch pitch. So if you know anyone who is delivering impact in Asia Pacific region, please tell them to go and apply. We've already got a lot of interest and we'd love to have more.

[00:19:30] So spread the word. And yeah, thanks very much for your attention and I'm going to be super quick. So thanks a lot.

Speaker 1: Please welcome to the stage, Carrie Thompson, Acting Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator for the USAID Bureau for Economic, Growth, Education and Environment.

Carrie Thompson: [00:20:00] Good evening everyone, what an event really. Kudos to my colleagues at the Global Development Lab. It was tremendous walking around today at the marketplace to see all of the innovation. I'm so pleased to have the opportunity to be here during Global Innovation Week to announce the winners of the Wildlife Crime Tech Challenge Acceleration Prize. Wildlife trafficking as many of you know is the poaching and illegal trade of wildlife and wildlife products. It's not only a problem for the elephants and for the rhinos and many other species that are targeted, it is a multibillion dollar criminal enterprise that puts money in the pockets of transnational organized crime.

[00:20:30] It also threatens national, regional and local security and destroys the livelihoods of people who depend on nature for their lives and livelihoods. Recognizing that new solutions were needed to this ever evolving problem, USAID in partnership with the National Geographic Society, the Smithsonian Institution and Traffic launched the Wildlife Crime Tech Challenge in 2014 to harness the power of science and technology to combat wildlife trafficking.

[00:21:00] We thank our partners for their invaluable contributions to the success of this challenge. The competition opened on Earth Day in 2015. From a pool of 300 applicants, USAID has helped 16 winning innovators to partner and leverage funds for their solutions. Four of these winners were awarded grand prizes in 2016 for their work to develop tools to fight corruption, identifying poaching hotspots and to detect illegal sales online and illegal shipments in ports.

[00:21:30] This year to spur continued progress in advancing these promising solutions, we offered three acceleration prizes that use a pay-for-results approach to incentivize continued action and to reward those who demonstrated the greatest growth in their solutions. Winners were selected based on the evidence of their progress and refining their solutions, leveraging resources and building partnerships over the last year and a half. Today I'm really pleased to announce three winners of the acceleration Prize who will be awarded \$100,000 each for their efforts. Well all of the participants really made great advances. I applaud these three innovators in particular for the truly remarkable progress they have made in turning promising ideas into viable solutions positioned for scale and impact on the ground. It's really too bad they couldn't be here with us today but please join me in congratulating Paso Pacifico, The Zoological Society of London and University of Washington as winners of the Wildlife Crime Challenge Acceleration Prizes.

[00:22:00] Let's take a look at our winners.

[Video Playing 00:23:03]

[00:23:00]

Female:

Our innovation is an artificial sea turtle egg that tracks in real time the movement of sea turtle eggs across illegal trade routes. We have a prototype that is functioning using a GPS, GSM device and is hooked up to a cellular phone network and then placed into an artificial sea turtle egg that's made from a mold that uses silicon rubber which is adapted by a Hollywood special effects artist to create the look and feel of a sea turtle egg. While those eggs are moving across transit routes, the artificial eggs are transmitting in real time their actual location.

[00:23:30]

Sophie Maxwell:

[00:24:00]

My name is Sophie Maxwell and I'm from the Zoological Society of London. Our innovation is called Instant Detect. It's a multi sensor alarm system for protected areas, it has camouflage camera traps and ground sensors that are hidden in the field ready to detect humans or vehicles and they send alerts back via satellite to rangers so they can respond to any threats, to really prevent poaching as well as track it, but also to protect multiple species both on land and at sea. Our solution is really for underfunded, under resource, unfenced protected areas. So you could protect a small bird's nest. You could protect a turtle beach, you can protect a coral reef or even a full scale Rhino sanctuary. It works on all those different levels.

[00:24:30]

Sam Wasser:

[00:25:00]

My name Sam Wasser. I'm the director of the Center for Conservation Biology at University of Washington and my innovation is developing methods that are able to track the sources of major poaching of pangolins. So pangolin is the most poached mammal in the world. We develop very accurate DNA markers very similar to what the FBI uses to identify a criminal in a crime scene. We train detection dogs to essentially go across the range states to collect pangolin dung samples primarily that we get the DNA from and are able to essentially map the genetics of pangolins across their entire range. Then when there's a large seizure of pangolins, we are able to get the DNA from those pangolin samples, match it to our DNA reference map and very accurately pinpoint where the pangolin is being poached.

[00:25:30]

[End of Video 00:25:40]

Speaker 1:

Please welcome to the stage Ann Healy. Division Chief for discovering test with the US Global Development Lab at USAID.

[00:26:00]

Ann Healy:

Since its founding seven years ago, development innovation ventures USAID steered evidence-based innovation fund has selected nearly 200 winners across every sector in over 40 countries in which USAID works. Tonight we are honored to officially announce our latest cohort of DIV winners. 18 wildly different innovations in organizations spanning everything from education to tuberculosis diagnostics and treatment adherence to off grid energy. But they have one thing in common despite their differences. Their relentless focus on the three core pillars of DIV's model. Rigorous evidence of impact cost-effectiveness and potential to scale through the public and private sectors.

[00:26:30]

[00:27:00] This cohort includes several innovations DIV has previously supported that showed such exceptional impact potential that we decided to double down on testing or scaling them through expanded partnership. For example, with support from our USAID colleagues in Zambia, we have awarded a stage three scaling grant one of just six such grants that DIV has awarded in seven years to Jay Powell Africa and UNICEF to support the government led scale up of the highly evidence-based teaching at the right level model which many of you have heard about today. This builds on the pioneering work of a previous DIV winner, the Pratham Education Foundation in India, fostering the diffusion of this locally developed innovation across the global south.

