**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**ABOUT THE UAA/USAID MENTORING PROGRAM**

The UAA and USAID have been partners in a program that brings alumni experience and expertise to mentoring relationships with interested USAID Foreign Service Officers posted overseas. The successful pilot effort for this program took place in the Europe and Eurasia (E&E) Bureau. He program was then extended to other interested Bureaus in 2014: Global Health, LAC, and a collaboration between PPL and the Asia Bureau. In 2015, Africa Bureau joined the program.

* **What does a UAA mentor do?** Although we seek to match backstops, a mentor is not considered to be a technical consultant. Rather, the main objective of the relationship is to provide mentees with career development and professional support. All mentors will take part in a one-day training program that will flesh out roles and methodologies. Mentees also receive training via webinar.
* **How do mentors and mentees communicate?** Oral contact is by Skype or toll-free phone. Email communication also is used. While meeting in person is, no doubt, desirable, it is unlikely that the Agency will be able to provide funding for such travel.
* **How much of my time will this take?** All mentor/mentee relationships are unique. Generally, mentors and mentees talk weekly for an hour or more. Preparation and emailing may add additional time.
* **What other requirements do mentors have?** At a minimum, each mentor must sign a conflict of interest statement. This is part of the Mentor-Mentee Agreement.
* **How long must I commit to this program?** The basic agreement with USAID states that mentor/mentee relationships last for six months and may be extended beyond that for as long as the parties wish. However, in the real world, some of the mentor/mentee pairings may not work out for whatever reason. In that case, there is a provision for early termination.
* **Who are the mentees?** Mentees can range from junior officers to Mission Directors.