

**PRESS RELEASE**

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**EWV WINS \$14 MILLION USAID NATURAL RESOURCE, ECONOMIC GROWTH, AND GOVERNANCE PROJECT  
As Partner in WCS Consortium**

**Washington, DC** – EnterpriseWorks/VITA (EWV) today announced that the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has selected the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) consortium, which EWV is part of, to implement its program titled, “Promoting Transformation: Linking Natural Resources, Economic Growth, and Governance” (TransLinks). The five-year, worldwide program aims to improve land resources management and governance to enhance biodiversity conservation and productivity for sustainable poverty reduction, empowerment and economic growth. Expanding upon a range of ongoing research, tool development, capacity building, and technical assistance programs to address complex rural development needs, the program will support cross-cutting approaches that link natural resource management to economic growth and good governance.

“EWV is recognized as a leader in using an enterprise-based development approach to address biodiversity and other conservation issues in local communities throughout the developing world.” said Don Feil, President and CEO of EWV. “EWV is honored to have the opportunity to bring its expertise to the TRANSLINKS program.”

EnterpriseWorks/VITA has extensive experience boosting incomes and protecting biodiversity through profitable resource management and industry building in areas with sensitive ecosystems. These enterprise and biodiversity conservation activities are closely integrated with local governance and tenure issues, especially community forestry programs.

For over 40 years, EnterpriseWorks/VITA has worked diligently to fulfill its mission to combat poverty by helping small producers and other entrepreneurs build sustainable businesses that create jobs and increase productivity, market opportunities and incomes. EWV achieves this by expanding access to appropriate technologies, technical assistance, knowledge and finance.

EWV maintains a close-knit network of 21 field and affiliate offices in Africa and Asia – enabling substantial knowledge sharing and collaboration across countries and regions.

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