[00:27:30] Likewise, building on our previous experience supporting the ultra-poor graduation model, with organizations like a Bandhan, ConAgra in India. We have deepened our engagement with one of the most proven approaches for lifting the extreme poor often women out of poverty. Tonight we are proud to announce a new award to Instiglio in partnership with Village Enterprise in East Africa. Through this partnership, we are serving alongside other funders including the UK's Department for International Development as an outcomes player in the first development impact bond in Africa and in economic development. This means we will only pay Village Enterprise for verified outcomes specifically demonstrated improvements in household income and not simply for the activities it does or the outputs it produces.

[00:28:00] This experiment in innovative financing will not only help us understand how to crowd in more resources to scale up this proven model, but also allows us as an agency to experiment with a new approach to how we support others by paying for results. In addition to doubling down on these high impact models, in 2017, we have also supported early stage local entrepreneurs leveraging new technology and for-profit business models to drive development impact. Take FarmDrive for example. Founded and owned by two female Kenyan entrepreneurs, this company provides a locally developed big data solution to credit access constraints faced by smallholder farmers in East Africa.

[00:28:30] Leveraging machine learning techniques, FarmDrive has developed an algorithm that helps financial institutions understand the risk profiles of these farmers making it more likely that local financial institutions will unlock their lending to these potential borrowers. These are just a few of the outstanding innovators in our latest cohort of DIV winners who are developing testing and scaling game changing ideas and development. To the many of them who are here tonight, please stand as we applaud your leadership in innovation evidence and scale.

[00:29:00] Speaker 1: Ladies and gentlemen, we are pleased to share with you the winners of the data driven farming price.

[Video Playing 00:30:03]

[00:30:00] Sibjan: My name is Sibjan and I am the co-founder and Managing Director at ICT for AGRI

Private Limited.

Khop Narayan: I am Khop Narayan Malla and I am the servicing director for ICT for AGRI.

[00:30:30]

Sibjan: In 2011 when I finished my engineering graduate, I wanted to go back home to my village. And my parents used to ask me to go to the field and help them. And then I realized how the lack of basic information is making hard, a farmer's life like my parents. So I came up with the idea to provide the localized and relevant information at the fingertips.

[00:31:00]

ICT for AGRI is a mobile and web-based platform that provides the farmer with three-day weather forecast market price, crop advisories and about input supplies and the information that we provide is the localized and contextual.

Race Hoerner:

[00:31:30]

All of these data sources that are increasingly being collected, created not necessarily getting into the hands of farmers in a way that's usable for them. So we have this great potential that wasn't necessarily being realized. The prize is a way to focus attention on this issue and provide incentives for experts, creative thinkers all around the globe to focus on the specific issue here in Nepal, and therefore presents a really valuable opportunity to engage local innovators, local organizations. This also enables us to really try to empower solution developers who are familiar with the context here in Nepal who have some of those specific local insights.

[00:32:00]

Male:

[00:32:30]

One of the things that we assume while entering the prize was the network. And we wanted to see and learn what were there different technologies that were used worldwide who were coming as a participant. We were working the agricultural sector and we thought that we would learn a lot. This prize event allowed us to pause for a moment and see what the product should be, actually look like.

Carol Jenkins:

[00:33:00]

This type of prize, it really provides an opportunity to get many partners working together. It can actually increase productivity. By getting these solution in a digital format to these farmers, we do have the potential to really see a substantial increase in productivity and see an increase in household income and see a reduction in poverty more broadly.

Sibjan:

[00:33:30]

We have been a bit matured than we were. We are now a tag of winner. It will add very much credibility to our work and to the work that we are heading forward. It will be a big achievement. Actually we want to be the largest communication and marketing platform the agricultural sector with millions of farmers in our database with the thousands of input suppliers and their dealers let them know that ICT for Agriculture is the best one.

[End of Video 00:34:01]

[00:34:00]

Alexis Bonnell:

Who has a cell phone? A few of you. Can you get out you get out your cell phones

and can you kind of turn them on and point the glow toward me. I want to ask you, what's your name?

Crystal: Crystal.

[00:34:30]

Alexis Bonnell: Crystal, did you use your cell phone this morning? What was the first thing you did with it? Check email, who did something else? Anything else. Check Slack, check weather, check traffic. I want you to imagine ... give me these phone. I want to see this amazing picture of all these glowing things. There's a lot of phones. Why does this matter? One of the things we're so excited about at USAID is that along the last few years with our partners, we have increased access to the Internet and technology to over 40 million people. When you talk about innovation, you talk about scale, those are incredible numbers. But I want you to imagine what would happen if you didn't have your phone. Then if you're like me over 40 with an 18-year-old son, and constantly daunted when that child tries to teach you the new thing.

[00:35:00]

[00:35:30]

So currently it's Snap Chat. I'm not getting it, I don't understand it. So I want you to think for a minute of all those things that you're not quite keeping up with all the change and I imagine kind of almost the bravery it takes as an international development professional to say I'm going to try something digital. It's daunting, it's big and a lot of times not everyone is enthusiastic and you have to be brave to push through and say this is worth it. The scale, the platform that digital provides. So we really wanted to call attention to people that we thought had made extraordinary efforts to involve digital and most importantly to increase the impact of their projects. So we are so pleased tonight to introduce and to introduce you to our 2017 Digi winners. And most what's most important is we know the Digis. No one's had of those. You've heard of the Oscars. You've heard of the Emmy's. So we've got a good friend of ours in the Globe Theatre in London to introduce you to the Digis.

[00:36:00]

[Video Playing 00:36:27]

[00:36:30]

Jeff Fahey: Hi, I'm Jeff Fahey and I'm speaking to you today from Brighton on the South Coast of the United Kingdom, where I'm performing Gore Vidal's play The Best Man. Behind me you can see the gorgeous theatre Royal, which celebrated its 200th birthday in 2007, is the second oldest working theatre here in the UK. For those of you who don't know me, you might turn to your left or right and ask one of your neighbors about such shows as Lost, Justified, From Dust till Dawn. And those who don't mind admitting their age, they might recognize me from The Lawnmower Man. Or some of you in the room might have met me in other places; Afghanistan, Iraq, Morocco, Western Sahara working together addressing some of the international issues we're also passionate about, but enough of that.

