2022

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Delivering Practical, Research-Driven Solutions to Global Development Problems

LASER PULSE

RESEARCH FOR DEVELOPMENT (R4D) WORKSHOP

LASER PULSE

RESEARCH FOR DEVELOPMENT (R4D) WORKSHOP

Inter Luxury Hotel
Kazanchis, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
+251 11 518 04 44; +251-946604450

Misganaw Solomon: misgish@gmail.com; +251.911 651 346
Tori Burkhart: toraburk@iu.edu, +1.620 794 1359
Teshome Alemneh: talemneh@iu.edu; +251.911 617 164

https://whova.com/portal/webapp/ethio_202209/sign_in/

USAID FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE | PURDUE UNIVERSITY | CRS CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES | INDIANA UNIVERSITY | MAKERERE UNIVERSITY We Build for the Future | UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Laser Pulse Research for Development (R4D) Workshop
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
September 20–21, 2022

"Transforming the Paradigm in the Partnership Model
for Research Translation - Derived Development Solutions"

Inter Luxury Hotel
Joseph Tito Street and Guinea Conakry Street, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Background

LASER PULSE (Long-term Assistance and SErvices for Research Partners for University-Led Solutions Engine) is a five-year, $70M program funded through USAID's Innovation, Technology, and Research Hub, that delivers research-driven solutions to field-sourced development challenges in USAID Partner countries. A consortium led by Purdue University, with core partners Catholic Relief Services, Indiana University, Makerere University, and the University of Notre Dame, implements the LASER PULSE program through a growing network of 2,700+ researchers and development practitioners in 62 countries.

LASER PULSE collaborates with USAID missions, bureaus, and independent offices and other local stakeholders to identify research needs for critical development challenges, and funds and strengthens the capacity of researcher-practitioner teams to co-design solutions that translate into policy and practice.

One of the goals of LASER PULSE is to convene and catalyze a global network of universities, local government, non-government organizations, and the private sector for research-driven practical solutions to critical development challenges. These convenings, called "Research for Development (R4D) workshops," bring together researchers and practitioners, as well as development partners and government, to share experiences and expertise in effective translation of solutions, policies, and practices. LASER PULSE conducted two R4D workshops in 2019, one in Uganda for Eastern Africa and one in Columbia. In addition to the 2022 workshop in Ethiopia, Indiana University and LASER PULSE will be organizing another R4D in Vietnam.

The R4D Workshop in Ethiopia is a highly participatory event attended by researchers and practitioners / implementers, including (a) Ethiopian and U.S. university researchers and experts in resilience and youth development, (b) representatives from NGOs and private sector entities, (c) representatives from government entities, and (d) representatives from USAID/Ethiopia and USAID/Washington DC as well as other donor and development partners.

The **major objectives** of the R4D workshop are to

1. Facilitate and promote continuous engagement and networking with cross-sector partners for sustainable and effective research translation;

2. Create opportunities for LASER grant awardees in Ethiopia to share an overview of their research and expected outcomes with a wider audience of researchers and practitioners, as well as private sector, donors and development partners;

3. Provide opportunities for a wider pool of researchers and practitioners in Ethiopia to be better informed of the LASER PULSE model of evidence-based solutions to development challenges; and

4. Promote and widely disseminate USAID's Higher Education Solutions Network (HESN) vision and the new Higher Education Learning Agenda.

Workshop Agenda

Location Note: All meeting spaces are on the new building/apartment side of the Inter Luxury Hotel complex.

Tuesday, September 20th, 2022

Time	Event
7:30 - 9:00	**Registration - 2nd Floor, Blue Nile Hall #1**
9:00 - 9:30	**Welcome and Opening - 2nd Floor, Blue Nile Hall #1**

H. E. Sean Jones, Mission Director, USAID/Ethiopia
H.E. Ms. Muna Ahmed, State Minister for Youth Affairs Division, Ministry of Women and Social Affairs, Ethiopia

Facilitator: Teshome Alemneh, Associate Vice President for International Research and Development, Indiana University
Rapporteur: Chris Rice, Research Translation Communication Lead, LASER PULSE, Indiana University

9:30 - 10:30	**Keynote - 2nd Floor, Blue Nile Hall #1**

<u>9:30-10:00</u>: **Fostering resilience of communities through innovations: The Resilient Africa Network (RAN) experience**
   Roy Mayega, Deputy Chief-of-Party, RAN, Makerere University

Objective: Understand how development labs under USAID's Higher Education Solutions Network contributed to accelerated research and innovation, producing evidence-based solutions to development challenges.

