The University of Notre Dame Initiative for Global Development (NDIGD) is proud to be an integral part of the new Keough School of Global Affairs, the first new school or college at Notre Dame in nearly a century.

NDIGD promotes human development and dignity among people worldwide through applied innovations, impact evaluation, education, and training that help build just and equitable societies. It supports the Keough School by combining the existing world-class teaching and research faculty of the University with a dedicated staff of experienced international development professionals, administrators, and researchers.

In 2017, NDIGD will join the six other international academic units that make up the Keough School in the newly constructed Jenkins Hall, as the Keough School welcomes its first cohort of students in the new Master of Global Affairs program for the fall semester of 2017.
It has been a year of intense advancement and prodigious happenings here at NDIGD as we conclude our first year within the Keough School of Global Affairs—Notre Dame’s first new school in nearly a century. We have responded to a burgeoning demand to connect teaching and research expertise to global challenges, while contributing to research, policy, and practice within the Keough School. Our efforts this year could best be characterized by reaching beyond the scope of what is sometimes perceived as the ivory tower of academia.

Here at Notre Dame, we assembled for the first time University and local community expertise to work together with future generations of young entrepreneurs across Latin America and the Caribbean as part of the U.S. Department of State’s Young Leaders of the Americas Initiative (YLAI). Through this program, 14 young leaders from 12 different countries came to Notre Dame and served as fellows in South Bend businesses, receiving practical training and mentorship and exchanging ideas for incubating their businesses.

In Haiti, we embarked on a new partnership with USAID as part of a $6.2 million grant to help evaluate the impact of new work in 150 schools by Notre Dame’s Institute for Educational Initiatives and local Haitian partners. This partnership involves teaching school children to read, improving teacher-training modules, and working with the Ministry of Education in Haiti.

In Afghanistan, we began a new USAID partnership with Mendoza College of Business faculty and Balkh University in the city of Mazar-i-Sharif, which is designed to develop a master’s program in finance and accountancy for students at Balkh.

Universities today can connect students, government, the private sector, and philanthropists to some of the greatest professors and researchers in the world. In an age when civic discourse may be challenging and government realignment can be swift, universities can be leaders that bridge the gap between theory and practice. And the most significant universities of our time will be singled out for the real-world impact that their education and research programs have had in the world.

In 2017, our sights are set on continuing our growth and widening our real-world impact across the globe. This summer, Ray Offenheiser will join our team as the inaugural director of
“In an age when civic discourse may be challenging and government realignment can be swift, universities can be leaders that bridge the gap between theory and practice.”

NDIGD; one of our biggest milestones to date. Ray, who has served as CEO and president of Oxfam America for the past two decades, is a widely known and successful leader and innovator with a broad range of international development experience in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. We are confident that under his leadership the possibilities for NDIGD are limitless.

I have always regarded NDIGD as a “think-do tank.” This past year, we did our best to bring both the thinking and the doing together in every aspect of our relationships with others. In 2017 and beyond we will continue to forge new ideas and relationships to build a better world and future.

Michael Sweikar
Managing Director
NDIGD is uniquely positioned at the University of Notre Dame to work across departments, centers, and institutes to move the needle on critical research questions. We work with faculty at several levels to increase opportunities for their research by leveraging our expertise in partnering with government agencies such as the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the U.S. Department of State, the Millennium Challenge Corporation, and others. Beyond contributing to research in their individual fields, faculty have the opportunity to test hypotheses in real-world, applied situations.

To date, NDIGD has worked together with faculty and researchers to answer many interdisciplinary research questions, including:

- Are training sessions for local government committee members in Malawi improving their capacity to serve local communities? *(see p. 16, Evaluating Local Governance)*

- What are the most effective means to improve children’s early-grade literacy in Haiti? *(see p. 20, USAID Read Haiti Global Development Alliance)*

- What conditions contribute to the emergence and extent of food voucher diversion? *(see p. 22, Voucher-Based Refugee Relief Assistance)*

NDIGD works in diverse ways to find answers to these challenging questions. We operate under three divisions:
**IMPACT EVALUATION:** Global development projects increasingly include impact evaluation as a critical component, with the goal of producing a measurable impact on project outcomes. Measuring impact requires the use of rigorous and complex designs to determine short- and long-term impact.

Designing an impact evaluation necessitates a delicate balance between methods and project constraints that include the collection of qualitative and quantitative data. The Impact Evaluation Division uses randomized control trials (RCTs) in projects, considered to be the gold standard in impact evaluations, as well as other quasi-experimental designs and mixed methods to determine impact.

