# ACVFA & dis/misinformation

**slajaunie@usaid.gov Sophia Lajaunie** Wednesday, October 5, 2022 at 3:20:44 PM Eastern Daylight Time
To: shgreen@usaid.gov Shannon Green, jowalsh@usaid.gov Johnny Walsh, dsteinberg@usaid.gov Donald Steinberg, jherman@usaid.gov Jodi Herman, vzakem@usaid.gov Vera Zakem

Hi Shannon, Johnny, and all,

Thanks very much for joining our first ACVFA meeting on Friday. Lots of interesting ideas shared, and looking forward to hopefully channeling that energy into some impactful outcomes.

As you saw there was clearly a lot of interest on the issue of dis/misinformation. This will likely be a main issue the committee works on (likely a smaller subgroup of members would focus on it), and I'd love to set some time to hear your thoughts on this as well as your reactions to the meeting in general. I am also restructuring our workplan proposal based on Friday's convo.

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Thanks all very much!
Sophia

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Sophia Lajaunie (she/her/hers)
Executive Director of the Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid (ACVFA)
Public Engagement Advisor
Bureau for Legislative & Public Affairs
U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)

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**Attachments:**

**0. Daily Written Wrap-Up 10_4 (October 4, 2022).pdf** 140k

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**jowalsh@usaid.gov Johnny Walsh** Wednesday, October 5, 2022 at 3:57:39 PM Eastern Daylight Time
To: slajaunie@usaid.gov Sophia Lajaunie, srodriguez@usaid.gov Sofia Rodriguez
Cc: shgreen@usaid.gov Shannon Green, dsteinberg@usaid.gov Donald Steinberg, jherman@usaid.gov Jodi Herman, vzakem@usaid.gov Vera Zakem

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On Wed, Oct 5, 2022 at 3:21 PM Sophia Lajaunie <slajaunie@usaid.gov> wrote:

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To: jowalsh@usaid.gov Johnny Walsh
Cc: srodriguez@usaid.gov Sofia Rodriguez, shgreen@usaid.gov Shannon Green, dsteinberg@usaid.gov Donald Steinberg, jherman@usaid.gov Jodi Herman, vzakem@usaid.gov Vera Zakem

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**vzakem@usaid.gov Vera Zakem** Wednesday, October 5, 2022 at 6:57:26 PM Eastern Daylight Time
To: slajaunie@usaid.gov Sophia Lajaunie
Cc: dsteinberg@usaid.gov Donald Steinberg, jherman@usaid.gov Jodi Herman, jowalsh@usaid.gov Johnny Walsh, shgreen@usaid.gov Shannon Green, srodriguez@usaid.gov Sofia Rodriguez

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Senior Technology and Policy Advisor
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To: vzakem@usaid.gov Vera Zakem
Cc: dsteinberg@usaid.gov Donald Steinberg, jherman@usaid.gov Jodi Herman, jowalsh@usaid.gov Johnny Walsh, shgreen@usaid.gov Shannon Green, srodriguez@usaid.gov Sofia Rodriguez

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Senior Technology and Policy Advisor
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**slajaunie@usaid.gov Sophia Lajaunie** Monday, October 17, 2022 at 5:42:23 PM Eastern Daylight Time
To: vzakem@usaid.gov Vera Zakem
Cc: dsteinberg@usaid.gov Donald Steinberg, jherman@usaid.gov Jodi Herman, jowalsh@usaid.gov Johnny Walsh, shgreen@usaid.gov Shannon Green, srodriguez@usaid.gov Sofia Rodriguez, abellows@usaid.gov Abigail Bellows

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Vera Zakem
Senior Technology and Policy Advisor
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**vzakem@usaid.gov Vera Zakem** Monday, October 17, 2022 at 5:51:53 PM Eastern Daylight Time
To: slajaunie@usaid.gov Sophia Lajaunie
Cc: dsteinberg@usaid.gov Donald Steinberg, jherman@usaid.gov Jodi Herman, jowalsh@usaid.gov Johnny Walsh, shgreen@usaid.gov Shannon Green, srodriguez@usaid.gov Sofia Rodriguez, abellows@usaid.gov Abigail Bellows

Thanks so much, Sophia!

On my end, happy to do an internal meeting on IRC with the members. Happy to be of service to you. I think maybe we could do an hour before or after the public meeting.

