

Teach For All network hosts launch event for USAID Leadership For Change in Education Program

August 10, 2021 - To mitigate the secondary impacts of COVID-19 in the education sector and improve education outcomes, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and Teach For All celebrated the formal launch of their cooperative agreement to develop leadership across different levels of the Latin America region's education systems.

During the virtual regional launch event on August 3, 2021, USAID and Teach For All discussed how their [Leadership for Change in Education Program](#) will help expand teaching networks across Colombia, Ecuador, and Paraguay. The launch gathered a variety of speakers and participants from all three partner countries, including ministry of education representatives and USAID missions, as well as implementing organizations and other education stakeholders from the region. Key speakers and panelists included:

- Michael Eddy, Deputy Assistant Administrator for the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) Bureau, USAID
- Nathaniel Haight, Education Advisor, LAC Bureau, USAID
- Daniel Koski, Acting Deputy Chief of Mission, US Embassy in Ecuador
- Larry Sacks, Mission Director for USAID/Colombia
- Evelyn Rodriguez-Perez, Mission Director for USAID/Paraguay
- Mae Montaña, Minister of Economic and Social Inclusion, Ecuador
- Constanza Alarcón, Vice Minister of Preschool, Basic, and Secondary Education, Colombia
- Dr. Cinthya Game, Vice Minister of Education, Ecuador
- Alcira Sosa, Vice Minister of Basic Education, Paraguay
- Wendy Kopp, CEO and Co-founder, Teach For All
- Ana Flórez, Chief of Party of the Leadership for Change Program and Head of the Americas Region, Teach For All
- Margarita Sáenz, CEO, Enseña por Colombia
- Claudia González, CEO, Enseña por Paraguay
- Fabián Vaca, CEO, Enseña Ecuador

During the event, speakers and panelists shared perspectives on the challenges facing education and teacher recruitment in the region, and how the Leadership for Change in Education Program can create more opportunities in teacher training and leadership development.

The event concluded with closing remarks by Wendy Kopp, CEO and Co-founder of Teach For All, in which she underscored the importance of the partnership between USAID and Teach For All to enhance the impact of collective leadership in Latin America. Wendy noted that “What brings us together and makes this partnership unique is a conviction that ultimately leadership is what will drive transformative and systemic progress that we need in education, and that means ministerial leadership, classroom leadership, and everyone in between exerting leadership around the whole ecosystem. This pandemic affirmed this idea.”

Background on Leadership for Change in Education Program

Education systems throughout Latin America, including those in Colombia, Ecuador, and Paraguay, have experienced increased challenges to support the learning needs of marginalized communities as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. To address this and long-term education challenges, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and Teach For All signed a cooperative agreement in 2020 to develop leadership across different levels of the Latin America's region's education systems. As part of this cooperative agreement, USAID provided \$4.5 million to Teach For All.

Teach For All For Immediate Release

Through the Leadership for Change in Education Program, USAID will leverage Teach For All's network partner organizations Enseña por Colombia, Enseña Ecuador, and Enseña por Paraguay. To help grow the amount of teachers in the region, each network partner recruits and develops promising future leaders to teach in their nations' under-resourced schools and communities through a two year fellowship.

Over the next two years, the Leadership for Change in Education Program will (1) recruit and select an increasing number of teacher leaders in expanded target areas, (2) train and support teachers to be effective leaders, (3) implement alumni leadership strategies and community engagement activities, and (4) strengthen the capacity of partner organizations while fostering regional learning.

By building a strong foundation of teachers who are also strong leaders, USAID and Teach For All hope to build a strong base of program "alumni" to not only be leaders in the education sector, but also to serve as mentors to new teachers and champion working in education to ensure all children are able to fulfill their potential.

Teach For All and Partner Organizations

Teach For All is a global network of 60 independent, locally-led partner organizations and a global organization that works to accelerate the progress of the network. Each network partner recruits and develops promising future leaders to teach in their nations' under-resourced schools and communities and, with this foundation, to work with others, inside and outside of education, to ensure all children are able to fulfill their potential. In the Americas region, Teach For All network partners serve more than 140,000 students and support more than 1,325 active teaching fellows and over 2,585 alumni.

Enseña por Colombia, is a Colombian non-profit organization that seeks to contribute to the construction of a more equitable country through education. Enseña por Colombia seeks to transform contexts, reduce the gap of educational inequality, and ensure that all children and young people in Colombia receive an education that allows them to develop their maximum potential. Enseña por Colombia is currently working in diverse regions of Colombia, serving 135 teaching participants, benefiting 59 schools and supporting more than 21,000 students. In Colombia, the Leadership for Change Program will be implemented in the Caribbean Region, Valle del Cauca, and Santanderes; regions where Venezuelan migrants have settled. Therefore, there are specific activities in the framework of the Program created to build knowledge and strategies for working with migrant communities and students.

Enseña Ecuador is a non-profit organization founded in 2014 that dreams that one day every boy and girl in Ecuador, regardless of their birthplace, social status, or race, has full access to a quality education that assures them the necessary resources to achieve their goals. Enseña Ecuador's mission is to build a movement of change agents who in their role as allies, transform Ecuador's education system. Enseña Ecuador is driven by its purpose of creating collective leadership, using education as our tool for change, and joining forces to expand students' opportunities. At the moment, Enseña Ecuador impacts over 45 teachers and 6,100 students in 35 schools.

Enseña por Paraguay is a non-profit organization that believes in a conscious and committed Paraguay offering holistic education that allows all children to develop their full potential and build a more equitable country. Enseña por Paraguay seeks to create a movement of collective leadership that focuses on expanding educational opportunities for all children. Grounded in the experience in the classroom, network teachers become leaders who, in partnership with communities and stakeholders, take on the challenges children in vulnerable contexts face from inside and outside of the education system and beyond. Enseña por Paraguay is currently working with 12 schools, 21 teaching fellows and 568 students.

U.S. Agency for International Development

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