Re: Follow up on USAID/LAC planning around RightsCon

cthanassi@usaid.gov Cara Thanassi Tuesday, May 9, 2023 at 1:33:54 PM Eastern Daylight Time
To: [redacted]@meta.com Sandra Luff
Cc: [redacted]@meta.com Catherine Eng, cagarwal@usaid.gov Chantal Agarwal, hschildge@usaid.gov Heather Schildge, mmclaughlin@usaid.gov Martin McLaughlin, rknight@usaid.gov Ryan Knight, lazurduy@usaid.gov Luis Azurduy, dburgipalomino@usaid.gov Daniella Burgi-Palomino, ebuckhout@usaid.gov Emma Buckhout, camitchell@usaid.gov Carrie Mitchell, [redacted]@meta.com Íñigo Fernández, rporter@usaid.gov Russell Porter, [redacted]@meta.com Molly Montgomery

Hi Sandy,

Thanks for the quick reply. We would welcome Íñigo's participation. Does a call either Friday at 1 PM EST or Monday at 3 PM EST work?

Best,
Cara

On Tue, May 9, 2023 at 12:46 PM Sandra Luff <[redacted]@meta.com> wrote:

> Cara,
>
> Indeed, I was going to send you an update today. Moving some to bcc to preserve inboxes.
>
> We believe Inigo, cc'd above would be an excellent candidate for participation.
>
> Would you have a few minutes to jump on a call with us to discuss? Either later this week or early next week?
>
> Thanks!
> Sandy
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
> > On May 9, 2023, at 9:43 AM, Cara Thanassi <cthanassi@usaid.gov> wrote:
> >
> > **This Message Is From an External Sender**
> >
> > Hi Sandy,
> >
> > I hope this finds you well. I am writing to see if you have any updates on Meta's participation in the June 5 Voices event in Costa Rica. We're finalizing the invitation list and panelists and believe Meta representatives would contribute greatly to the discussion.
> >
> > I look forward to hearing from you.
> >
> > Best,
> > Cara
> >
> > On Wed, May 3, 2023 at 5:37 PM Sandra Luff <[redacted]@meta.com> wrote:
> >
> > > Many thanks for the additional information, Cara. We very much appreciate the opportunity to engage with you on this important event.
> > >
> > > Let me discuss with our team to determine 1) attendees and 2) if we can also support serving as a panelist.
> > >
> > > We'll be in touch soon.
> > >
> > > Best,
> > > Sandy

On May 3, 2023, at 4:55 PM, Cara Thanassi <cthanassi@usaid.gov> wrote:

This Message Is From an External Sender

Dear Sandy,

I am writing to follow up on Mileydi's May 1 email regarding RightsCon. As you may be aware, there will be a robust USG delegation at RightsCon with various events in the planning stages. In collaboration with the State Department, we in USAID's Latin America and Caribbean Bureau are organizing a Monday, June 5 event (approximately 9 AM to 1PM) focused on addressing digital repression/promoting digital democracy in Central America (see description below). This will occur under the broader umbrella of the interagency Voices initiative focused on protecting, defending, and promoting civic space in Central America.

The event will include representatives from civil society organizations, independent media, the private sector, and donors and largely conducted in Spanish. We are currently finalizing the invitation list, as well as identifying possible panelists. We would be pleased if one or more representatives from Meta were available to attend (depending upon final head counts). Moreover, as we work to identify panelists, would there be interest in someone from Meta possibly serving in that capacity? We welcome your suggestions on both participants and potential panelists.

We are currently envisioning one panel that includes civil society and media representatives from the region and another that encompasses donor and private sector representatives, with no formal decision made as to their compositions yet.

Please let us know if you have any questions and thanks for your consideration.

Best regards,
Cara

Under the U.S. government's interagency Voices initiative to protect, defend and promote civic space in Central America, USAID and the State Department will hold a June 5 closed-door side event at the RightsCon Summit in Costa Rica. We will take advantage of the Summit's focus on human rights in the digital age to gather representatives from civil society organizations, independent media, donors, and the private sector to understand the challenges, identify gaps and coordinate responses for the promotion of digital democracy in Central America. This closed-door consultation will center on the tactics of digital authoritarianism and repression. This includes online surveillance and censorship; social manipulation and disinformation; internet restrictions; and the targeted persecution of independent media, human rights defenders, and other advocates and activists. By bringing together diverse stakeholders, this conversation aims to highlight local and regional impacts and responses; share lessons learned between sectors and countries; identify immediate and longer-term priorities, and further coordination and collaboration for countering digital authoritarianism in the region.

On Mon, May 1, 2023 at 8:26 AM Mileydi Guilarte <mguilarte@usaid.gov> wrote:

> Dear Sandy,
>
> It was a pleasure meeting you as well and discussing ways that we can continue to work together throughout the hemisphere.
>
> I am copying my colleague Cara to follow up on the RightsCon panel details as well as my colleague Luis for the trainings we have pending, including the one in Guatemala and the upcoming election.

My best,
Mileydi

On Sat, Apr 29, 2023 at 7:42 AM Sandra Luff <[redacted]@meta.com> wrote:

Mileydi,

It was a tremendous pleasure to meet you and I wanted to thank you for being so generous with your time this week. I hope you found the discussion as instructive and informative as we did.

