INNOVATIVE DESIGN, EXECUTION, AND ACCELERATION SUPPORT (IDEAS)

Empowering Ideas, Accelerating Local Impact

ABOUT IDEAS

WHAT IS IDEAS?

Innovative Design, Execution, and Acceleration Support (IDEAS) is a transformative mechanism designed to drive open innovation, inspire collective action, and foster high-impact local solutions. Through a comprehensive suite of services, IDEAS supports open innovation programs worldwide, bridging the gaps between ideation, implementation, and real-world impact. IDEAS is designed to empower the United States Agency for International Development's Missions, Bureaus, and Independent Offices (M/B/IOs) to harness the full potential of open innovation. This mechanism serves to incentivize new, local, non-traditional, and private sector partners to participate in and strengthen local market systems.

WHEN SHOULD I USE IDEAS?

🚀 **Designing Open Innovation Programs:** Utilize IDEAS when you are conceptualizing open innovation programs, such as prizes, challenges, hackathons, Grand Challenges, collective action funds, and other forms of incentive-driven design. Our experts deliver cutting-edge methodologies, including human-centered design, co-creation, and incentive package development, inspiring innovators to design high-impact and locally relevant solutions.

📊 **Executing Seamless Open Innovation Programs:** When you need to execute open innovation programs seamlessly, IDEAS provides comprehensive support. From grants under contract

administration to monitoring, evaluation, and learning (MEL) support, we ensure your open innovation programs are delivered efficiently and effectively.

🌍 **Accelerating High-Impact Solutions:** When accelerating high-impact solutions, IDEAS is your partner in scaling proven innovative approaches. We provide tailored technical assistance, strategic marketing expertise, and leverage blended financing to accelerate innovations for increased uptake and social impact.

WHY USE IDEAS?

IDEAS equips M/B/IOs with access to open innovation approaches and harnesses the collective wisdom of local innovators and solvers to achieve contextually relevant, tailored solutions.

IDEAS SERVICES

OPEN INNOVATION PROGRAM DESIGN ASSISTANCE:

- Conceptualize open innovation competitions—such as challenges, hackathons, prizes, and Grand Challenges for Development—from inception to implementation.
- Craft open innovation programs using tailored research and design methodologies.
- Integrate local innovators and contexts and incentivize partners for locally driven solutions.
- Facilitate stakeholder engagement and co-creation activities.
- Develop and execute open innovation training programs.

OPEN INNOVATION PROGRAM EXECUTION SUPPORT SERVICES:

- Ensure efficient budgetary oversight and financial management for open innovation programs.
- Administer grants under contract, including managing solicitation, evaluation, due diligence, and negotiation processes.
- Provide technical and specialized support for global open innovation initiatives.
- Deliver administrative and operations services, ensuring seamless program functioning.
- Provide strategic communications planning and implementation.
- Offer monitoring, evaluation, and learning (MEL) and knowledge management services.

ACCELERATION SUPPORT SERVICES:

- Overcome operational challenges and barriers to scale, and assess innovations' readiness for widespread adoption.
- Offer technical assistance, market analysis, and business strategy development to innovators and grantees.