[00:37:00]

Let's get on to the reason I'm here tonight, and that's for all of you here tonight. Hollywood is all about innovation and change and I've been so inspired to see how

[00:37:30] the international development is moving with the times too. How people like you have harness innovation in order to change people's lives. As I'm sure you know in Hollywood we have the Oscars, the Emmy's and other ways of recognizing great work. So I'm so pleased today to introduce the Digis, awarded to programs that harness digital innovation to achieve greater impact.

[00:38:00] Well you might not have walked the red carpet tonight, the impact of the Digis on people's lives around the world far out ways any single moment of entertainment. This year winners help deliver food to where it is most needed. Salver most pressing environmental challenges and bring sanitation and dignity to the places most in need. Today I am truly honored to announce the first company of Digi Winners.

[00:38:30] The first Digi Award goes to Biodiversity and Watersheds improved for Stronger Economy and Ecosystem Resilience. And if you think that's difficult to achieve, just try saying it. The Philippines has seen a dramatic decline in forest cover during the last century. To address this DENR and USAID created the LAWIN forest and biodiversity protection system. LAWIN adapts freely available open source software to introduce technology into forest conservation and planning.

[00:39:00] Quantum GIS is used to analyze forest change over time. Additionally during patrols, forest rangers use mobile data collection tools to record digital observation about the forest conditions, key indicator species and observe threats. With this data, their staff can manage forest, take action on identified threats, ensure that forest protection activities are targeting priority areas and easily communicate data to the public.

[00:39:30] The second award goes to the Advanced II Project. Higher farm yields more food for more people. But thousands of small holder farmers lack the technical and business training to succeed. What made it worse was that low literacy rates made it difficult to understand how many farmers were actually being trained and the impact that their training was having.

[00:40:00] To address this, small holder farmers were issued identification cards equipped with smart card technology to scan and digitally capture their participation in trainings. Advance II has successfully attract over 100,000 people who participated in 4,700 training sessions using smart card technology. Since 2015, the 75,000 smart cards in circulation have enabled the team to collect critical data, allowing the program to adapt, connecting farmers training and performance.

[00:40:30] And the third award goes to Feed the Future's CPM Program. CPM supported Akorion's platform Ezy-Agric, a mobile software suite that gathers up-to-date agriculture information. Delivers real time information on farmers' activities, and provides a virtual trading centre to connect farmers with buyers, sellers, input suppliers, exporters, soil labs, crop insurance companies and financial institutions.

[00:41:00] Village agents build a digital profile for each farmer and mapped their cultivated land using GPS. Then provide advisory and financial products and services. This

ability to bring a virtual trading center means faster food movement, higher profit margin and more food to everyone in need.

[00:41:30] And the final award, last but not least, goes to Digital Green. Digital Green is integrating digital tools in Ethiopia to expand the number of small holder farmers reached with high quality information like seed selection, field preparation, harvesting and marketing. The approach combines locally produced video, radio and interactive voice response to disseminate information about agricultural technologies to small holder farmers. These digital tools are cost effective, interactive, usable in areas with low internet or power. Adaptable for local languages and able to reach a broad audience, most of all they help the local farmers grow more food to feed their families and their communities.

[00:42:00]

[00:42:30] In all industries including international development, digital has the power to transform and revolutionize how we work. It's people like you that use technology like this that allows us to grow, spread and impact millions of lives quickly and effectively. Thank you very much for letting me share the 2017 Digi Award winners with you. It was an honor being here this evening. Thank you.

[End of Video 00:42:58]

[00:43:00]
Alexis Bonnell: Ladies and gentleman, I am so pleased to have Marcus Johnson, the Deputy of Global Development Innovation Lab present the final Digi to our Digi Winners 2017. Let's give them another round of applause. Take a bow. Thank you all, congratulations.

[00:43:30] All right, so I can't tell you how excited Jeff was about being able to say Quantum GIS. So the next group of awards we have is really I think important because it's so human. And what I mean by that is for anyone that's tried to do something new, that's tried to be a disrupter, that's tried to kind of tackle things and sometime you're tackling things that are difficult like distances and miles and sometime you're just tackling ideas and bureaucracy and sometimes my son will ask me,

[00:44:00] "What do you do all day mom?" And I'll say, "Well, on a good day I do this really well." But what I mean by really well is that if I keep doing it at some point I'm going to kick that thing's butt. I'm going to get through.

[00:44:30] And so I can't think of anyone that I am more excited about and who understands more about what it means to drive change, to be brave than astronaut Kay Hire, and she has left us an incredible video around our Innovation to Action Awards. So astronaut Kay.

[Video Playing 00:44:37]

Kay Hire: Hello, I'm NASA astronaut Kay Hire. I'm so happy to be part of this event to announce the winners of the Innovation to Action Awards. I had the amazing opportunity to fly in space twice aboard the space shuttle, and helped to construct the International Space Station. The space shuttle looked a bit like a smaller

[00:45:00] commercial passenger jet but flew at 17,500 miles per hour and took only 90 minutes to orbit the earth. Prior to the space shuttle, spacecraft were small capsules that sat on top of the rocket and were flown just one time.

[00:45:30] When engineers proposed a reusable spacecraft that launched like a rocket, flew in space as an orbiting laboratory, landed on a runway like an airplane, then was refueled to launch again, everyone thought they were just crazy. However, the team persevered and made it happen. Eventually, the space shuttle launched on 135 missions over a 30-year period, and even delivered the parts of the International Space Station which was assembled 200 miles above the earth. For nearly 17 years crews aboard the International Space Station have been conducting scientific and technical experiments and continue today to understand space and to improve life down here on earth.

