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## SNAPSHOT

# USAID SCD Recognized as 'Best in Class' Local Content Initiative

USAID program heralded for its contributions to SMEs in the oil/gas space



Photo: PYXERA Global VP Harry Pastuszek and Country Director Barbara Gbologhah-Quaye receive 'Local Content' award for USAID SCD program in Ghana

**Labeled best 'Local Content Initiative 2015' at the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual GOGA awards held in Accra, Ghana, the USAID funded SCD Program is pleased to be part of an emerging and esteemed class of local and international companies recognized for best-in-class business practices and support initiatives which will further support the development of Ghana's nascent oil and gas sector.**

The Ghana Oil and Gas Awards and exhibition (GOGA) was organized in 2014 as an event to bring together players across the industry to recognize and award leading achievements from local and international companies involved in Ghana's oil and gas sector. Structured around 25 distinct award categories representing 'best in class' operations of companies that continue to define and support the further development of the sector, the GOGA awards serve as the premiere oil/gas event of the year in Ghana.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual GOGA awards were held on December 11, 2015 at the Movenpick Hotel in Accra. Key affiliated partners to the event included the Ministry of Energy and Petroleum, the Ghana Oil and Gas Service Providers Association, and this year's key sponsor National Investment Bank.

The USAID Supply Chain Development (SCD) Program was awarded the 2015 'Local Content Initiative' award for its continued efforts and assistance to building competitiveness and competence of Ghanaian firms to more effectively participate within the industry sector. Operating since 2013, the Program has worked with nearly 200 companies to build capacity amongst professionals in areas including Environment, Health & Safety (EHS) and OHSAS 18001:2007, Quality Management Systems (QMS), Procurement, Legal & Compliance Issues for the O&G sector, a multi-modular welding series. Complemented with in-class practical trainings, is firm-level consulting and advisory services oriented toward program participants as well as efforts to promote and strengthen market linkages between buyers and sellers in the market.

SCD interventions have resulted in 45 contracts totaling \$13,298,568 for program clients to date. Major contracts include with IOCs and subcontractors, including Tullow Oil, ENI, Halliburton, Schlumberger, Belmet/ Susbsea 7, amongst others. These contracts serve as testimony to the good work being done by SCD as well as the level at which SMEs have attained.

Surely the impact SCD continues to have with Ghanaian SMEs is clear, as recognized recently at the GOGA Awards. The award has "raised SCD's profile, helped to gain peer recognition and heightened visibility within a professional audience" noted the event organizer's CEO.

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