**EDUCATION AND TRAINING:** The Education and Training Division builds on faculty expertise to provide a stimulating and inspiring learning environment for development professionals, professional leaders, and students from around the world.

University of Notre Dame teaching faculty use their experience to provide course content that incorporates the latest trends and knowledge in their field. NDIGD provides technical, administrative, and logistical support to effectively deliver that content. Together, we provide development actors with access to world-class instruction on the most pressing issues affecting the world today.

**APPLIED INNOVATION:** NDIGD helps to bridge the gap between cutting-edge Notre Dame research and development challenges. The Applied Innovation Division supports research with potential development applications in science, technology, engineering, health, business, economics, political science, and other social sciences. These efforts address the cultural, social, ethical, economic, political, and technical dimensions of global development. Together with our partners, we seek new, high-impact means to support institutions and local communities.

NDIGD research, made possible by our partners and individual donors, provides information that has critical impact on the lives of thousands of people. This research can be used by Notre Dame and our in-country partners to have an even greater impact on people in developing countries.
In response to the wide-ranging needs of people around the world, NDIGD is committed to serving the common good. Notre Dame is seeking partnerships with global corporations in order to improve the lives of people in need worldwide.

The Corporate Impact Program resides within NDIGD to help corporations innovate and scale projects, measure the impact of overseas corporate responsibility endeavors, provide business analytics and strategy, and help companies acquire and retain talent.

**STRUCTURE**

Notre Dame faculty and staff work with leaders in global corporate citizenship to broaden their corporate responsibility activities. The Corporate Impact Program focuses on maximizing partnerships among faculty from more than a dozen programs, centers, and institutes at Notre Dame that share a common goal of rigorous research and real-world impact.

**GEOGRAPHY**

Notre Dame has developed strong ties through its institutional relationships and faculty outreach in many nations around the world. We have relationships with local schools, governments, companies, and communities in countries across the globe.

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**NDIGD CORPORATE PARTNERS**

- Accenture
- Bisk Education
- CAPSIM
- Coca-Cola
- General Electric
- HP
- IBM Corporation
- Lenovo
- Verizon
- VWR
Companies can work with NDIGD in conducting research and evaluating programs in a variety of geographic locations.

**PARTNER WITH THE INITIATIVE**

NDIGD places a high value on corporate collaborations. We have created the Corporate Impact Program for organizations who support projects at the level of $50,000 or above (or $25,000 in unrestricted gifts). Based on best practices for partnership with the private sector, universities, NGOs, government, and corporations can enjoy shared value and multi-faceted solutions.

More information about our past collaborative solutions, as well as the benefits for corporations partnering with NDIGD, can be found on page 26 and at ndigd.nd.edu/corporate-partners. Contact us at globaldevelopment@nd.edu or through Notre Dame's Office of Corporate Relations (corporaterelations.nd.edu) to conduct an initial interview and review of your key corporate responsibility offerings.

Left: Thanks to partners Accenture and Lenovo, NDIGD has been able to provide ICT labs to help power small entrepreneurial ventures in South Africa through The CE3 Project.

Top right: Thanks to partner GE and private donors, the Université de Notre Dame de Tshumbe (UNITSHU), in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, was able to receive this solar hybrid microgrid and is now able to afford power for more than a few hours per week.

Bottom right: Through funding from partner IBM, John Dillon (left), a 2016 USAID | ND Global Development Fellow, was able to conduct cutting-edge research on understanding student emotion in Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs).
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA (22 countries)
- Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders

ASIA AND AFRICA
- Understanding Voucher-Based Refugee Relief Assistance

ASIA
- USAID University Support and Workforce Development
- U.S. Department of Labor Reducing Child Labor
- USAID | ND Global Development Fellowships

EAST AFRICA
- Women Empowered Initiative
- Paper Analytical Device Project
- YALI Regional Leadership Center
- USAID | ND Global Development Fellowships
- The CE3 Project
- Education for Teachers
- Clean Cookstoves for Health
- Efficient Cattle Herding
- Evaluating Local Governance
- Climate Change Impact Evaluation Study
In fall 2016, NDIGD welcomed to campus 14 young professionals from Latin America and the Caribbean as the inaugural Young Leaders of the Americas Initiative (YLAI) Professional Fellows Program class.

As part of the five-week U.S. Department of State program, the fellows spent four weeks working with businesses and organizations in South Bend. They learned from their U.S. counterparts by job-shadowing and participating in day-to-day operations. In return, they used their varied business and entrepreneurial skills to develop programs and infuse their host organizations with diverse perspectives and innovative ideas.