[00:46:00] None of that would have been possible without those individuals with the desire to improve space flight, the creativity to envision innovative solutions and the determination to persevere through the naysayers and obstacles. Like those crazy space shuttle designers, USAID's teams and partners face obstacles to introducing innovative change. It isn't enough to just have a bright idea. Change often requires brave people who are willing to navigate the barriers and to actually adopt that innovation in their work.

[00:46:30] Today I'm so very pleased to highlight the USAID folks who truly had the desire, the creativity and the determination to carry innovative ideas all the way through to tangible solutions.

[00:47:00] The winners of the Innovation to Action awards are Africare Tanzania, Mwanzo Bora Nutrition Program, for using a low cost mobile phone app called the HB Meter which serves as a non-invasive, low cost method of annually testing individual hemoglobin levels and anemia. Each test takes approximately 10 seconds and only cost about one cent versus 64 cents for the previous testing method. The new noninvasive test solve the problem of patient fear of needle pricks and it reduces the risk of infection from such invasive tests. Helen Keller International for using Dimagi and Comcare to technological innovations which improve the consistency and timeliness of data collection, data transfer and data usability across almost half of Nepal.

[00:47:30] The Nepali government now uses this innovation as a platform for community health information. ABT Associates incorporate it for using mobile soak pit, an innovative bucket-sized filter installed in the ground in 20 minutes to remove pesticides and provide post crop spraying clean up without polluting the environment or creating health hazards. This pilot effort rapidly expanded to 200 trials in nine African countries. Some governments have adopted the technology to use in their own spray operations. The mobile soak pit represents a 76% reduction in cost as compared to the previous approach.

[00:48:00] While all these adopted innovations are different, one thing is similar, it took brave visionaries to challenge the status quo, suggest a new approach and navigate that

[00:49:00] approach to reality, and more importantly, positive impact. Please join me in congratulating the winners. And I leave you with this challenge, what new innovation can you apply? Are you the next innovation to action hero?

[End of Video 00:49:07]

Alexis Bonnell: Ladies and gentlemen, the 2017 Innovation to action award heroes. Thank you. Thank you so much. Congratulations. So I always ask myself what does it take to actually pull this off? What does it take to start with an idea and to actually drive that level of excellence through to execution, to success and hopefully to impacting millions of lives? I am so pleased to introduce to you a great friend of USAID, a former grantee and someone who has done just that. Mr. Sean Blagsvedt.

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[00:50:00] Sean Blagsvedt: Hi. My name is Sean Blagsvedt, I'm the founder of Babajob. And before I begin, I just want to sort of address the subtext for a gathering like this that I always think of, which is, I think every innovator up here sort of challenges us to ask the question, are we doing the most to basically fulfill our potential to make the most amount of change in the world? So I moved to India in two thousand and fo2004. I moved over with Microsoft Research and like many people, I was struck by the fact that lo and behold, India does not hide its rich from its poor.

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Literally, there was one day I was walking home from work and I almost stepped on a baby. And this little baby's father was selling Q-Tips in the street. And I kept thinking to myself, it's not fair. It's not fair that there's an incredible inequity and that this baby who's happened to be born on the wrong side. And I had all these skills and software and designing user interfaces for Office and Windows. Was I doing enough to basically address all of the inequity that I saw everywhere around me? Now, the answer came in the form of a paper by a professor named Anirudh Khrishna of Duke, and he was really looking at why do people go in and out of poverty?

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And if you take the example of Mary and Jeena here, you'll see they have both very similar educational backgrounds, they're from very similar places, but they earn really different amounts of money. And the answer that he found was well the reason for that was really access to jobs. And so traditionally, the access to in terms of how do you get any other job was really constrained by social networks. In the case of Jeena on the right here, she happened to know a rich family, whereas Mary on the other hand was born in the slum, raised in the slum, educated in the slum and really only knew other people in the slum.

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The other problem that was extremely obvious to anybody that's ever been to a developing world city, Bangalore included, is the problem of traffic. And unfortunately, we're sort of in this terrible problem that as the cities become richer, as the middle class gains more cars and more motorcycles, with each passing year if you want your commute time to be constant so you can still spend time with your family, literally the jobs that are available to you are shrinking with each passing year. And so Babajob was really started as a digital intervention to try

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to address these problems so that people could get access to better paying jobs close to the house. Now, people would say, "But we poor people don't use computers. How do you solve that problem?"

[00:52:30] And so, we did a lot of innovative things around mobile phones, so we came up with a system such that anybody in the country could dial 888-000-444 and our automated system would give them a call back and ask them things in local languages like press one if you're in Bangalore, press two if you're in Delhi. Press one if you want to drive a job, two if you want a delivery job et cetera. And this allowed us to build that sort of basic profile, so that we could begin to send them SMS. We would call up employers, thousands of them from all over the country and say, "Hey, would you like to post the job that we see that you may have been posting already in the newspaper and posting on Babajob.

[00:53:00] As we began to sort of build that content, we found that people would also type into things like Google and say I want a driver job in Bangalore or I want a delivery job in Kolkata. And as we had all of that content, all those jobs and all those job seekers, we began to be recognized by the search engines as the destination. And this began to really sort of drive up all of those web searchers as the mobile Internet got bigger and bigger to come into Babajob and land on top of us. As we progressed, we did a bunch of other innovative things in terms of we built multi-

[00:53:30] language, offline capable apps such that people could search for jobs even using the crappy networks of India.

[00:54:00] And even did later things in the last two years just looking at things like Facebook Messenger so that people could just text us in terms of the jobs that they were interested in and then do things like they could take a picture of a driver's license and we used a bunch of AI systems to basically validate whether that was legitimate. Over 11 years, we raised \$13 million dollars. A lot of it came from both VC and public sector money and from some of the folks in this room and I'm very thankful in terms of that journey, in terms of making that happen and I want to say thank you very much.

