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Chayva Lehrman is the Program Assistant and Communications Liaison for the Research Partnerships for Development Team in USAID's U.S. Global Development Lab. Prior to the Lab, she worked in Congressman Henry Waxman's Washington office, where she did constituent services, social media, and assisted with the foreign affairs portfolio. Her previous experience includes an internship on the House Committee on Foreign Affairs under Ranking Member Howard Berman and editorial assistance for The Middle East Journal, a publication of The Middle East Institute. She graduated from Wellesley College with a Bachelor's degree in Cognitive and Linguistic Sciences and Middle Eastern Studies; her senior research analyzed linguistic code switching patterns in Israeli and Palestinian hip hop music. Chayva is a soccer player, coach, former musician and dancer, and speaks Arabic, Hebrew, and limited Spanish.

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Daniel Placht is the Senior Program Assistant in the Development, Security, and Cooperation unit of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences (NAS). He currently provides programmatic support for the Arab-American Frontiers and PEER programs which focus on international development and capacity building through improved access to science and technology. Before joining NAS, Daniel interned at the International Law Institute in Washington, DC as well as multiple international development NGOs in Cairo, Egypt. He holds an undergraduate degree in International Affairs from Bard College in New York.

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Jason Porter is a 2014-2016 American Association for the Advancement of Science, Science & Technology Policy Fellow and is working in the Global Development Lab at USAID. Prior to this position, he conducted postdoctoral research on the use of protein engineering and chemical biology to study cancer biology as an American Cancer Society Fellow at the University of California, San Francisco. While in San Francisco Jason was also involved in U.S. science policy, science advocacy, co-lead an effort to survey the morale of post-docs and graduate students in the wake of the historic U.S. budget cuts known as "sequestration." He received his Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of Arizona. He also taught biochemistry for a post-baccalaureate program in San Francisco. Jason is interested in science capacity building, science diplomacy, Do-It-Yourself science, and fostering international collaborations.

Kelly Robbins

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Kelly Robbins is a senior program officer in PGA's Development, Security, and Cooperation program. Since coming to the National Academies in 1992, she has managed several exchange grant programs with the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe and worked on studies of the role of science and technology in U.S. diplomacy, the Armenian science and education sectors, and technology commercialization in Russia, among others. From 2005 through 2012 she managed the Pakistan-U.S. Science and Technology Cooperation Program, and in 2011 she helped to initiate the USAID-funded Partnerships for Enhanced Engagement in Research (PEER) Science Program. Prior to joining the Academies, she worked as an international marketing and customer service agent for Sigma Chemical in St. Louis and as a translator and editor for Context Corporation in Minneapolis. Kelly graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Grinnell College with a degree in Russian.

Annica Wayman

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Annica Wayman is the Division Chief for the Research Partnerships for Development Team in the U.S. Global Development Lab at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). The team is responsible for the Partnerships for Enhanced Engagement in Research (PEER) program and other activities which catalyze and leverage collaborative research that addresses global development challenges. Immediately before this role, she was an AAAS Science and Technology Policy Fellow in the Office of Science and Technology at USAID where she helped initiate PEER and enhanced USAID's partnerships with other federal science agencies. Prior to coming to USAID, Annica worked at Becton, Dickinson & Co. (BD), a leading global medical technology company that manufactures and sells medical devices, instrument systems and reagents. At BD, she served in various R&D engineering roles ranging from advanced technology development to new product development for anesthesia-related procedures. In addition to her primary engineering role, Annica was part of BD's Global Health team where she explored ways to improve biosafety in tuberculosis (TB) laboratories in developing countries in collaboration with the Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Alliance Biosciences. Annica holds a B.Sc. degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Maryland Baltimore County as well as M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees in Mechanical Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology where her doctoral work focused on selectin-mediated adhesion of leukocytes to vascular surfaces.