What's New with the TAAP Initiative?

- **We’re writing**..... Components of the Framework and Toolkit are being written, vetted, tested and adapted – and we are anticipating a Fall 2016 launch. Click here if you’d like to see the latest draft of the TAAP Inclusion Toolkit Table of Contents.

- **We’re testing and applying**..... Conducting a TAAP Inclusion Assessment in Mongolia throughout August for USAID’s Mongolian Emerging Leaders Program. Stay tuned! We intend to turn our experience with this effort into a case study.

- **We’re vetting and sharing**..... Through global workshops in:
  - **London** - The TAAP LGBT Inclusion Workshop on July 27 will introduce the TAAP Inclusion Initiative and seek feedback from LGBT-focused development practitioners on draft materials and tools.
  - **Yangon** - The TAAP Inclusion Workshop from August 15-18 will introduce the TAAP Inclusion Initiative and prepare civil society organizations and activists to conduct TAAP Inclusion Assessments in Fall 2016.
New Development Agenda for Sexual and Gender Minorities

The Williams Institute at the UCLA Law School recently released “A Development Agenda for Sexual and Gender Minorities.” The Agenda articulates a framework for addressing the needs of sexual orientation and gender minorities in a development agenda. The paper first compares the progress of inclusion of sexual and gender minorities in human rights and development agendas, with the former being more inclusive and the development agenda catching up. Next, using a capabilities approach, the paper outlines how local communities can identify a set of capabilities to create a development agenda for sexual and gender minorities. Examples of capabilities discussed include: live a healthy life, learn and receive an education, determine and express one’s own identity, affiliate and relate to others, have adequate resources for living and participate in governance. These examples provide potential pathways for crafting a development agenda that more fully taps into the lived experiences of sexual and gender minorities and capitalizes on their skills and contributions.

Andrew Park, the Director of International Programs at the Williams Institute and author of the report shared, “This report provides a conceptual framework for a broader, inclusive development agenda. Development practitioners need tools, like TAAP, in order to implement principles of inclusion at a day-to-day level in development programs.” Using frameworks like Park’s that considers the unique needs and qualities of a particular group is an important step towards full inclusion.


Advancing Access and Meaningful Participation

ACDI/VOCA, with the support of USAID, recently launched a second edition of the Intervention Guide for the Women’s Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI). This updated edition provides practical guidance to donors and implementers of agricultural development programs on interventions for each of the Women’s Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI) empowerment domains. It uses an inclusive market systems and gender-responsive approach. Report co-author and gender consultant Michelle Stern explains that “the guide helps projects identify the right interventions that will both position women to
access project resources and participate meaningfully in targeted markets."

We think you’ll agree that the WEAI Intervention Guide, with its wealth of analysis questions for domains, links to additional resources, toolkits, and case studies, guidance on how to mitigate risks, techniques for how to facilitate inclusive activities through actors, tips on how to communicate about social and behavior change and examples of output and outcome indicators to monitor activities on an ongoing basis, provides terrific inspiration for the TAAP Framework and Toolkit.

Infographic: USAID and ACDI/VOCA, 2016

**Palma - A new measure of inequality?**

In Development Economics 101, the Gini coefficient is presented as the standard approach to measure inequality at a national level. When the Gini coefficient is closer to 1, inequality is higher. The closer the Gini coefficient is to 0, the more economically equal the country is considered to be. Alex Cobham and Andy Sumner developed the Palma ratio based on observations by Jose Gabriel Palma that in the middle 50% share of national income doesn’t change across countries and time, but the lowest 40% and highest 10% do. Read these blog posts from Center for Global Development and Oxfam’s From Poverty to Power for more details on how the Palma ratio works. As Cobham and Sumner discuss in Oxfam’s From Poverty to Power blog, “we also present some tentative but striking evidence of a link between countries’ Palma and their rates of progress on the major Millennium Development Goal (MDG) poverty targets...the results indicate that countries that reduced their Palma exhibit mean rates of progress which, compared to countries with rising Palmas, are three times higher in reducing extreme poverty and hunger, twice as high in reducing the proportion of people lacking access to improved water sources, and a third higher in reducing under-five mortality. If that isn’t worth a closer look we don’t know what is.” Watch this video from Alex Cobham to learn more about Palma.

What does Palma mean for inclusion and TAAP? One of the core
stages of TAAP is to “Listen.” By seeking better tools to understand income inequality, inclusion analysis will be stronger and development practitioners and civil society activities can better understand the economic forces that exclude populations and concentrate power. TAAP will try to balance qualitative and quantitative data, and finding illustrative quantitative data can be difficult for traditionally marginalized or disempowered population. With the Palma ratio, we are a step closer to accurately capturing the experiences of more people.

Got Inclusion?
We want to hear from you! Please share your inclusion activities, success stories, upcoming events, and intriguing resources. Send to TAAP@worldlearning.org.
New to TAAP? Read past newsletters and learn more by clicking here.