[00:54:30] Our impact was very big. We had 8.5 million mobile verified applicants, so these are not just people that landed. These are people that landed, found a job that they liked, went through a process and applied for that. We had 500,000 employers, this is the advantage of having a freemium model that was free to use and again we're well distributed and easy to find on the internet. So with half a million employers on the system, we found that job seekers that got hired ended up choosing jobs that paid 20% more than their last jobs and usually reduced their commutes by about 14 minutes a day.

[00:55:00] And then this summer, we basically decided that we should basically join up with our largest competitor and were acquired by the largest classified site in India, and now the combined platform has about 20 million aspiring jobseekers on it. And so, as I sort of close this, I'm sort of in this position as I sort of moving from an operational to an advisory role in that new entity of thinking once again what's going to be the best use of my potential, and if you guys want to influence that,

come check. Thank you.

Alexis Bonnell: So who knew you could sell your socially impactful company? I like having the job and the role that Sean has now of what do I do next? What do I impact next? This is a moment that we're really excited about and we're so glad that you're here for what we are going to share with you and announce. Today was all about evidence, and the reason we did that was because we've got some naysayers out there. Some people aren't exactly sure about this innovation stuff, maybe it's a fad, maybe it's whatever. So hopefully today if you were one of those, you got to see that there are some real evidence and amazing information. You got to see that people are hungry to ask hard questions to end things if they're not working and to move forward.

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[00:56:00] But tomorrow gets even more exciting, because tomorrow is about scale. Meaning, how do we take those things that do work, those things we have evidence and how do we make them matter more? So one of the things we wanted to do tonight is we wanted to recognize the hero that was the individual innovator. We wanted to recognize the people who used innovation, but we also wanted to drive home the point that some of these things are having amazing impact. We are so pleased to share with you tonight the first inductees of the Million Lives Club. A few weeks ago, months ago, we put out an email all around the world and said, "Tell us who is impacting a million lives or more?" And you would be surprised by how many we got, and not only that, how many were just on the cusp, 500,000, 700,000.

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[00:57:00] What we didn't expect was the total number that was already being impacted by just the first hand that we're recognizing tonight. So I'm pleased to welcome them on stage and to show you a little bit more about the Million Lives Club. Please welcome Burn, Vision Spring, Evidence Action, Fundación Capital, One Acre Fund, Learning Equality, Living Goods, Ushahidi and Teaching at the Right Level. And of course Marcus Johnson our most handsome award giver. So, why I think is important is there's a reason why they're lined up this way. For us, we get pretty excited as something works pretty well and hits 10,000, 100,000 lives, it's growing and we're really going for that million or more mark.

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[00:58:00] But I want to introduce to you just how big the impact is. So I know Burn probably doesn't like this, but I'm going to come and give you a hug. So Burn is at the lower end at 1.7 million people. So can we just get like a Halleluiah for a 1.7 million? And as you go down this row, that number only increases. And I'm going to come and give another hug over here and that is at Teaching at the Right Level. What's the number? People, what's the number?

[00:58:30]

Audience: 50 million.

Alexis Bonnell: So I want to drive home what this means cumulatively, 129 million lives impacted by the people on the stage. If anyone should be heroes, if anyone should move us, if we should be interested in anyone's story, it is these people here. And I want just to drive home what 129 million looks like. Japan. Thank you, I'm sure Japan would also thank you. Mexico. New York City times 50, and finally a third of the United

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[00:59:30] States. So when people tell you, “That innovation it's a fad, that innovation’s not having impact, that innovation doesn't scale.” You are now armed with the knowledge that these people, their organizations exist.

[01:00:00] But what's more important is you have to ask yourself how are you going to help them reach more? And there are those coming just behind them and each of us has a role in our different ways to make sure that that third of the United States becomes a completely blue map. We have the power, we have the scale. I look forward to tomorrow and appreciate that everyone on stage tomorrow is actually going to be joining us at our 2:00 PM session to actually give us an inside peek on how it's done, what was hard, how you do this. So I want you to join me in giving an incredible final applause welcome and hearty congratulations to our Million Lives Club winners. Marcus. And don't mob them, they'll be there, they'll be drinks, you can all find out how they did it, but thank you very much.

[01:01:00] So I think I have managed the momentous task of actually getting us a bit early and that was on point because this is the last part of our day and night together and to me, I know it's going to be hard to top that, but we're going to try to do it right now. What is so important about USAID’s work, about doing things in partnership is the fact that none of these things would happen without our partners, whether those are our nonprofit partners who are implementing and bringing change, whether those are for profit partners, whether those are our donor and bilateral partners, the reality is none of this happens without doing it together with someone.

[01:01:30] So when we talk about innovation, when we talk about evolution and development, in doing development differently, there is no set of actors that has more influence around how we do development differently than the ladies and gentlemen that are going to join me on the stage. To be honest, when we thought about this, we thought, “Wow, a lot of those leaders are already doing amazing things. They’re innovating, they're driving the evolution of our industry, we really want them to be able to tell a little bit about it, but more importantly, we want them to be able to tell what their vision and pledge for in the future. We knew they weren't satisfied enough, we knew they wanted to keep looking forward. We thought we would get one, two, I thought five was going to be success.

[01:02:00] We were flawed to have 21 of our most valued partners at USAID come and say they wanted to be a part of sharing with you their pledges for innovation. And the reason why this matters is again this is how our work gets done. So I am so honored to ask my Voice of God colleague to introduce the 21 representatives of our top leadership at USAID Implementing Partners.

Speaker 1: It is my pleasure Alexis. Ladies and gentlemen-

Alexis Bonnell: Don’t be scared.

