



ASSOCIATION OF
PUBLIC &
LAND-GRANT
UNIVERSITIES

ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC AND LAND-GRANT UNIVERSITIES

Founded in 1887, the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU) is an association of more than 230 public research universities, land-grant institutions, and state public university systems.

APLU member campuses in the U.S. annually enroll 4 million undergraduate and 1.2 million graduate students, award 1 million degrees, employ 1 million faculty and staff, and conduct \$40.2 billion in university-based research. Collectively, they demonstrate the power and the good of public universities.

As the nation's oldest higher education association, APLU is dedicated to excellence in learning, discovery and engagement. For more information, visit www.aplu.org

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FY2017 Appropriations Priorities STATE, FOREIGN OPS, AND RELATED AGENCIES

APLU strongly believes that USAID needs to rebalance its education focus to place a greater priority on building higher education capacity in developing nations in partnership with U.S. universities. While we do not propose funding be drawn from basic education, it is clear that investments in higher education in developing nations are not properly balanced with equally important investments in basic education. The result is that in most developing nations, institutions of higher education lack fundamental educational and research capacities. This work must be expanded to help create the conditions for significant economic growth, stability and security in developing nations.

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (USAID)

Higher Education “Human and Institutional Capacity Development” Partnerships:

APLU FY2017 Request: \$250 million for higher education, \$35 million for new higher education partnerships

(new higher education partnerships: FY2017 PBR = n/a; FY2016 = \$35 million; FY2015 = \$17.5 million)

Bill Language Request:

“not less than \$250,000,000 shall be made available for assistance for higher education, including not less than \$35,000,000 for new institutional capacity development partnerships between developing nations and U.S. higher education institutions.”

For FY2017, APLU requests \$35 million for new partnerships between U.S. and developing-nation universities across the globe with a focus on building institutional capacity. No country can grow without educated leaders, scientists, entrepreneurs, doctors, teachers, nurses, engineers, and other high-skilled drivers of economic growth. Further, a lack of well-educated citizenry is a major impediment to international development; it undermines U.S. development assistance efforts and makes private sector engagement costly and difficult. Additionally, it destabilizes democracy and threatens global security. For these many important reasons, APLU supports robust investment in higher education partnerships.

A World Bank study shows that the returns to higher education investments are substantial. Contrary to prevailing thought, the poorer the country, the greater the return on investment to higher education. In fact, the poorest world region, Sub-Saharan Africa, shows the highest rates of return from investments in higher education at 21.9%, which is nearly double that for primary and secondary education in the region. Every additional \$5 million in funding can launch a new partnership in the model of the partnership between The Ohio State University, Michigan State University, Iowa State University, Virginia Tech, University of Florida, Tuskegee University, and Sokoine University in Tanzania. This partnership is transforming Sokoine University into an institution with strengthened educational, training, and research capacities, particularly in agriculture. While this partnership has an agricultural focus, U.S. universities work with developing nation universities in many key areas including education, health, business, and agriculture and natural resource management.

APLU FY2017 STATE, FOREIGN OPS APPROPRIATIONS PRIORITIES (con't)

Feed the Future Food Security Innovation Labs

APLU FY2017 Request: \$60 million (for all 25 Labs)

(FY2016 PBR = n/a; FY2016 = \$50 million (for all 25 Labs) FY2015 = \$32 million (for nine of the 25 Labs)

APLU requests \$60 million for all 25 Feed the Future Food Security Innovation Labs (Innovation Labs). Innovation Labs are a two-for-one investment. They solve critical agricultural problems that impact food security and poverty through research conducted collaboratively between U.S. and developing country students and scientists and they also enable developing countries to build the capacity to solve their own problems in the future. More than 60 U.S. universities throughout the nation are engaged in the Labs. This global engagement increases the reach of U.S. research institutions, creates linkages that facilitate U.S. economic ties with developing countries and fosters economic growth in developing countries that benefits their economy and ours. The Innovation Labs are tackling the world's most challenging agricultural development problems and sharing scientific knowledge throughout the developing world on issues such as productivity, yield, climate resiliency, and human nutrition. To remove dependency on development assistance it is essential to train a workforce of well-educated citizens to enable the transition to independent economic growth.

Higher Education Solutions Network

APLU FY2017 Request: \$27.4 million

(FY2017 PBR = n/a; FY2016 = \$19.4 million; FY2015 = \$19.4 million)

The Higher Education Solution Network (HESN) is a five year; \$137 million investment funded under USAID's U.S. Global Development Lab. APLU requests \$27.4 million in FY2017, the annual apportionment under the established fund. HESN is a partnership between USAID and seven top universities, designed to harness the ingenuity and passion of university students, researchers, and faculty to deliver the greatest impact for new science and tech-based solutions to the world's most challenging development problems. Innovations created through the University of California, Berkeley have reached 1.75 million beneficiaries in 35 countries. Michigan State University's Global Center for Food Systems Innovation is creating, testing and enabling the scaling of innovations in the food system, using an approach that is multidisciplinary, focused on the entire food system, and forward-looking, considering major trends that will impact future food system performance.