# Re: Exploring collaboration with FB

**jomendoza@usaid.gov Jose Maria Mendoza** Tuesday, July 27, 2021 at 3:14:05 AM Eastern Daylight Time
To: [redacted]@post.harvard.edu [redacted]@post.harvard.edu
Cc: [redacted]@ateneo.edu Ivyrose S. Baysic, [redacted]@ateneo.edu Armiliza C. Magno

Thanks Ron. Putting this in the forewarned basket.

On Tue, Jul 27, 2021 at 2:55 PM Ronald U. Mendoza <[redacted]@gmail.com> wrote:

> CONFIDENTIAL
>
> Thanks Joey -- while useful, it sounds like more of the same (i.e. they are already partnered with some fact checking groups like Vera Files even prior to this).
>
> At the risk of ruining your day, you may wish to watch this propaganda video that already demonizes fact checking groups too (among other "allies of the oligarchs"). It seems these groups are well funded and are producing "fresh" content to bombard our youth.
>
> https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1JxU85q2HD4
>
> There is also evidence from abroad that fact-checking just doesnt get it done as far as changing hearts and minds:
>
> https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/the-fix/wp/2017/02/23/why-fact-checking-doesnt-change-peoples-minds/
>
> https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/the-psychology-of-fact-checking1/
>
> I suspect FB prefers to take the easier paths that dont necessarily disrupt (nor expose the weaknesses of) their business model.
>
> R
>
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> On Tue, Jul 27, 2021 at 2:29 PM Jose Maria Mendoza <jomendoza@usaid.gov> wrote:
>
> > Hi again
> >
> > Just among us now, letting you know that, on the other hand, they have formally partnered with Greg Kehailia in our media project.
> >
> > See summary write up below. Fyi
> >
> > Joey
> >
> > **USAID partners with Facebook to combat misinformation and disinformation.** With the upcoming May 2022 election, it is expected that there will be an onslaught of disinformation and smear campaigns in popular social media platforms. On July 15, USAID, through its Initiative for Media Freedom (IMF) project, signed a partnership agreement with Facebook to support the training of additional fact checkers in the Philippines. Selected organizations will participate in the fact-checking incubator activity organized by IMF and are expected to seek and obtain accreditation from the International Fact Checking Network. ***So what?*** The partnership between USAID and Facebook to double the number of accredited fact checkers in the Philippines advances USAID's private sector engagement initiative in the DRG sector. More importantly, the partnership will help prevent the spread of false information and help citizens make informed decisions.

On Tue, Jul 27, 2021 at 2:23 PM Jose Maria Mendoza <jomendoza@usaid.gov> wrote:

> Hi Ron
>
> Yes, this is noted. I have been waiting on movement here as well.
>
> Best regards
>
> Joey
>
> On Tue, Jul 27, 2021 at 2:09 PM Ronald U. Mendoza <[redacted]@gmail.com> wrote:
>
> > No response from Clare or Facebook Philippines, Joey. My message was sent 2 weeks ago.
> >
> > i just want to make it clear here that I responded to this and agreed to meet.
> >
> > Best to everyone
> >
> > R
> >
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> > On Thu, Jul 15, 2021 at 1:52 PM Ronald U. Mendoza <[redacted]@gmail.com> wrote:
> >
> > > Hi Joey and Clare Im willing to chat with FB again to explore possible collaboration points.
> > >
> > > Clare, please give us 3 dates.
> > >
> > > Jurel, pls join me so we can explore our FB-based impact evaluation study.
> > >
> > > (No other staffmembers are necessary for this meeting.)
> > >
> > > Thanks
> > >
> > > R
> > >
> > > I will meet with Clare.
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