Speaker 1: Please join me in welcoming Stephen Pelliccia, Vice President of ABT Associates.
[01:03:00] Michelle Nunn, President and CEO of CARE USA. Bill O'Keefe Vice President of

[01:03:30] Government Relations an Advocacy with Catholic Relief Services. Susan Mudge, President and CEO of Chemonics. Leland Crevant President and CEO of Creative Associates International. Jim Boomgard President and Chief Executive Officer of DAI. Patrick Fine Chief Executive Officer of FHI360. David Speiser, Executive Vice President of Strategy for ICF. Radha Rajkotia, Senior Director of IRC. Leslie Mancuso, President and Chief Executive Officer of Jhpiego. Anne LaFond Director of the Center for Health and Information Monitoring and Evaluation at JSI.

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[01:04:30] Susan Puska, President and CEO of Kanava. Dina Esposito Vice President of Mercy Corps. Christian Loucq, Chief Operating Officer of Pact. Dr. David Fleming Vice President of p PATH. Karl Hofmann, President and CEO of PSI. Luis Crouch, Senior Vice President and Chief Technical Officer of RTI. Kevin McAndrew, Director Save the Children. Mark Johnson Chief Operating Officer of Tetra Tech. Rodney Ferguson, President and CEO of Winrock International, and finally Jared Hoffman Vice President of World Vision.

[01:05:00]

Alexis Bonnell: [01:05:30] So ladies and gentlemen, you can see when I talk about 129 million lives, how many more are represented by the incredible work of the partners we have on the stage. And I'm so pleased to invite our first representative Stephen from ABT to actually share with you and kick off the very practical, tangible challenges, changes and differences that each of them are going to be making in order to have a greater impact and harness innovation in their organizations and in programming around the world. Stephen.

[01:06:00] Stephen Pelliccia: Thank you Alexis and thanks to the Global Development Lab for organizing innovation week and this wonderful event. We at ABT associates pledge to routinely mine data to optimize our programming and produce evidence about the impact of our work. We commit to using rapid feedback mechanisms to improve implementation within program cycles. And we commit to continually cultivating an innovative environment that generates the bold thinking needed to improve efficiency, boost impact and reduce costs. Thank you.

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Michelle Nunn: [01:07:00] CARE commits to launching new vehicles, such as the CARE Enterprise Growth Fund of \$30 million investing and for benefit enterprises in frontier markets. We commit to investing \$10 million over the next three years and to CARE's 2020 Strategy focusing on harnessing innovation to multiply our impact and to transform our operating model to be an open platform for change. We commit to scaling our sector's very best solutions to the expansion of CARE's scale by design accelerator program and to make this available to other NGO's. And finally, we commit to embracing philanthropist and corporations who want to play a greater role in solutions and rethink how aid and development is funded.

[01:07:30] Bill O'Keefe Catholic Relief Services is structuring a blended finance solution encompassing both grant funding and impact investment capital to increase the number of people with access to clean water in Latin America, starting in El Salvador. The vehicle will be seeded with more than \$4 million in capital, with the target to raise 10 million in the next 12 months and expanding to 40 million. The

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program will benefit just a half million people in El Salvador. For six years, CRS has with many in this room as well, been a leader in ICT for D, holding an annual global conference and incorporating information technology for development in over 120 programs. We commit to openly sharing our learning experience through leading sector publications to advance the capabilities of the broader aid and development sector to incorporate technology in all our program delivery. Thank you very much.

[01:08:30]

Susan Mudge:

Good evening and thank you USAID, the Global Development Lab for this Global Innovation Week and for the partners that are involved for organizing this important event. I'm honored to stand here with everyone and share our commitment to innovation. At Chemonics, we've just concluded our technology for development contest, and I'm thrilled that our winners from Kosovo, Nigeria and Syria are here with us today. Tonight ... Go ahead you may ... they did a fabulous job. Tonight, I am pledging to host additional innovation contest and to take it another step by identifying and funding opportunities to scale up successful ideas and solutions.

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This year, we also organized and hosted impact summits as a platform for our global workforce to explore meaningful ways to learn from each other, address common challenges and share successful solutions. Tonight, I pledge to further scale these summits to ensure we can catalyze innovation into action. We also have a unique partnership with Arizona State University for practitioners and researchers across the globe to test and scale evidence based innovations called solution labs. We pledge to continue these investments to ensure we can help address some of the most complex development challenges and opportunities.

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Chemonix is committed to ensuring innovation is an integral part of everything we do and we're looking forward to working with the people on this stage and in this audience to make development better, smarter and more effective together.

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Leland Crevant:

Thank you to the USAID Global Development Lab for sponsoring Global Innovation Week and this important event today. Creative's commitment to innovation is threefold, first, focus on strengthening the talents and opportunities of individuals who can drive and sustain innovation. Second, linking Creative's experts with beneficiaries, host governments and aid because innovation is a collaborative process and does not happen in a vacuum. Third, ensuring that communities can leverage innovative opportunities so they can transition to self-reliance and sustainable programs.

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We pledge to continue our investments in innovation on all our projects and the Creative Development Lab where we're working in partnership with USAID to leverage fit for purpose, demand driven technology to achieve better solutions to complex development challenges. Today, I reaffirm Creative's unwavering commitment and investment in innovation on all we do on USAID's behalf and especially for our beneficiaries. Thank you.

[01:12:00]

Jim Boomgard:

Thanks Alexis and thanks for the event and the invitation. DAI works with all of our

[01:12:30] customers, our partners, our stakeholders to create value for humanity. To do this, we must create and sustain an eco system of innovation that rewards risk taking, learns from failure and promotes, sustains, and scales new and better ways to shape a more livable world. DAI is proud of the embedded innovation in our development work that has generated tangible benefits for hundreds of millions of people. DAI pledges that there will be innovation inside all of our engagements with USAID.