“Our fellow’s presence had a direct effect on our team,” said Nathan Vogel, a senior account executive at Inovateus Solar. “His eagerness to perform at his best in a new setting in turn elevated our performance.”

In their final week of the program, the fellows flew to Washington, D.C., for a closing summit, where they gathered with 236 other fellows from 21 hubs across the country.
"The best part of the program was the mutual exchange between our organization and our fellow. We shared our experiences and challenges, and shared our ideas on ways we have worked on solving problems. That work led both of us to seeing our challenges from different perspectives."

–Sam Centellas, Executive Director, La Casa de Amistad
In summer 2016, 25 young professionals — including a filmmaker, a telecommunications engineer, several technopreneurs and translators, and other highly talented professionals — came to campus as NDIGD’s newest Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders program class. Since 2014, NDIGD has worked with and learned from leaders from a number of countries in Sub-Saharan Africa as part of this U.S. Department of State initiative.

As in previous years, the fellows worked with Notre Dame faculty throughout the six-week business and entrepreneurship-based program to address topics such as corporate ethics, design thinking, servant leadership, business planning, and personal and professional branding. They also took part in local community service projects, cultural events, and site visits.

In the seventh week of the program, President Obama welcomed the fellows to Washington, D.C., where they gathered with another 975 fellows from across the country. Later in November, the Mandela Washington Fellowship administrative and faculty team at Notre Dame received the 2016 Presidential Team Irish Award for their role in shaping Notre Dame’s most impactful ambassadors on the continent of Africa.

**BY THE NUMBERS**

In 2016, our **25** Fellows represented **20** countries:

- Burkina Faso
- Cameroon
- Chad
- Côte d’Ivoire
- DRC
- Ethiopia
- Kenya
- Lesotho
- Madagascar
- Mauritania
- Mauritius
- Mozambique
- Nigeria
- São Tomé and Príncipe
- Senegal
- Swaziland
- Tanzania
- Uganda
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

**120,000+** applications received by the U.S. Department of State over the lifetime of the program

**1,000** fellowships awarded in 2016
The 2016 Mandela Washington Fellows, along with various Notre Dame faculty and staff.

“These fellows were one of the most engaging and enthusiastic group of entrepreneurs I have worked with. With a constant hunger for learning, the fellows greatly appreciated the opportunity and took full advantage of their time at Notre Dame. This made for a great experience, not just for them, but also the faculty involved with the program.”

–Sunny Shah, Assistant Director and Faculty, ESTEEM Graduate Program
Through a strong, collaborative partnership with the U.S. Global Development Lab, a division of USAID, NDIGD helped place thirteen students in twelve countries throughout the spring and summer to address some of the most pressing challenges in the developing world.

The students’ research topics were as varied as the areas of the world to which they traveled: What is the efficacy of restorative practices within inter-group peacebuilding programming in Bangladesh and Myanmar? How can ACE Haiti work with communities and families to promote the literacy skills of students in under-resourced schools? How can we use data-driven interventions and learning personalization to promote positive learning emotions in online learning platforms?

Through partnerships with in-country NGOs, universities, and government agencies, these students addressed these questions directly and also built their professional networks to begin or continue careers in international development.

Entering its third year in 2017, the program is also supported by in-country hosts and various Notre Dame departments and institutes.
Through this fellowship program, our students have been given an opportunity to test their ideas and build professional networks in their field. The program blends the needs of the host organization and the students’ research interests, resulting in a shared understanding of how to tackle different and critical developmental issues in our world today.

—Grace Munene, Training Program Coordinator, NDIGD
In mid-May, NDIGD researchers, in partnership with Catholic Relief Services (CRS), began collecting baseline data in southern Malawi as part of a research project to determine whether training sessions for local government members have improved their capacity to serve their communities. The research is part of a larger, five-year USAID Food for Peace-funded project titled “UBALE,” which means “partnership” in Chichewa, the predominant language in Malawi.

CRS has developed a training curriculum for committee members in three districts. This curriculum is designed to improve the ability of local governments to address issues of health, agriculture, business development, gender equality, and local governance for their constituents.

The project also seeks to determine whether formal uniforms for committee members influence their effectiveness or the community’s response to the government. Additionally, researchers are examining the perception of gender and the role that gender plays in local government and women’s willingness to run for positions in village committees.