I also think this issue is important to discuss at a high level in a public meeting - and could be raised as part of broader DRG / AC conversation. I just don't know how it cannot be raised. There are ways to raise it and elevate it without talking about the Council or anything internal at all. We at USAID are trying to strengthen the resilience in the information and media space, partner with the tech sector to ensure tech supports democracy, and civil society broadly to support democracies globally, address corruption, etc. Full disclosure - I am also giving a public talk on this topic this week for the DOD audience.

cheers, Vera

On Mon, Oct 17, 2022 at 2:43 PM Sophia Lajaunie <slajaunie@usaid.gov> wrote:

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Senior Technology and Policy Advisor
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**jowalsh@usaid.gov Johnny Walsh** Tuesday, October 18, 2022 at 9:27:30 PM Eastern Daylight Time
To: drg.troika@usaid.gov DRG Troika

Per our ACVFA discussion yesterday. Let's get an issue to recommend for the first meeting as soon as we're able - I sense there's a bit of a race to send up the first viable idea(s). It can potentially be any of the three we talked about (bright spots, backsliding, or S4D policy ideas right?), though I think my bias is still mildly toward the third of those.

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Sophia Lajaunie** <slajaunie@usaid.gov>
Date: Mon, Oct 17, 2022 at 5:43 PM
Subject: Re: ACVFA & dis/misinformation
To: Vera Zakem <vzakem@usaid.gov>
Cc: Donald Steinberg <dsteinberg@usaid.gov>, Jodi Herman <jherman@usaid.gov>, Johnny Walsh <jowalsh@usaid.gov>, Shannon Green <shgreen@usaid.gov>, Sofia Rodriguez <srodriguez@usaid.gov>, Abigail Bellows <abellows@usaid.gov>

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Senior Technology and Policy Advisor
USAID
vzakem@usaid.gov
[redacted]

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Johnny Walsh
Deputy Assistant Administrator for Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance
U.S. Agency for International Development

---

**slajaunie@usaid.gov Sophia Lajaunie** Thursday, October 20, 2022 at 3:49:56 PM Eastern Daylight Time
To: vzakem@usaid.gov Vera Zakem
Cc: dsteinberg@usaid.gov Donald Steinberg, jherman@usaid.gov Jodi Herman, jowalsh@usaid.gov Johnny Walsh, shgreen@usaid.gov Shannon Green, srodriguez@usaid.gov Sofia Rodriguez, abellows@usaid.gov Abigail Bellows

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Let us know if any questions and thank you so much!
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Senior Technology and Policy Advisor
USAID
vzakem@usaid.gov
[redacted]

**vzakem@usaid.gov Vera Zakem** Thursday, October 20, 2022 at 4:28:53 PM Eastern Daylight Time
To: jowalsh@usaid.gov Johnny Walsh

So I think I can do or we can incorporate mdm into public meeting as well without the Council mention. I think we should also talk about other tech and human rights issues as well as well as about the democracy delivers agenda.

For me, from the list, I want a small group that includes the following members:

- Nisha Biswal
- Kate Behncken
- Eileen D
- Kristin Lord
- Derek M
- Sanjay P
- Dan T
- Jeremy

Let me know if I am missing someone!

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Sophia Lajaunie** <slajaunie@usaid.gov>
Date: Thu, Oct 20, 2022 at 3:51 PM
Subject: Re: ACVFA & dis/misinformation
To: Vera Zakem <vzakem@usaid.gov>
Cc: Donald Steinberg <dsteinberg@usaid.gov>, Jodi Herman <jherman@usaid.gov>, Johnny Walsh <jowalsh@usaid.gov>, Shannon Green <shgreen@usaid.gov>, Sofia Rodriguez <srodriguez@usaid.gov>, Abigail Bellows <abellows@usaid.gov>

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And thank you Vera for the note on the council -- will be following up on that!

Let us know if any questions and thank you so much!
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**slajaunie@usaid.gov Sophia Lajaunie** Tuesday, October 25, 2022 at 9:50:02 AM Eastern Daylight Time
To: vzakem@usaid.gov Vera Zakem
Cc: dsteinberg@usaid.gov Donald Steinberg, jherman@usaid.gov Jodi Herman, jowalsh@usaid.gov Johnny Walsh, shgreen@usaid.gov Shannon Green, srodriguez@usaid.gov Sofia Rodriguez, abellows@usaid.gov Abigail Bellows

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Sophia,

Do you want us to add them directly in the WG survey document?

