

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Global AI Research Agenda

AGENCY: U.S. Agency for International Development.

ACTION: Notice; request for information.

SUMMARY: The United States Agency for International Development and the U.S. Department of State, in collaboration with the Department of Energy and the National Science Foundation, seek information to assist in carrying out responsibilities under Executive Order 14110 (<https://www.federalregister.gov/executive-order/14110>) on Safe, Secure, and Trustworthy Development and Use of Artificial Intelligence issued on October 30, 2023. Specifically, the E.O. directs USAID and the State Department to publish a Global AI Research Agenda to guide the objectives and implementation of AI-related research in contexts beyond United States borders.

DATES: Comments containing information in response to this notice must be received on or before April 10, 2024. Submissions received after that date may not be considered.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Sent as an attachment to gaira_rfi@usaid.gov in any of the following unlocked formats: HTML; ASCII; Word; RTF; Unicode, or .pdf.

Written comments may be submitted by mail to: USAID, IPI/ITR/T, Rm. 2.12-213, RRB, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20004.

Response to this RFI is voluntary. Submissions must not exceed 10 pages (when printed) in 12-point or larger font, with a page number provided on each page. Please include your name, organization's name (if any), and cite "Global AI Research Agenda" in all correspondence.

Comments containing references, studies, research, and other empirical data that are not widely published should include copies of the referenced materials. All comments and submissions, including attachments and other supporting materials, will become part of the public record and subject to public disclosure.

USAID will not accept comments accompanied by a request that part or all of the material be treated confidentially because of its business proprietary nature or for any other reason. Therefore, do not submit confidential business information or otherwise sensitive, protected, or personal information, such as account numbers, Social Security numbers, or names of other individuals.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions about this RFI contact: Craig Jolley, gaira_rfi@usaid.gov or 1-202-712-5536.

Accessible Format: USAID will make the RFI available in alternate formats, such as Braille or large print, upon request by persons with disabilities.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: To promote safe, responsible, and rights-affirming development and deployment of AI abroad, the Executive Order on Safe, Secure, and Trustworthy Development and Use of Artificial Intelligence directs:

"The Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, in collaboration with the Secretary of Energy and the Director of NSF, shall develop a Global AI Research Agenda to guide the objectives and implementation of AI-related research in contexts beyond United States borders. The Agenda shall:

(A) include principles, guidelines, priorities, and best practices aimed at ensuring the safe, responsible, beneficial, and sustainable global development and adoption of AI; and

(B) address AI's labor-market implications across international contexts, including by recommending risk mitigations."

USAID and the State Department are seeking information to assist in carrying out this action.

The rapid development of AI technologies is taking place in a highly-connected global context, in which funding, data, talent, and computing resources flow across borders to create

globally-sourced products with global audiences. Building a safe, secure, trustworthy global AI ecosystem will require robust international collaboration and thorough understanding of the global impacts of AI technologies.

As a result, the Global AI Research Agenda has three interrelated goals:

- First, to leverage robust research collaborations to promote the safe, responsible, beneficial, and sustainable development of AI technologies around the world. This will require understanding of the best practices for building international partnerships, and using these partnerships to promote responsible research practices.

- Second, to outline important areas of inquiry for the study of AI's human impacts in a global context. Given the rapid development of AI technology, we are still at an early stage of understanding how it may reshape our economies, societies, and selves. Because AI's reach is inherently global, this inquiry needs to take a global perspective, understanding how the human impacts of AI are modulated by language, culture, geography, and socioeconomic development.

- Finally, to address the global labor market implications of AI. While many leading AI companies are based in the United States and other wealthy countries of the Global North, necessary inputs such as data labeling and human-feedback training involve workers in much more diverse settings. Similarly, the availability of commercial APIs and open-source models make the outputs of AI accessible around the world, potentially leading to unpredictable changes in the quantity, profitability, and nature of work.

The Global AI Research Agenda drafting committee is currently working with the following high-level structure for the Agenda. We welcome public input on this high-level structure, in particular whether other topics need to be emphasized in order to address the three goals above.