**BY THE NUMBERS**

- **250** local communities across three districts in Malawi to receive intervention
- **67%** of the population in Malawi is multi-dimensionally poor, while an additional 25% percent is near multi-dimensional poverty
- **54%** of respondents in the baseline study reported that local government councilors “never listen to people like me”
What is exciting to CRS and USAID is the contribution of the University of Notre Dame in conducting a rigorous impact study to answer the question as to whether strengthening the capacity and accountability of local government structures results in more inclusive community development and a stronger sense of community ownership.

—Dane Fredenburg, Chief of Party-UBALE, Catholic Relief Services
NDIGD is at the forefront of Expanding the Reach of Impact Evaluation (ERIE), part of the Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, and Learning Innovations (MERLIN) Program in USAID’s Global Development Lab, an approach to conducting retrospective evaluations of development projects. ERIE will leverage the talents and resources of five partner organizations, led by NDIGD, to conduct evaluations that assess the impacts of an aid intervention years after the project is completed. Researchers will use innovative designs and data sources such as geo-spatial data, mobile data, and administrative data to detect the long-term impact of USAID activities. Researchers will look back at completed USAID activities to understand whether results are sustained and to prepare current USAID activities for long-term follow-up.

To date, many development projects have been pursued with the belief they will ultimately achieve long-term impacts. However, rigid funding cycles and changing programmatic priorities have often led researchers to focus only on short-term results, thus necessitating a reflective initiative like ERIE.
"ERIE provides us the opportunity to conduct much-needed research on the long-term impacts of USAID interventions around the world. We hope that understanding the long-term impact of USAID activities will help guide the agency's priorities and strategy moving forward."

–Danice Brown, Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, NDIGD

Satellite imagery is one of several advanced technologies to be used by researchers.
NDIGD supports the Read Haiti Global Development Alliance; the new $6.2M USAID campaign to improve reading and writing outcomes for Haitian children. The project follows the successful implementation of a reading curriculum in 47 Catholic schools within two regions of Haiti, with strong performance on a randomized controlled trial evaluation.

Read Haiti will involve scaling promising early grade reading and writing interventions in Haiti in hundreds of schools over the next five years, while continuously refining and strengthening the methods for implementation and program design.

The first goal of Read Haiti is to improve writing and reading skills (phonemic awareness, fluency, and comprehension) in Creole and French by the end of third grade in the South and Grand-Anse Departments of Haiti over the next five years.

Read Haiti’s second goal is to increase access to quality educator training approaches and tools for public and private stakeholders, and to strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of National Education and Professional Formation (MENFP) to support quality literacy programming in Haiti.

**BY THE NUMBERS**

- **49%**
  - percentage of Haitian students who cannot read by the third grade

- **30,000**
  - primary school students will benefit from Read Haiti over the next five years

- **<22%**
  - percentage of Haitian students that move on from elementary to secondary education
A Haitian teacher with elementary school age children.

“Strengthening early-grade reading and writing is a priority for the Ministry of Education, and we are proud to support this effort to ensure Haiti’s children have the basic education skills they need to advance and, ultimately, contribute to Haiti’s progress.”

—Jene Thomas, Director, USAID Haiti Mission
Using ethnographic data collection in refugee and internally displaced people (IDP) camps across Bangladesh, Egypt, and Kenya, NDIGD is poised to better understand conditions that contribute to the emergence and extent of food voucher diversion. The goal is to enhance voucher effectiveness across the developing world.

In recent years, vouchers and cash have been used by relief agencies as a more effective alternative to traditional direct food aid, which agencies have acknowledged is unsustainable in protracted relief. However, various studies suggest that vouchers issued to refugees or IDPs, including e-vouchers, are often “diverted,” meaning that they are used in ways that are unintended or unauthorized by the relief agencies, and are subsequently discouraged, prohibited, and/or criminalized.

Widespread unrest, civil wars, and political instability over the past four decades have resulted in millions of refugees and IDPs, and in recent years a worldwide push for e-vouchers to offer relief. This research will ultimately better inform the U.S. Department of State and other agencies in relief situations on the most effective means of combating voucher diversion.
“Not only do food voucher programs build relations between refugees and host communities, they also stimulate local economies by promoting local production and sales. This project aims to produce a replicable tool to determine the risk of diversion in any geography.”

—Jelena Jankovic, Ph.D. student, Department of Anthropology
Through NDIGD’s partnership with Accenture, Lenovo, and Inovateus Solar, entrepreneurs and students in Africa are receiving much needed access to solar energy, training labs, and Internet connectivity as part of the Connectivity, Electricity, and Education for Entrepreneurship (CE3) Project.