I also wanted to follow-up on the potential panel at RightsCon. Once I have the details of the key topics, panel focus and potential additional panelists, I'll share it with our team to determine the best colleague for potential participation. I'll be back in DC next week so would be super helpful to be able to share that info with the team sometime next week. Chantal—if it's easier to connect via phone, let me know. Happy to jump on a call.

Lastly, I also wanted to thank Chantal for her help in setting up our meeting and also thank Ryan for his participation in our roundtable discussion (which I believe everyone left feeling very inspired).

Again, many thanks for your time and know we look forward to deepening our partnership.

Best to you all for a great weekend!

Sandy

On Apr 21, 2023, at 9:40 AM, Luis Azurduy <lazurduy@usaid.gov> wrote:

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Adding Ryan Knight who will be there too.

On Fri, Apr 21, 2023 at 11:25 AM Mileydi Guilarte <mguilarte@usaid.gov> wrote:

Dear Sandy,

Will be great to meet on the margins of the conference for coffee. I arrive late on Wednesday but perhaps we can meet Thursday? My colleague Chantal, copied here, will revert with options. Unfortunately it looks like I am already committed to be part of another event Friday morning.

More soon.

Best,
Mileydi

On Fri, Apr 21, 2023 at 11:20 AM Sandra Luff <[redacted]@meta.com> wrote:

Many thanks for your prompt response, Alex.

So sorry to hear you & Marcela are unable to attend but look forward to meeting Luis & Mileydi in person. (moving you & Marcela to bcc to save your inboxes)

Luis & Mileydi--please let me know if you'll have some time to grab coffee on the sidelines of the Summit. Also, feel free to connect directly with Stina or Sharon if you'd like to participate in the events outlined below.

Best,

Sandy

From: Alexander Brockwehl <abrockwehl@usaid.gov>
Date: Wednesday, April 19, 2023 at 7:44 PM
To: Sandra Luff <[redacted]@meta.com>
Cc: Catherine Eng <[redacted]@meta.com>, Chantal Agarwal <cagarwal@usaid.gov>, Luis Azurduy <lazurduy@usaid.gov>, Marcela Escobari <mescobari@usaid.gov>, Mileydi Guilarte <mguilarte@usaid.gov>, Sharon Yang <[redacted]@meta.com>, Stina Trainor <[redacted]@meta.com>
Subject: Re: Cities Summit of the Americas (Event Invitations)

Sandra, thank you for reaching out and hope you're well. Marcela has a conflict so won't be at the Cities Summit. I'm adding our DAA for Central America and Mexico, Mileydi Guilarte, who will be leading for USAID-LAC at the Cities Summit, as well as a couple other members of our team.

Best,

Alex

Alex Brockwehl

Special Advisor

Office of the Assistant Administrator

USAID Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean

USAID Contractor – CTP, Inc.

On Wed, Apr 19, 2023 at 7:13 PM Sandra Luff <[redacted]@meta.com> wrote:

> Dear Marcela,
>
> I hope this finds you well. It is hard to believe almost a year has passed since the Summit of the Americas.
>
> I wanted to share that our Meta policy teams are excited to participate in the upcoming Cities Summit of the Americas and I also wanted to extend an invitation to you and your team to attend two events Meta is hosting. Provided below are the details of the events and key points of contact. We hope you, Alex or a member of your team will have an opportunity to join us.
>
> Additionally, if your schedule allows, please let me know if you'll have time to connect for coffee I'd love to catch up.
>
> Please let me know if you have any questions and know we look forward to a successful Summit.
>
> Best,
>
> Sandy
>
> **Inclusive Economic Recovery Roundtable:** We will host a discussion on how technologies can ignite inclusive economic impact at the local level. This conversation will feature Indigenous creators and small business owners from across the Americas who will share their perspective on how they express their cultures and promote their small businesses in innovative ways. You will hear about the power of technologies to unlock the economic potential of communities along with the latest insights into what the future holds for creating inclusive economies. Please contact Stina

Trainor, cc'd above with questions or to RSVP for the roundtable. (Note: This is an intimate, invite-only event on the sidelines of the Cities Summit of the Americas. Upon confirmation, additional details will be provided).

Friday, April 28, 2023

Four Seasons Hotel Denver

10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Activation, Innovation Plaza: We will offer demonstrations of Meta's Quest 2 and Quest Pro Virtual Reality headsets that highlight our vision for the future of technology as well as the potential positive economic impact in providing opportunities for creators and small businesses. We will also showcase the latest in wearable technology with Ray-Ban Stories smart glasses. Please contact Sharon Yang, cc'd above with questions or to schedule a demonstration.

Thursday, April 27 – Friday, April 28, 2023

Convention Center

Innovation Plaza

9:00am 5:00pm

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Alex Brockwehl

Special Advisor

Office of the Assistant Administrator

USAID Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean

USAID Contractor CTP, Inc.

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Mileydi Guilarte
Deputy Assistant Administrator
Latin America & Caribbean Bureau
Tel: [redacted]
Email: mguilarte@usaid.gov
[redacted]

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Luis Azurduy
Team Lead, Democracy, Human Rights and Governance Office of Regional Sustainable Development

Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean
United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
Cell: [redacted]

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Mileydi Guilarte
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Cara L. Thanassi

Democracy Specialist for Latin America and the Caribbean

USAID Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, Democracy and Human Rights Team

[redacted]

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[redacted]