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Shannon

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Executive Director, Anti-Corruption Task Force
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)
Phone: [redacted]
Email: shgreen@usaid.gov

---

**slajaunie@usaid.gov Sophia Lajaunie** Tuesday, October 25, 2022 at 9:56:16 AM Eastern Daylight Time
To: shgreen@usaid.gov Shannon Green
Cc: vzakem@usaid.gov Vera Zakem, dsteinberg@usaid.gov Donald Steinberg, jherman@usaid.gov Jodi Herman, jowalsh@usaid.gov Johnny Walsh, srodriguez@usaid.gov Sofia Rodriguez, abellows@usaid.gov Abigail Bellows

That would be great, if that works for you. Thank you!

On Tue, Oct 25, 2022 at 9:54 AM Shannon Green <shgreen@usaid.gov> wrote:
Sophia,

Do you want us to add them directly in the WG survey document?

Best,
Shannon

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**Shannon N. Green**
Executive Director, Anti-Corruption Task Force
Senior Advisor to the Administrator
U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)
Phone: [redacted]
Email: shgreen@usaid.gov

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**vzakem@usaid.gov Vera Zakem** Tuesday, October 25, 2022 at 12:05:56 PM Eastern Daylight Time
To: slajaunie@usaid.gov Sophia Lajaunie
Cc: dsteinberg@usaid.gov Donald Steinberg, jherman@usaid.gov Jodi Herman, jowalsh@usaid.gov Johnny Walsh, shgreen@usaid.gov Shannon Green, srodriguez@usaid.gov Sofia Rodriguez, abellows@usaid.gov Abigail Bellows

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To: vzakem@usaid.gov Vera Zakem
Cc: dsteinberg@usaid.gov Donald Steinberg, jherman@usaid.gov Jodi Herman, jowalsh@usaid.gov Johnny Walsh, shgreen@usaid.gov Shannon Green, srodriguez@usaid.gov Sofia Rodriguez, abellows@usaid.gov Abigail Bellows

Thank you Vera. Our priority for now is to ensure that the questions in this survey for ACVFA members reflect the DRG/AC priorities/challenges that we'd like the committee to work on, if you're able to take a look and ensure they reflect that. That way we can send it back out to members to get them engaged on it.

Separately, yes, would love both the 1 pager on disinfo and suggested topics for the public meeting whenever you get the chance! Thanks very much.

And thank you Shannon for your edits to the working group questions!

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**vzakem@usaid.gov Vera Zakem** Tuesday, October 25, 2022 at 11:28:06 PM Eastern Daylight Time
To: slajaunie@usaid.gov Sophia Lajaunie
Cc: dsteinberg@usaid.gov Donald Steinberg, jherman@usaid.gov Jodi Herman, jowalsh@usaid.gov Johnny Walsh, shgreen@usaid.gov Shannon Green, srodriguez@usaid.gov Sofia Rodriguez, abellows@usaid.gov Abigail Bellows

Hi Sophia et'al:

I have added some updates to the survey and made a few edits.

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I'll be sure to provide you a 1 pager on MDM. I have a list of members that would make sense to engage with for this topic.

Thanks so much, Vera

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Let us know if any questions and thank you so much!
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Vera Zakem
Senior Technology and Policy Advisor
USAID
vzakem@usaid.gov
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**vzakem@usaid.gov Vera Zakem** Wednesday, October 26, 2022 at 11:04:44 AM Eastern Daylight Time
To: jowalsh@usaid.gov Johnny Walsh

any other edits?

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Sophia Lajaunie** <slajaunie@usaid.gov>
Date: Wed, Oct 26, 2022 at 10:48 AM
Subject: Re: ACVFA & dis/misinformation
To: Vera Zakem <vzakem@usaid.gov>
Cc: Donald Steinberg <dsteinberg@usaid.gov>, Jodi Herman <jherman@usaid.gov>, Johnny Walsh <jowalsh@usaid.gov>, Shannon Green <shgreen@usaid.gov>, Sofia Rodriguez <srodriguez@usaid.gov>, Abigail Bellows <abellows@usaid.gov>

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> > Johnny Walsh
> > Deputy Assistant Administrator for Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance

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