Gaining access to markets is challenging for entrepreneurs, particularly without a consistent source of power or Internet access. Skills development is also critical for students and entrepreneurs to stay competitive. Throughout Africa, entrepreneurs and students live in rural areas where these resources are scarce. The CE3 Project has made it possible for owners to take their business operations to the next level, providing economic growth for both their families and the larger communities.

For farmers in areas like KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, power and connectivity are critical for irrigation and to stay up to date on fluctuating agricultural market prices. In Gulu and Lira, Uganda, small business owners and schools depend upon energy and Internet access to run and grow their businesses. Through The CE3 Project, these entrepreneurs can now participate in a growing ecosystem for economic growth across their communities.

**BY THE NUMBERS**

- **1,158** new entrepreneurial trainees
- **2,500** new persons reached
- **599** new jobs
- **85 KW** of clean solar energy completed
Energy produced by the solar-powered microgrid provides businesses with a clean, reliable, and affordable source of electricity, which enables them to increase their productivity, diversify their products and services, and as a result, generate more revenue and hire more employees to scale the business."

—Gabriella Oken-Wilbur, Global Programs Manager, Accenture Development Partnerships
The impact that we make around the world is a direct result of the strength of our partnerships, both on and off campus. Internally, our efforts focus on connecting the research of our faculty and students to challenges in developing countries. Externally, we focus on building relationships with corporate and foundation partners, government funding agencies, in-country NGOs, and individual donors and alumni to make these projects successful and impactful.

**FACULTY**

NDIGD serves as a bridge between faculty research and teaching interests, and the global development community. Increasingly, research and learning are core tenets of development programs. Through NDIGD, the University is well positioned to respond to this need while advancing the research agenda of its faculty.

Faculty typically work with NDIGD in one of the following three ways:

- **NDIGD actively seeks funding opportunities for faculty to advance their research in developing countries.** For example, in 2016 NDIGD helped anthropology professor Rahul Oka secure $199,000 in U.S. Department of State funding for his research in Bangladesh, Egypt, and Kenya (see p. 22).
- **Faculty members partner with NDIGD on projects that relate to their research.** Michael Coppedge, a political science professor and Kellogg Institute fellow, is working with NDIGD to evaluate human rights and democracy in Central America using his Varieties of Democracy Database.
- **Faculty members consult or participate in NDIGD projects that benefit from their expertise.** The Mandela Washington Fellowship (see p. 12) is a perfect example of faculty serving in the central role of educating fellows in leadership, business, and entrepreneurship.
NDIGD works to provide practical learning experiences for students. Students engage in various aspects of global development practice as interns, fellows, and researchers in NDIGD programs. From data collection to analysis and program design to implementation, Notre Dame students learn practical skills to prepare them for a career in global development through their engagement with NDIGD.

**STUDENTS**

NDIGD works on implementation and evaluation for a variety of partners, including government agencies, NGOs, humanitarian organizations, foundations, and others in the United States and overseas.

**PARTNERSHIPS**

NDIGD places a high value on our corporate collaborations, and we have created the Corporate Impact Program for corporations and foundations who support projects at the level of $50,000 or above (or $25,000 in unrestricted gifts). Impact members benefit by gaining access to talent both at Notre Dame and in country; training on business ethics; gaining insight on overcoming challenges by sharing best practices and lessons learned; and networking with university experts, NGOs, and federal agencies in designing new corporate responsibility projects.

If you have questions or would like to speak with our managing director about how you can partner with NDIGD, please call **(574) 631-2940**, or email **globaldevelopment@nd.edu**.
We are immensely grateful for the support that we receive through private donations, which support many NDIGD projects. Giving to NDIGD is an opportunity to give to people in extreme poverty, evaluate the impact of your gift, and give to Notre Dame—all at the same time.

NDIGD projects often go beyond published results, and have extended to impactful, tangible results such as solar microgrids providing energy, wells providing water, and newly built schools providing education to the next generation. Your support helps us work toward realizing the vision of Rev. Edward Sorin, C.S.C., to make Notre Dame “one of the most powerful means for doing good in this country.”
"The Initiative is not just another think tank, but
A VIBRANT CENTER OF SOLUTION-ORIENTED RESEARCH

focused on rigorous, data-driven impact evaluation and assessment, design and planning of development projects, and training."

— Rev. John I. Jenkins, C.S.C., President, University of Notre Dame