<u>10:00-10:30</u>: **LASER PULSE overview: Goals, accomplishments, and services to date**
   Pallavi Gupta, Program Director, LASER PULSE, Purdue University

Objective: Introduce LASER PULSE and its philosophy, major focus areas, geographic locations, duration, expected outcomes, etc. Also provide information for participants to enroll and encourage other researchers and practitioners to become LASER network members.

Facilitator: Teshome Alemneh, Associate Vice President for International Research and Development, Indiana University
Rapporteur: Chris Rice, Research Translation Communication Lead, LASER PULSE, Indiana University

Tuesday, September 20th, 2022 - Continued

Time	Event
10:30 - 11:00	Health Break, Networking, and Group Photo - **2nd Floor, Blue Nile Hall #1**

11:00 - 12:30   **Panel Discussion - 2nd Floor, Blue Nile Hall #1**

11:00-11:20: **Partnership on increasing youth engagement while mitigating potential for conflict -**
> Mesele Mengsteab Habtu, Assistant Professor, Social Work and Social Development, Addis Ababa University, and Fitsum Hailu Embaye, Executive Director Initiative for Peace and Development

11:20-11:40: **Partnership on youth empowerment through livelihood transformation in agro-pastoral areas of East and West Hararghe zones, Oromia Regional State**
> Muluken Wordofa, Research Theme Leader for Institutions, Innovation Systems, and Economic Development, Haramaya University, and Mikael Abrahim, Engineer, East Hararghe Irrigation and Pastoral Development Office

11:40-12:00: **Partnership on a systems-, networks-, and human-centered design approach to assessing the resilience of Ethiopian communities experiencing recurring violent conflict shocks**
> Zemelak Ayitenew Ayele, Associate Professor of Law, Addis Ababa University, and Ali Abdi, Executive Director, Aged and Children's Pastoralists Association

Objective: Present a researcher and a practitioner's experience with *"Knowledge Sharing and Potential for Collaboration,"* highlighting their (i) objective and need for the research, (ii) overview of research context and implementation, and (iii) preliminary findings and potential impact of their LASER awarded projects.

12:00-12:30: Q&A (on all three presentations)

Facilitator: Betty Bugusu, Technical Director LASER PULSE, Purdue University
Rapporteurs: Laura Riddering, Research Translation Advisor, LASER PULSE, CRS

12:30 - 13:30   **Networking Lunch - 3rd Floor, Warka Restaurant**

13:30 - 15:30   **Panel Discussion - 2nd Floor, Blue Nile Hall #1**

13:30-14:00: **The LASER PULSE Embedded Research Translation (ERT) model**
> Laura Riddering, Research Translation Advisor, LASER PULSE, CRS

Objective: Provide an overview of the ERT model, including its implementation in LASER PULSE, the preliminary outcomes of its impact in LASER PULSE funded projects, and how it fills a gap for a collaborative research translation approach in international development.

Tuesday, September 20th, 2022 - Continued

Time	Event
13:30 - 15:30	**Panel Discussion - 2nd Floor, Blue Nile Hall #1**

14:00-14:30: **USAID strategies on "Locally-led development, communicating results and impact, and partnerships and sustainability"**
Brent Wells, Alt AOR for LASER PULSE, Program Officer, Research Division, ITR, USAID

Objective: Understand USAID's commitment to localization and the shift of leadership, ownership, decision making, and implementation to the local people and institutions who possess the capability, connectedness, and credibility to drive change in their own countries and communities.

14:30-15:00: **Effective Partnership and Research for Development: The Academic Model Providing Access to Healthcare (AMPATH) success story**
Michael Scanlon, Assistant Director of Research Center for Global Health, Indiana University

15:00-15:30: **Q&A – Discussions**

Facilitator: Pallavi Gupta, Program Director, LASER PULSE, Purdue University
Rapporteur: Chris Rice, Research Translation Communication Lead, LASER PULSE, Indiana University

15:30 - 15:45	**Health Break - 2nd Floor, Open Area in front of the Blue Nile Hall #1** **Poster Session and Networking**
17:30 - 19:30	**Networking Reception - G Floor, Awash Valley**

Wednesday, September 21st, 2022

Time	Event
8:30 - 9:00	**Sign In / Attendance -** 2nd Floor, Blue Nile Hall #1
9:00 - 10:30	**Panel Discussion -** 2nd Floor, Blue Nile Hall #1

9:00-9:30: **The need for research translation and research driven solutions to global development challenges (policy and practice)**
    Margaret Henning, Senior CLA Advisor, USAID/Ethiopia

9:30-10:00: **Partnering with higher education institutions for development research: Reflections from LASER PULSE**
    Yuehwern Yih, Academic Director, LASER PULSE, Professor, School of Industrial Engineering, Purdue University

Objective: Discuss the need for effective research translation and long-term partnership among academics, practitioners, and development actors to address global challenges from the perspectives of a practitioner and a researcher with LASER PULSE.

