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# Global Development Commons



**Information Sharing for Development**

**ACVFA Meeting  
February 28, 2006**



# What is the GDC?

- A virtual space where development stakeholders share information and exchange ideas in real-time.
- Not owned by any one government, business, or entity but by the development user community.
- Builds on recent dramatic changes in the development assistance landscape.
- Repositions information sharing to optimize fast-paced changes in the internet, communications, and web-based applications.
- Responds to consumer and end-user information needs. <sup>2</sup>



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# What's Changed Worldwide?

- Over 1 billion internet users in 2006 -- more than  $\frac{1}{2}$  of those new users are from the developing world.
- By 2011, 2 out of every 3 internet users will come from the developing world.
- In most developing countries, the new internet users are 20 fold more likely to use mobile phones and other wireless devices than fixed platforms.
- The number of public and private stakeholders seeking to reduce poverty is increasing exponentially as internet user rates sky rocket.



# What's Missing Worldwide?

- Most major search engines like Google and Yahoo are focused on number of hits and speed rather than content.
- Meeting end-user development information needs is often tedious, uncertain, and unreliable.
- Many stakeholder websites/development portals are mainly built for “top-end users”.
- End-users must find pertinent websites rather than have the website information come to them.



# What are the GDC's Goals?

- Accelerate real-time information sharing worldwide especially among aid end-users, recipients, and beneficiaries.
- Catalyze the worldwide effort to build the next generation of information sharing platforms – “*Development Portal 2.0*”
- Build partnerships with leading public and private sector organizations so that “*Development Portal 2.0*” is a shared effort.
- Create a *USAID “Smart Portal”* that will link all Agency websites and make searching for Agency information and best practices easy and efficient.



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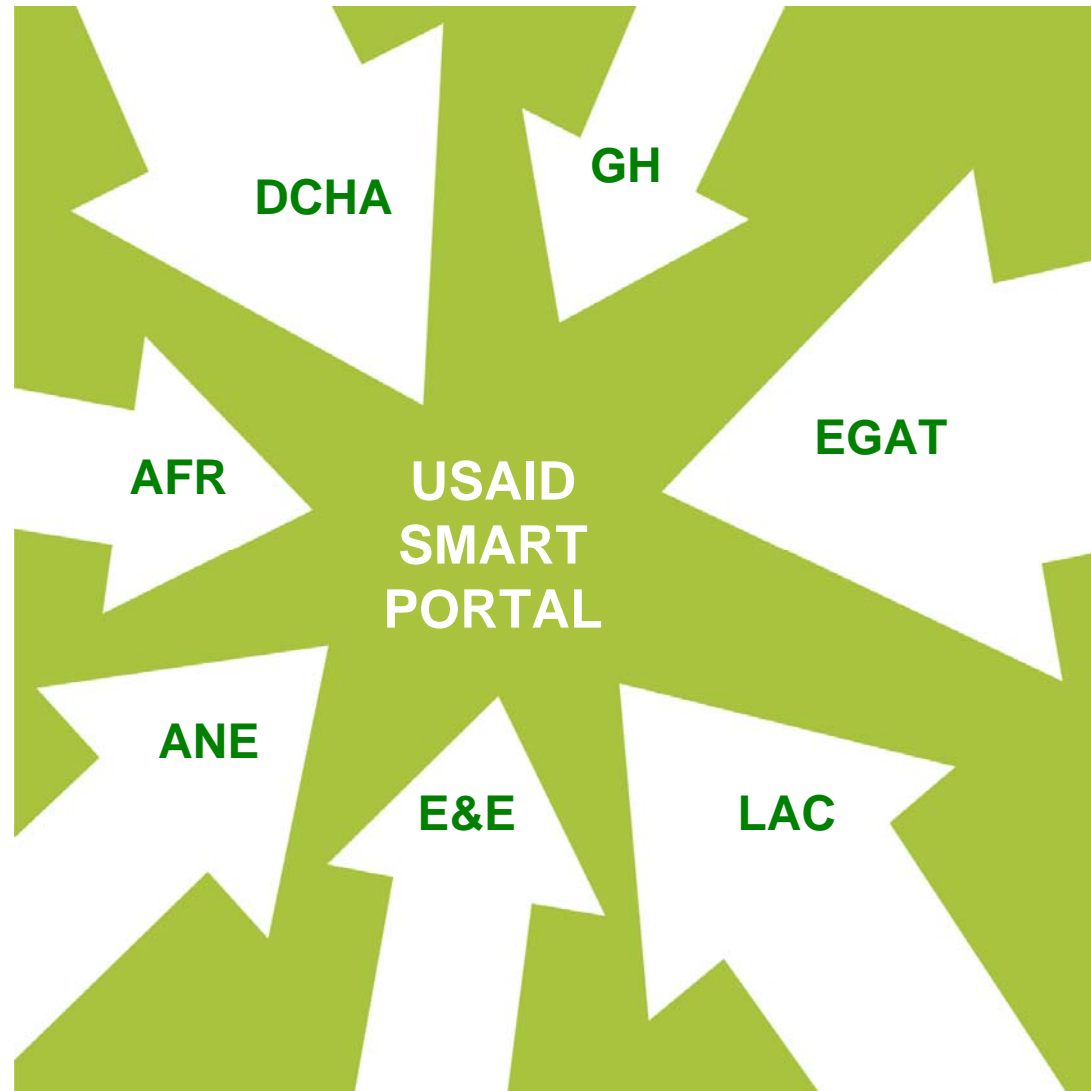
# GDC Worldwide





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# USAID's Smart Portal





# Mission Directors' Working Group Feedback

- Determine USAID value added in web site/portals
- Conduct Agency wide Mission-level GDC survey
- Recruit pilot missions for in depth GDC input
- Examine end-users' interest/demand
- Identify barriers to “bottom-up” GDC access





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## Learn More:

- Please visit the website at:  
[www.usaid.gov/about\\_usaid/gdc/](http://www.usaid.gov/about_usaid/gdc/)
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