

Last 6 months...

Energy Division of projects in support of our scaling up renewables:

Workshop on wind and solar forecasting for sixty power system operators in Latin America, and supporting best practices for competitive procurement of renewable energy in places such as Afghanistan.

Projects that support increasing energy access:

We assisted the national electric utility in Jamaica in developing a new technology that enables low income urban households to switch from stealing power to having access to safe, legal and affordable service.

We finalized 13 new awards for \$13 million under our Powering Agriculture Grand Challenge - An initiative focused on innovative clean energy solutions at the energy/agriculture nexus.

Engineering

Our team has been supported an intra-agency working group to develop a constructions risk screening process which will be integrated into USAID's program cycle. The process involves identification of all construction activities at the planning stage, risk screening prior to implementation and follow-up through implementation.

We increased the number of foreign service engineers in the agency.

Awarded Follow-on A&E IDIQ was awarded in October.

Urban

New KM task order was issued under our MCW IDIQ that will help us improve our communications and research capacity on the most relevant Urban development issues affecting the Agency.

Next 6 months...

We'll be working with seven distribution utilities to implement activities to increase the professional participation of women in the Energy sector.

Next week, (week of February 1st) Powering Agriculture is launching a free Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) entitled "Sustainable Energy for Food." The 8-week course will introduce challenges and solutions for sustainable energy use in the agriculture and food industry.

The engineering team will be piloting the construction risk screening in select Missions and developing guidance to support a full roll-out of construction risk screening later in 2016.

We are developing training for USAID personnel who are interested in urban focused programming.

Lastly, we'll be helping define the USG policy position for the HABITAT III conference in October 2016.