- International Research Principles
- AI Research Best Practices
- AI Research Priorities
 - Sociotechnical perspectives on human-AI interactions (*i.e.*, research approaches situating technological systems in their social, cultural, and economic contexts)

- Advancing fundamental AI through international collaborations and research infrastructure
- Applications of AI to address global challenges: climate, food security, health, etc.
- Global perspectives on AI misuse: surveillance, information integrity, gender-based violence
- Advancing safe, secure, inclusive, and trustworthy AI
- Labor Market Implications and risk mitigation

In considering information for submission, respondents are encouraged to review resources that USAID, State Department, DOE, and NSF have developed or coordinated with partners to develop in the past:

- USAID Digital Ecosystem Framework
- USAID AI Action Plan
- Reflecting the Past, Shaping the Future: Making AI Work for International Development
- OECD Working Party on AI Governance
- Global Partnership on AI
- OECD Recommendation on AI
- Hiroshima Process Code of Conduct for Organizations Developing Advanced AI Systems
- National Artificial Intelligence Research and Development Strategic Plan

1. Questions for the Global AI Research Agenda

USAID and State Department are interested in receiving information pertinent to any or all of the topics described below. Respondents may provide information on one or more of the topics in this RFI and may elect not to address every topic.

Please answer based on your experience, the positions of your organization, or research you have encountered or conducted. Where possible, please cite the source of your information or note when personal views are expressed.

Information that is specific and actionable is of special interest. Copyright protections of materials, if any, should be clearly noted. USAID and the State Department are especially interested in the perspectives of those living and/or working in emerging economies, though responses are welcome from anyone.

- *Research best practices:* What sorts of guidelines, practices, or institutional arrangements can help various research stakeholders (universities, corporate R&D centers, conferences, journals, etc.) ensure that AI research is safe, ethical, and sensitive to global contexts?

- In particular, what criteria and frameworks are currently being used by

AI conferences, publications, and funders?

- *International engagement:* What types of international research partnerships have been most effective in ensuring alignment on safe, secure, and trustworthy AI? What types have been challenging?

- *Foundation models:* How might research and engagement best practices differ between the developers of foundation models and “downstream” users of these models? What do users want and need from foundation model developers?

- *Human impacts:* What considerations are most important for safe and ethical research into the human impacts of AI systems (e.g., mental health, labor displacement, bias and discrimination)? How do these considerations vary in different global contexts?

- *Enabling infrastructure:* What are the best strategies to ensure access to computing resources, data, and other prerequisites for AI research?

- *Global equity considerations:* How might these best practices or strategies look different for partnerships in developed economies and those involving emerging economies? How might best practices differ for different types of partnerships (academic, private sector, government, public-private etc.)?

Authority: Executive Order 14110 of Oct. 30, 2023.

Sabeen V. Dhanani,

Deputy Director, Technology Division, Innovation, Technology & Research Hub (ITR), Bureau for Inclusive Growth, Partnerships, and Innovation.

[FR Doc. 2024–05357 Filed 3–13–24; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13. Comments are requested regarding: whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the collection of

information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments regarding this information collection received by April 15, 2024 will be considered. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

Title: Bio-refinery, Renewable Chemical, and Biobased Product Manufacturing Assistance Program.

OMB Control Number: 0570–0065.

Summary of Collection: The Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBCS or the Agency) is a Rural Development agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and administers The Biorefinery, Renewable Chemical, and Biobased Product Manufacturing Assistance Program (Program). The Program was established under Section 9003 of the 2008 Farm Bill and assists in the development, construction, and retrofitting of new and emerging technologies for the development of advanced biofuels by providing loan guarantees of up to \$250 million. The Program’s authority was continued in the Agricultural Acts of 2014 and 2018. This collection of information is necessary for Rural Development to identify projects eligible for loan guarantees under the Program. In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104–13, 44 U.S.C. chapter 35), Rural Development is submitting this information collection package to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance.

Need and Use of the Information: The Agency will use various forms and written evidence to collect needed information to determine lender and borrower eligibility for loan guarantees,