Fwd: Readout: 12/7 Alphabet Global Election Protection - Lessons Learned and Future Efforts Brief

vzakem@usaid.gov Vera Zakem Tuesday, December 13, 2022 at 11:32:11 PM Eastern Standard Time
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Hi All,

I attended this at State last week. Sharing for a couple of reasons: 1) awareness; 2) we are engaged in a sub-IPC process right now on engaging tech co's on atrocity prevention and key events. I did ask Google to follow up with an updated list of countries they are focusing for 2023 and 2024, and also where they are scaling their localization, language, and resilience building capabilities.

Please feel free to share as appropriate.

Vera

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Frisbie, Alexis O** <[redacted]@state.gov>
Date: Fri, Dec 9, 2022 at 1:31 PM
Subject: Readout: 12/7 Alphabet Global Election Protection - Lessons Learned and Future Efforts Brief
To: Zakem, Vera (DDI/DRG) <vzakem@usaid.gov>
Cc: Watts, Patricia <[redacted]@state.gov>, Holmes, Corey W <[redacted]@state.gov>, Dempsey, Alex L <[redacted]@state.gov>

Hi Vera

My thanks to you again for attending this meeting on such short notice! I hope it was interesting/useful for you. Please see the attached document for a readout. For a BLUF, please see the below:

~~(SBU)~~ **Alphabet Briefs Department Stakeholders on Election Protection Lessons Learned and Global Election Priorities for 2023 and 2024:** On December 7, Alphabet's Vice President of Trust & Safety Laurie Richardson and Threat Analysis Group Director Shane Huntley briefed Department seniors and expert-level representatives from GEC, CDP, DRL, INR, WHA, EUR, NEA, AF, SCA, EAP, CT, as well as USAID, and DHS. Alphabet emphasized that they had seen fewer *foreign threats* than expected during the 2022 U.S. and Brazil elections. Alphabet underscored the role and importance of authoritative content in protecting global elections and information consumers in general. Third parties that can support and corroborate results or information are critical to Alphabet's Trust & Safety infrastructure. All parties agreed that resiliency building was essential. Inquiries by USAID and State on resilience-building partnership opportunities with Alphabet were raised, with company representatives concurring that this would be a great space to explore further discussion. Alphabet also noted interest in cooperative programming on critical languages. Following the meeting, Alphabet employees stated the importance of these conversations with seniors included, noting that such an event held maybe quarterly would be great. Alphabet also suggested a red teaming/threat ideation/hackathon collaboration between State, USAID, and Alphabet. GEC will work with Alphabet and Department stakeholders to coordinate.

As always, if you have any questions please feel free to let me know!

Cheers,

Alexis

Alexis Frisbie

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~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

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Vera Zakem
Chief Digital Democracy and Rights Officer
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Attachments:

12072022 Alphabet Global Election Protection Efforts and Lessons Learned.docx 46k