



Press Release

Contact:

Todd Kirkbride
Phone: (202) 628-0017
Fax: (202) 628-0018
Email: tkirkbride@vegaalliance.org
Web: www.vegaalliance.org

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

VEGA wins Associate Award for Indonesia's Long-Term Business Adviser (LTBA) Program

USAID/Indonesia has signed an Associate Cooperative Agreement with the Volunteers for Economic Growth Alliance (VEGA), awarding \$121,736 for two Long-Term Business Advisers to provide technical assistance to the American Chamber of Commerce in Jakarta (AmCham) for up to twelve months. One LTBA will work as a Private Sector Tsunami Liaison Adviser and the other as an Economic Policy Adviser.

After the Tsunami hit Indonesia, USAID and AmCham have been implementing livelihood and recovery projects in Aceh with the assistance of other donors and funding communities. Coordination and synergy among implementing organizations are critical to the success of these activities. Therefore, the VEGA Private Sector Tsunami Liaison Adviser will work closely with AmCham Members, USAID Offices in Jakarta and Aceh, other private sector communities, and the Government of Indonesia to ensure that coordination and synergy occur. Separately, the VEGA Economic Policy Adviser will assist with industry position paper updates, initiate member surveys, assess the investment outlook and other business issues for the year, and prepare for next year's Door Knock visit to the U.S. by developing talking points and identifying support groups in the U.S. for investment in Indonesia.

VEGA member, Institute of International Education (IIE) has recruited two recent MBA and MA students with prior work experience in the Indonesia or the region and relevant language skills. The LTBA's will attend pre-departure preparation, including orientation and training, and have on-going in-country monitoring and support. The Advisers will also prepare business case studies based on their experiences with AmCham in Indonesia. An MBA Professor at a U.S. university will work with the Advisers mentoring and providing guidance on the preparation of the business case studies to be published and disseminated by IIE for use in business and other graduate schools around the world.

The Volunteers for Economic Growth Alliance (VEGA) is the world's largest consortium of economic growth volunteer organizations providing technical expertise in private sector development. Collectively, VEGA has more than 350 years of experience in mobilizing American volunteers to support economic growth in developing countries (including post-conflict and transition), and in designing and implementing successful technical assistance projects across the spectrum of economic growth activities worldwide.

VEGA is demand-driven and provides comprehensive resources with a single point of contact. Program designs are consolidated, but created through a collaborative process based on our members' extensive expertise in:

- Private Market Development
- Financial Services
- Agribusiness Development
- Expanded Opportunities for Rural and Urban Poor