[01:13:00] During the past year, we have invested millions of dollars in innovation and we intend to continue that trajectory. Notably, I'm most proud of the equity investments we've made in technologies for pediatric diagnoses and mobile cervical cancer detection. 21st Century solutions that have the potential to save the lives of millions of women and children. DAI also believes the digital principles and pledges to apply those principles throughout our work. The power of innovation to improve the human condition is mind boggling. Our community, all of us, have gone well beyond innovation as a fad, we've created an incipient culture of innovation, but let us never lose sight of the reality that humanity, our ultimate judge and jury will hold us accountable for our actions and achievements not just our promises and aspirations.

Patrick Fine: [01:14:00] Hi everyone. I'm Patrick Fine from FHI 360. For a long time, I have lamented the lack of in research and development in the developing community and today, walking around the innovation marketplace and talking to you about the work that you're doing, the ideas, the products that you're bringing to the community and bringing to market, I am inspired that we are at a new era where we're investing in research and development and it is producing results. At FHI360, we started three years ago, an internal innovation challenge for our staff around the world and that has produced hundreds of ideas and we have funded 15 specific projects that have included the digital mapping for school mapping, the use of drones, anti-cyber bullying programs with our own internal resources to the tune of about \$3 million.

[01:15:00] Going forward, we are going to be financing no less than \$3 million a year again out of our own internal resources to promote innovation for technology solutions, so digital solutions for new models and new tools for using social enterprises as a way of achieving sustainable solutions to pressing human development challenges. And also for new approaches and new concepts that address economic participation and the future of work. That's our commitment, thank you.

[01:15:30] David Speiser: At ICF, we believe that ideas are at the center of innovation, but ideas alone are not enough. Innovation requires commitment and approach, partnerships, determination, data and resources to turn ideas into solutions. And solutions then get deployed at meaningful scale. For that reason, ICF pledge for innovation includes the following, first, a commitment to spend \$1 million at an innovation fund to support the development of employee led innovative ideas. Second, to conduct an annual culture of innovation survey across our organization to measure our progress against 21 metrics within six fundamental building blocks of innovative culture. Third, to continue to invest in our senior leader of innovation,

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[01:17:00] Dr Michael Whitaker and to launch for organization-wide, corporate-wide innovation training programs that will enshrine and institutionalize our approach to innovation that will develop our ability to lead innovation discussions with our clients and to mature and develop our ability to take those scalable solutions to the marketplace. Thank you.

Radha Rajkotia: [01:17:30] Good evening everybody. The IRC pledges to commit at least \$10 million dollars by 2021 to catalyze innovation through our innovation center the Airbel Center. This commitment will be dedicated to designing, testing and scaling products, services and delivery systems for people affected by crisis in a range of sectors and complex areas such as nutrition, violence prevention within the home and early childhood development. We commit to establishing a minimum of two halves in countries where IRC works where innovation will be a consistent priority in that country strategy. Thank you.

[01:18:00] Leslie Mancuso: Good evening everyone. Jhpeigo commits to innovation as an organization wide endeavor. We pledge significant investment in executing our new defined innovation strategy that better enables our organization of innovators to be able to address current and emerging health needs in over 40 countries. We commit to expanding our partnerships across the private sector. We pledge over \$1 million per year over the next three years to resource teams to better design, test and scale game changing solutions to save lives. We pledge to leverage human centered design, co-creation and other innovative processes and to utilize these techniques in order to catalyze our efforts. We pledge to strengthen our staffs competencies across all of our 40 countries by improving their skills and knowledge, by dedicating an isolated fund for innovators to test novel solutions and by encouraging south to south collaboration and knowledge sharing. With these efforts, we reaffirm our commitment to continuing to build a culture of innovation that delivers lifesaving results for women and families. Thank you.

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Anne LaFond: [01:20:00] Good evening JSI's commitment to innovation starts at home. We will continue to stimulate and fund innovation from all corners of our organization through our strategic ideas marketplace where we crowdsource ideas throughout the world. JSI will also advance our commitment to applying the principles and the techniques of human centered design into strategy and programs putting the needs and the desires and the passions of users first to increase the adoption of relevant policies, effective service delivery practices and healthy behaviors. JSI also reaffirms our pledge to utilize and advance the principles for digital development. Lastly JSI will continue to work on ways to include the creation of ticket JSI platforms and to leverage and apply creative technology solutions across all of our program areas.

[01:20:30] Thank you.

Susan Puska: [01:21:00] Good evening. Kanava International is a small business and we seek to revolutionize economic development by strengthening the management capacity of organizations. To achieve this, we pledge to invest resources to make our digitized impact strengthening development or ISD Tool, available for field application during 2018 to accelerate the ability of ISD to measure and provide

feedback in real time and empower targeted organizations to build their capacity, expanding beyond our initial testing and development in Cambodia, West Africa and northern Afghanistan. We additionally pledge to invest resources in the training of the kind of a staff and consultants in the ISD methodology. Thank you.

[01:21:30]

Dina Espasito:

Good evening. We at Mercy Corps pledge to double the size of Mercy Corps. Social Venture Fund portfolio which to date has invested in 10 startup companies that have collectively reached over 600,000 under-served people. We pledged to bring financial services utilizing digital technologies to over one million small holder farmers in East Africa by the end of 2020. Also by 2020, Mercy Corps will ensure the financial inclusion of at least one million displaced people and host community members in fragile regions and at least 10 countries experiencing protracted crisis. Mercy Corps will prioritize financial inclusion as a core approach to enable economic growth and resilience for forcibly displaced populations. We pledge to continue to invest in our organizational infrastructure, to support social entrepreneurs and other innovators by appointing a new vice president for innovation. Thank you.

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Christian Loucq:

Good evening. We at Pact pledge to be on the side of the innovators. To enter partnership with entrepreneurs and startups to support an ecosystem that allows each entity to play to its strength. We pledge to train our staff and actively use human center design and to create approaches that search for new and existing solutions, nurturing transformative ideas and accelerating impact. We pledge to create intrapreneurs by giving staff in more than 30 global offices access to a dedicated fund for innovative approaches so they can analyze intractable problems from all angles and generate and taste novel solution. We pledge to build up the fourth sector to convene private, public and nonprofit sector and channel collective resources towards delivering social and environmental outcomes that are measurable, scalable and profitable. Thank you.

