**U.S. Agency for International Development FY 2016 Report to Congress on Data Disaggregation**

*FY 2016 House Report 114-154 accompanying HR 2772:*
*The Committee directs the USAID Administrator to submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations, not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, on efforts to disaggregate the impact of United States assistance on populations of strategic concern such as age, sex, and geographic area.*

USAID ensures that guidance is in place for disaggregation of performance data on populations of strategic concern, based on demographics such as age, sex, and geographic area, as necessary and relevant. USAID missions are encouraged to disaggregate by age, geographic area, or other relevant attribute when it is relevant and needed for informing decisions about program performance.

There is specific guidance regarding sex-disaggregated data, detailed below. The need to document any other types of disaggregation that are relevant are referenced in ADS 203.3.3.1. Each performance indicator must be documented with a reference sheet that describes, among other attributes, whether and how the data must be disaggregated (by sex, age, or other category). USAID guidance on performance management plans also encourages Missions to consider and analyze any important types of disaggregation for an indicator (e.g., by sex, geography, income level, or other factor), especially if each sub-group has its own target.

Sex-Disaggregated Data
Given the potentially prohibitive costs associated with disaggregating data, especially if the disaggregation is not relevant, USAID only requires sex-disaggregation for people-level indicators. With regard to gender, USAID's Automated Directives System requires that all people-level indicators at Country Development Cooperation Strategy (CDCS), project or activity level must be sex-disaggregated (ADS 203.3.8). Specifically, it states:

> USAID requires performance monitoring and evaluation to understand how these differences improve or detract from the efficiency and overall impact of its programs. In order to track how effectively USAID assistance contributes to gender equality and female empowerment, performance management plans must include gender-sensitive indicators and sex-disaggregated data.

> All people-level indicators at CDCS, project or activity level must be sex-disaggregated. As defined by the three stated outcomes of the USAID Gender Equality and Female Empowerment Policy, data to track progress toward gender equality and female empowerment could come from studies of project beneficiaries (using qualitative and quantitative methodologies), or evaluations of project/activity performance or impact.

Other sources may include:
- National Demographic and Health Surveys,
- Living Standards of Measurement Study Surveys, and
- Labor Force Surveys, among others.

Local universities and research organizations are potential sources of data and may also provide the ability for geographic disaggregation within a country.

The USAID and State Department jointly developed Gender Key Issue output and outcome indicators can be found at:
http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/101761.pdf.

Disaggregated Data Based on Geographic Area

With regard to geographic disaggregation and performance monitoring, in July 2013, USAID issued an Agency Notice requiring field missions to adopt standardized Mission Orders for key Program Cycle processes including for monitoring and evaluation, and offered a standardized template for recording geographic location information.

At least 47 missions have adopted Mission Orders on monitoring, and the number of missions collecting geographic location data is increasing as the Agency builds its capacity to incorporate geographic data and analysis as part of its business operations.  To help USAID increase the effectiveness and efficiency of its development investments using geographic data and analysis, the Agency established a technical team of geographers and data analysts to staff an in-house GeoCenter.  USAID's GeoCenter is available to provide expert consultations and capacity support for analysis of geographic information that aids in strategic decision-making.

USAID's Open Data Policy has brought Agency-wide attention to the importance of collecting data from its implementing partners and assigning roles and responsibilities within the Agency to implement this policy.  This is resulting in the Agency taking an increasingly proactive approach towards not only collecting data but applying quality assurance/quality control measures to ensure that the data is of high quality.  In support of the Open Data Policy, the USAID Open Data Team is currently generating guidance on collecting and managing data effectively to help USAID and its implementing partners standardize the application of recommended best practices for data collection and management.  As part of this larger data effort, the GeoCenter is developing standard guidance on collecting geographic data to increase the quality of project-level data collected by USAID implementing partners.