

# Millennium Alliance

Inspiring Innovation. Sharing Solutions.



# Millennium Alliance

## An India – U.S. Innovation Partnership for Global Development



The Millennium Alliance (MA) is a joint commitment of the Technology Development Board; the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) to recognize India's role as a global innovation laboratory, by identifying, testing and scaling solutions that leverage private and public sector resources and expertise to reduce the cost and increase the reach of development innovations in India and around the world.

The MA is a platform to leverage Indian creativity, expertise, and resources to source and scale innovations being developed and tested in India that will benefit vulnerable populations across India and the world.

The MA is a partnership that will stimulate and facilitate financial contributions from private and public sector founders and stakeholders and offer support to competitively selected applicants through a range of vehicles appropriate to the funding sources, such as grants, loans, equity investments and credit enhancements.

The MA will solicit proposals and invest in carefully vetted innovations tailored to the Indian context, measure the impact of these innovations, and scale up those which are successful. MA encourages entrepreneurs, innovators, businesses, academics, NGOs, local partners and others to submit proposals for innovative development solutions.

## MA Objectives:

### 1. Identify game changing innovations

The Alliance intends to identify breakthrough innovations that achieve development outcomes for Base of the Pyramid (BoP) populations more effectively, more cheaply, more broadly (that reach more beneficiaries), and in a shorter period of time.

### 2. Rigorously test promising solutions

The Alliance encourages innovators to rigorously test and evaluate their innovative solutions to confirm that they are achieving a concrete development outcome in the most effective manner.

### 3. Scale innovations that work

The Alliance aims to support innovations that exhibit the potential to be replicated or scaled broadly to maximize their impact.

## Innovation Includes:

- Business or organizational models
- Operational or production processes
- Products or services
- Technological solutions
- Combinations of tried and true techniques



## Focus Sectors:

1. Basic education (specifically early grade reading)
2. Water and sanitation
3. Family planning and reproductive health
4. Maternal and child health
5. Agriculture/Food security
6. Clean Energy/Climate change
7. Others: Any innovation pertaining to a sector, which would either directly benefit the population at the BoP or indirectly creates/improves the environment that improve lives for the BoP.

## Who Can Apply?

- Local private and non-governmental entities
- For profit or non- profit educational institutions
- Private individuals
- Consortia of the above

## Call for Letter of Interest (LoI)



### MA Awards

The MA Awards will be provided for projects following under the following two stages:

- Stage 1** : The development needed to support proof of concept and financial, administrative, and technical viability.
- Stage 2** : Implementing the project at a sufficiently large scale to allow for rigorous impact testing.



### Size of Award

The award could be in the form of a grant, debt or equity or a combination thereof.

- Stage 1** : Funding not exceeding ₹ 50,00,000 or \$100,000 (approx.)
- Stage 2** : Funding not exceeding ₹ 3,75,00,000 or \$750,000 (approx.)

Call closes on: **September 15, 2012**



## MA FOUNDING MEMBERS

Technology Development Board (TDB),  
Department of Science and Technology,  
Government of India

[www.tdb.gov.in](http://www.tdb.gov.in)

Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and  
Industry (FICCI)

[www.ficci.com](http://www.ficci.com)

United States Agency for International  
Development (USAID)

[www.usaid.gov](http://www.usaid.gov)

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***To know more and apply to the program, please log on to:***

**[www.millenniumalliance.in](http://www.millenniumalliance.in)**