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David Flemming:

Hello and thanks for hanging in there. PATH has been really lucky to have had the opportunity to innovate in global health for 40 years and today I would like to focus not on those 40 years, but just one current element. We're innovating to discover more efficient, sustainable, and impactful ways to assure financing for digital health around the world. We've committed to advancing a new core investment model that maximizes the impact of every dollar that the world is investing in the global health digital sector. And so tonight we pledge to encourage co-investment among partners and donors to support countries and seamlessly connecting their digital health infrastructure, sharing better data and ultimately reaching better health outcomes. Thank you.

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Karl Hofmann:

Thank you very much Alexis and thank you all for being here. PSI's maverick collective initiative will work with partners to build an open source electronic medical record system platform to help strengthen everyone's ability to deliver for clients using digital technology to connect community health workers, clients and

[01:25:30] stakeholders. And we pledge to widely share our successes and our failures in doing this. Thank you.

Luis Crouch: Good evening. As a scientific research institute, RTI is proud of our commitment to innovation and we pledge to continue to invest in it aggressively. In the past year, we used internal funding to invest nearly \$5.5 million in internal research and development to improve the human condition including more than \$1 million focused on international development. We've pledged to invest similar amounts in the future as we regularly invest our internal funding. Examples include investment in the data revolution for development and ideas such as using smartphones and web-based information tools to improve local government, tax collection and accountability to tax payers. Also as another example, new tools and methods to access young children's readiness for school and strengthening early childhood interventions that build the foundations of a healthy and successful life. Thank you.

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Kevin McAndrew: Thank you Alexis, Save the Children is proud to commit \$1.5 million towards innovations in 2018. We will support and deploy across functional team of innovation champions, leaders from across our agency with expertise in all of the areas of our mission. These individuals will discover, catalyze and support the most promising new ideas. We will make this network of champions as well as our innovation seed fund available across our whole portfolio of 120 countries where we work around the world. We will invest in multiple new innovations in 2018 and into the future, allowing us to accelerate the breakthroughs we seek in the health, education and protection of children. Thank you.

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Mark Johnson: Hello everyone and thank you too USAID for your commitment to fostering innovation, and to all of you for the commitment. Tetra Tech pledges to commit to a pilot program to access through all phases of our projects; the application of technology and innovation on our projects and proposals to ensure that projects are implementing technology that is fit for purpose, demand driven and builds local capacity. Tetra Tech pledges to adopt adaptive management approaches to regularly monitor what's working and what isn't and remedy any issues throughout the life of the projects. So we are continuing to learn and adapt to any changing nature of our programs that we support.

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[01:29:00]

Tetra Tech is committed to the principles for digital development and the integration of innovation and its programming, to manifest this pledge in our daily work, our technology for development team which we stood up for years ago within Tetra Tech, to foster our commitment to technology and everything that we do in development. We'll engage in proposals to determine if technology might advance the results of the projects and then include 40 days of level of effort to our days for technology for development over the life of the project to shepherd the application of technology. Thank you.

Rodney Ferguson: First, Winrock International pledges to be brief. We pledge to incorporate our solar capabilities in all new project sites we're planning in 2018 for implementation for all new projects in 2019. At each location, we will build the capacity of local entrepreneurs and service providers to market, install and maintain key products in

[01:29:30]

[01:30:00] order to hasten the pace of technology deployment nationwide as a way to meet the challenge of climate change. And lastly, we will continue to do everything we can as an organization to meet the goals of the Paris climate agreement moving forward. Thank you very much.

Jared Hoffman: [01:30:30] Good evening. I'm representing the end of the alphabet, good evening. Six years ago, World Vision became a founding investor in all children reading, a grand challenge for development together with the USAID and the Australian government. This was and remains for World Vision a long term commitment to developing a scale, innovative programming approaches to achieve our aspiration that all children learn to read regardless of their circumstances. World Vision's work in around 100 countries across the globe in fact is dedicated to the proposition that all children are literate and numerate by age 11. Based on the demonstrated progress to date, I'm pleased to announce that World Vision is making an additional pledge of up to \$3 million for the new phase of all children reading grand challenge. We are committed to spurring further systemic change that will empower 250 million children to learn to read and write. Thank you.

Alexis Bonnell: [01:31:30] So first of all I think everyone on stage needs a little wiggle, because it's hard standing up here. Ladies, gentlemen and most importantly leaders, I open today reflecting on the fact that to me and to USAID often innovation comes in the form of a voracious appetite for excellence. We are truly honored to see that leadership and to see that pursuit of excellence on stage and that you would make the time to come and most importantly share with us where your organizations and therefore where development is heading in the future. To wrap up for us today, I want to share with you what we've seen on stage and why this continues to be such a momentous day for us in international development as an industry. 21 leaders, over \$40 million in stated value, not to mention the actual work, time, effort, resources, incredible representation of the definition of excellence and partnership, vision, culture and execution. Over 100 countries of work are reflected on the stage right now and more importantly over 500 programs implemented and impacted.

[01:32:00] I would ask you to stand and to thank and welcome 2018's pledges, and if you want a photo of, this is a pretty good one, I definitely want to be in this picture. I would end today by letting you know number one, thank you again to our partners and thanks to them, there is alcohol and other fun things outside, but most importantly thanks to all of you. Tomorrow, we're going to double down on scale and we're going to start the morning at 8:30 with actually an incredibly interesting conversation around innovation, development and national security. So once again, thank you. We hope you enjoyed tonight. Congratulations to all the winners.

[01:33:00] Congratulations and thank you to our leaders and let's go celebrate.