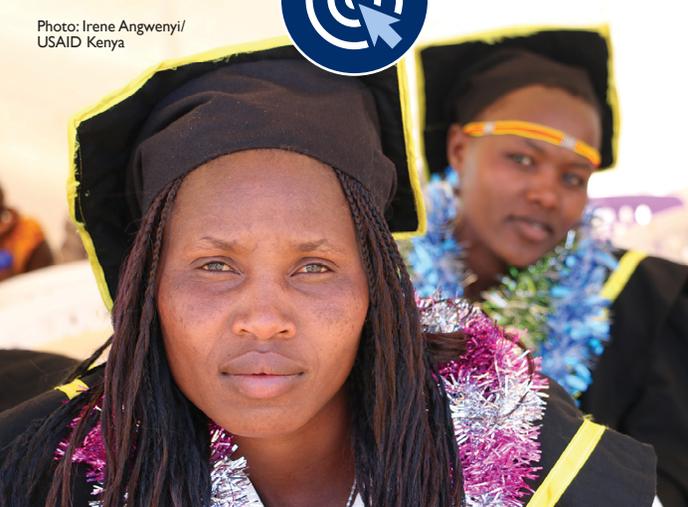


Higher Education is a priority area of the USAID Education Policy, along with early learning, youth workforce development, and education in crisis and conflict.

As an Agency-wide learning agenda, the Higher Education Learning Agenda comprises a collection of prioritized learning questions developed by higher education stakeholders across USAID technical sectors, led by USAID's Office of Education. To address the questions posed by the Higher Education Learning Agenda, the USAID Education Office will organize and disseminate existing data, generate new evidence, and produce conclusions and recommendations through research, situational analyses, literature reviews, case studies, peer-to-peer learning, and program and impact evaluations. The Learning Agenda is intended to guide the generation of evidence to inform USAID education program strategic planning, activity design, and professional development.



Photo: Irene Angwenyi/  
USAID Kenya



## Focus on Collaboration in Learning Activities and Utilization of Findings



The Office of Education is collaborating with other USAID staff working on cross-sectoral higher education issues in Washington, USAID Missions, and partners to advance learning activities, with the goal of developing learning products to inform program design, implementation, and strategic planning. Taken as a whole, this new wave of inquiry aims to improve the quality and impact of USAID higher education programs, as well as enhance the shared understanding of what works.

**We welcome feedback and engagement on these questions. For more information or to share notes or collaborate, write to [officeofeducation@usaid.gov](mailto:officeofeducation@usaid.gov).**



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FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

# HIGHER EDUCATION LEARNING AGENDA



Photo: Matthew Venker/USAID

# USAID Higher Education LEARNING AGENDA QUESTIONS



## Management and Financing of Systems and Institutions

1. How can Higher Education (HE) systems and institutions become more strategic in planning, implementing, and monitoring core activities (e.g., enrollment, academic programs, research, and outreach)?
2. How can financing of HE systems and institutions become more sustainable?

## Academic Programs



3. How can the viability and effectiveness of online and other forms of distance education be improved?
4. How can skills or competencies (e.g., technical and soft skills) for employability best be identified, analyzed, and incorporated into curricula, teaching, and learning?
5. How can the practice and culture of teaching become more learner-centered?



## Research and Innovation

6. How can HE systems and Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) play a more active role in the development and strengthening of national and regional innovation ecosystems?

## HEI Outreach and Engagement



7. How can HEIs collaborate most effectively with the private sector to enhance the relevance and quality of teaching and learning, and research and innovation?
8. How can USAID best partner with HEIs to make use of local knowledge and expertise?



## Access, Equity, and Student Services

9. How can HE access, retention, and completion rates be improved for underrepresented populations (e.g., women, indigenous and marginalized populations, and people with disabilities)?
10. What institutional and behavioral changes are needed to improve gender awareness and gender equity?

## Higher Education Learning Agenda Development and Approach

The Agency-wide Higher Education Learning Agenda was developed collaboratively with over 100 individuals from USAID Missions, USAID Washington, implementing partners, and other stakeholders. These contributors supported learning agenda development and catalyzed a collective movement towards advancing the higher education evidence base.

Questions in this learning agenda are diverse and require different approaches:

- **Evidence Generation:** Minimal evidence exists for these questions, which require generation of new evidence.
- **Evidence Capture:** Evidence exists for these questions, but it is dispersed and requires capturing and analysis to transform it into usable information.
- **Evidence Dissemination:** Evidence exists in a usable form, but it is relatively unknown and requires targeted dissemination and socialization.

Visit [edu-links.org/HELearningAgenda](https://edu-links.org/HELearningAgenda) on EducationLinks for more information. We invite you to join us in implementing and learning through USAID's Higher Education Learning Agenda!



Photo: USAID