



COALITION OF INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMPANIES

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US International Development Companies Launch New Coalition

Washington, DC – More than 50 of the nation's top international development companies on Wednesday announced the formation of the Coalition of International Development Companies (CIDC), a major new voice in the international development community. CIDC was created to inform and educate policymakers and the public about the critical role international development companies play in delivering accountable and transparent development projects that support US national security, economic, and humanitarian goals.

International development companies support American efforts abroad by bringing highly-skilled, entrepreneurial assistance to developing countries. The new coalition was formed to highlight their skills and contributions. Because of the vast experience and expertise of its member companies in delivering efficient, transformative, and sustainable results in social, economic, health, and governance programs, the new coalition believes it can serve as a valuable resource to key decision makers and the media in the on-going debate about how to optimize US foreign assistance, including results-driven approaches.

CIDC aims to maximize US tax dollars so that communities abroad get the best and most cost effective American assistance. "The debate over who should implement our foreign aid programs – nonprofits or development companies – misses the point," said Charito Kruvant, CEO of Creative Associates International and chairperson of CIDC. "The issue is not *who* performs development work in a foreign country. It's *how well* the work is done and whether it lasts. That should determine what manner of funding a project receives and who leads the effort."

CIDC's enhanced participation in the debate about US foreign assistance will help policymakers and other influencers make better decisions, both for American taxpayers and the foreign communities that benefit from American help. Decisions about American's international development strategy should be based on facts, not anecdotes, assumptions or myths.

American international development companies are dedicated to building the capacity and skills of organizations and people in the developing world, and, while doing so, promoting American values. CIDC looks forward to engaging in this timely debate and helping America invest in what works best. Examples

of programs being implemented by CIDC members are on the coalition's website, www.AmericanIngenuityAbroad.org.

"From helping grape-growers in Afghanistan to training the independent-minded journalists in Egypt, from instructing education ministry workers in Iraq to preventing malaria in Uganda or developing licit agriculture in Colombia or modernizing agriculture in Haiti, our work helps transform societies in permanent ways, helping those who need it most and supporting US policies overseas," Kruvant said.

For more information or to schedule an interview with one of CIDC's member company CEOs, please contact David Marin at dmarin@podesta.com or at 202-879-9368.

Please also visit us online at www.AmericanIngenuityAbroad.org, or follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/IntDevCompanies.

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