10:00-10:30: **Q&A – Discussions**

Facilitator: Michael Sweikar, Executive Director, Pulte Institute for Global Development, Notre Dame University
Rapporteur: Chris Rice, Research Translation Communication Lead, LASER PULSE, Indiana University

10:30	**Logistics Announcement -** 2nd Floor, Blue Nile Hall #1

Facilitator: Sunni Fass, Associate Director for International Research and Development, Indiana University and Misganaw Solomon, Vice President, St. Mary's University

10:30 - 11:00	**Health Break -** 2nd Floor, Open Area in front of the Blue Nile Hall #1 **Poster Session and Networking**
11:00 - 12:30	**Panel Discussion -** 2nd Floor, Blue Nile Hall #1

In-person Roundtable Meetings and Speed networking - Opportunities with private sector, NGO, government, bilateral, and multilateral agencies and development partners in Ethiopia - 2nd Floor, Blue Nile Hall #1

Objective: Create opportunities for networking, collaborating, and fostering meaningful conversations and connections between researchers, practitioners, private sector representatives, development partners, and government professionals.

Wednesday, September 21st, 2022 - Continued

Time	Event
11:00 - 12:30	**Panel Discussion - 2nd Floor, Blue Nile Hall #1**

Facilitator: Sunni Fass, Associate Director for International Research and Development Indiana University and Misganaw Solomon, Vice President, St. Mary's University

12:30 - 13:30	**Networking Lunch - 3rd Floor, Warka Restaurant**
13:30 - 15:00	**Panel Discussion - 2nd Floor, Blue Nile Hall #1**

<u>13:30-14:00</u>: **USAID resilience and food security initiative in Ethiopia**
Aaron Spencer, Resilience Research and Learning Program Advisor, USAID/ Ethiopia

Objective: Understand the U.S. government's Global Food Security Strategy to reduce hunger, poverty, and malnutrition, and U.S. initiatives in Ethiopia including (i) investments in agriculture-related industry, diversification, and transformation of the economy, accelerating economic growth, (ii) improvements in resilience by using smart irrigation systems, (iii) reduction of the need for humanitarian assistance by helping vulnerable families, and (iv) access to the right mix of nutrients with a particular focus on addressing stunted childhood growth.

<u>14:00-14:30</u>: **Higher Education Learning Agenda: Evidence generation, evidence capture and evidence dissemination**
Samantha Alvis, Senior Advisor for Higher Education, USAID Center for Education

Objective: Understand learning priorities in higher education across sectors, sharing the strategies of USAID Higher Education Learning Agenda, and informing researchers, practitioners, and development partners of the Evidence Generation, Evidence Capture, and Evidence Dissemination approaches.

<u>14:30-15:00</u>: **Q&A – Discussions**

Facilitator: Margaret Henning, Senior CLA Advisor, USAID/Ethiopia
Rapporteur: Chris Rice, Research Translation Communication Lead, LASER PULSE, Indiana University

15:30 - 16:00	**Health Break, Poster Session, and Networking - 2nd Floor, Blue Nile Hall #1**

Wednesday, September 21ˢᵗ, 2022 – Continued

Time	Event
15:30-16:00	**Vote of Thanks and after-action from the workshop - 2nd Floor, Blue Nile Hall #1**
	Arvind Raman, Director LASER PULSE, Executive Associate Dean, College of Engineering, Purdue University
	Facilitator: Teshome Alemneh, Associate Vice President for International Research and Development, Indiana University
15:30-16:00	**Official Workshop Closing - 2nd Floor, Blue Nile Hall #1**
	H.E. Adam Schmidt, Deputy Mission Director USAID/Ethiopia
	Facilitator: Teshome Alemneh, Associate Vice President for International Research and Development, Indiana University
16:30 - 16:45	**Logistics Announcement and Adjournment**

LASER PULSE

RESEARCH FOR DEVELOPMENT (R4D) WORKSHOP