

 **Australian Government**
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

INNOVATION  CHANGE

Innovation in the Aid Program

Lisa Rauter
First Assistant Secretary, innovationXchange

INNOVATION  CHANGE

catalysing and supporting innovation by

<p>EXPERIMENTING</p>  <p>testing business models, technology & ways of delivering assistance</p>  <p>we support a portfolio of innovative programs & initiatives to service development priorities</p>	<p>PARTNERING</p>  <p>linking collaborators & investors with knowledge & opportunity</p>  <p>we engage stakeholders in new ways through strategic partnerships, brokering both finance & expertise</p>	<p>LEARNING</p>  <p>sharing lessons from our success & our failure</p>  <p>we exchange knowledge & ideas to solve problems & inform the future direction of work</p>
---	---	---

INNOVATION X CHANGE

harnessing the power of innovation to deliver development solutions
by leveraging new finance, strategic partners and creative ideas



for cheaper, faster more effective development outcomes

What is innovation?

- A new approach, technology or application of science that improves the impact of our aid and improves our cost effectiveness
- A process of trying and learning and adapting to find the most impactful approach
- It goes beyond 'good business practice'
- It involves first deeply understanding the problem or the opportunity
- It involves working with others outside the norm to bring in fresh perspectives and ideas



What innovations are we looking to support?

Innovations which have the potential to be transformative – to change behaviours, to open new markets, to change the way we deliver aid for the better

Innovations which have potential to be self-sustaining, or which offer a significant benefit compared to traditional aid
 Innovations that are new to sector or country/region

Innovations that catalyse the actions or investment of others.



Approaches we are experimenting with

- Challenges
- Partnerships
- Interactive map for learning and sharing
- Global network approaches
- Investing instead of granting
- Prize funds
- Human centred design



What are we learning?



- Innovations don't just need funding, they need mentoring support and networks
- Culture change needs top down and bottom up action
- Dedicated resources and funding drives innovation faster
- We need to not only bring new ideas into the Aid program, but we also need to source them through and from the aid program
- We cant just buy innovation. It is a process, not a thing
- Story telling is key – so we need real time monitoring and impact evaluation
- There are so many ideas out there!

Opportunities we are exploring

Nutrition	Governance
Humanitarian	Water Access
Local Innovators	Girls Education in Crisis
Education in Crisis	Impact Investing
Micro-insurance	Aquaculture
Alternative finance	Shared value
Technology	Data

How can we work together?

- Strategic Partnerships
- Friends of the iXc network
- Innovator network
- Challenges
- Secondments
- Get involved in our 'big thinks'
- Bring us a great new idea