

Administration, 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Room C-4514, Washington, DC 20210. Telephone: (202) 693-2870 (This is not a toll-free number) or email [wright.samuel.e@dol.gov](mailto:wright.samuel.e@dol.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Department of Labor's regulations implementing Executive Orders 12073 and 10582 are set forth at 20 CFR part 654, subpart A. These regulations require the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) to classify jurisdictions as LSAs pursuant to the criteria specified in the regulations, and to publish annually a list of LSAs. Pursuant to those regulations, ETA is hereby publishing the annual LSA list. In addition, the regulations provide exceptional circumstance criteria for classifying LSAs when catastrophic events, such as natural disasters, plant closings, and contract cancellations are expected to have a long-term impact on labor market area conditions, discounting temporary or seasonal factors.

#### Eligible Labor Surplus Areas

A LSA is a civil jurisdiction that has a civilian average annual unemployment rate during the previous two calendar years of 20 percent or more above the average annual civilian unemployment rate for all states during the same 24-month reference period. ETA uses only official unemployment estimates provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in making these classifications. The average unemployment rate for all states includes data for the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The LSA classification criteria stipulate a civil jurisdiction must have a "floor unemployment rate" of 6 percent or higher to be classified a LSA. Any civil jurisdiction that has a "ceiling unemployment rate" of 10 percent or higher is classified a LSA.

Civil jurisdictions are defined as follows:

1. A city of at least 25,000 population on the basis of the most recently available estimates from the Bureau of the Census; or
2. A town or township in the States of Michigan, New Jersey, New York, or Pennsylvania of 25,000 or more population and which possess powers and functions similar to those of cities; or
3. All counties, except for those counties which contain any type of civil jurisdictions defined in "1" or "2" above; or
4. A "balance of county" consisting of a county less any component cities and townships identified in "1" or "2" above; or

5. A county equivalent which is a town in the States of Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island, or a municipio in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

#### Procedures for Classifying Labor Surplus Areas

The Department of Labor (DOL) issues the LSA list on a fiscal year basis. The list becomes effective each October 1, and remains in effect through the following September 30. The reference period used in preparing the current list was January 2020 through December 2021. The national average unemployment rate (including Puerto Rico) during this period is rounded to 6.71 percent. Twenty percent higher than the national unemployment rate during this period is rounded to 8.05 percent. To ensure that all areas classified as labor surplus meet the requirements, when a city is part of a county and meets the unemployment qualifier as a LSA, that city is identified in the LSA list, the balance of county, not the entire county, will be identified as a LSA if the balance of county also meets the LSA unemployment criteria. The data on the current and previous years' LSAs are available at [www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/lsa](http://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/lsa).

#### Petition for Exceptional Circumstance Consideration

The classification procedures also provide criteria for the designation of LSAs under exceptional circumstances criteria. These procedures permit the regular classification criteria to be waived when an area experiences a significant increase in unemployment which is not temporary or seasonal and which was not reflected in the data for the 2-year reference period. Under the program's exceptional circumstance procedures, LSA classifications can be made for civil jurisdictions, Metropolitan Statistical Areas or Combined Statistical Areas, as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. In order for an area to be classified as a LSA under the exceptional circumstance criteria, the state workforce agency must submit a petition requesting such classification to the Department of Labor's ETA. The current criteria for an exceptional circumstance classification are:

1. An area's unemployment rate is at least 6 percent for each of the three most recent months; and
2. A projected unemployment rate of at least 6 percent for each of the next 12 months because of an event.

When submitting such a petition, the state workforce agency must provide documentation that the exceptional

circumstance event has occurred. The state workforce agency may file petitions on behalf of civil jurisdictions, Metropolitan Statistical Areas, or Micropolitan Statistical Areas.

State Workforce Agencies may submit petitions in electronic format to [wright.samuel.e@dol.gov](mailto:wright.samuel.e@dol.gov), or in hard copy to the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, Office of Workforce Investment, 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Room C-4514, Washington, DC 20210, Attention Samuel Wright. Data collection for the petition is approved under OMB 1205-0207, expiration date May 31, 2023.

Signed at Washington, DC.

**Brent Parton,**

*Acting Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training Administration.*

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#### MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORPORATION

[MCC FR 22-14]

#### Notice of Entering Into a Compact With the Government of Malawi

**AGENCY:** Millennium Challenge Corporation.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the provisions of the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003, as amended, the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) is publishing a summary of the Millennium Challenge Compact (Compact) between the United States of America and the Republic of Malawi. Representatives of MCC and the Government of Malawi executed the Compact on September 28, 2022. The complete text of the Compact has been posted at: <https://assets.mcc.gov/content/uploads/compact-malawi-transport-land.pdf>.

(Authority: 22 U.S.C. 7709 (b)(3))

Dated: October 4, 2022.

**Thomas G. Hohenthanner,**

*Acting VP/General Counsel and Corporate Secretary.*

#### Summary of Malawi Compact

##### Overview of MCC Malawi Compact

MCC's five-year, \$350,000,000 Compact with the Republic of Malawi (Government) aims to reduce poverty through economic growth by targeting key binding constraints in the transport and land sectors. The Compact will address these constraints through three projects that seek to achieve this goal by

reducing costs of transport in targeted rural areas and improving land services. The Government also will contribute approximately \$26,250,000 to support the Compact program.

### Project Summaries

The Compact is comprised of three projects:

1. *Accelerated Growth Corridors Project*: The objective of the Accelerated Growth Corridors Project is to reduce costs of transport in targeted rural areas. The Project includes two activities:

- *Road Corridor Improvement Activity*: This activity aims to target investment in physical upgrades and improvements across different classes of roads within four selected corridors to improve rural access by addressing road conditions and reducing transport costs.

- *Policy and Institutional Reform and Capacity Building Activity*: This activity focuses on assistance to the Government to address policy, legislative, institutional, and funding issues to

ensure that road transport in Accelerated Growth Corridors is well-maintained and managed.

2. *Increased Land Productivity Project*: The objective of the Increased Land Productivity Project is to improve land services. The Project includes two activities:

- *Land Administration Resourcing and Institutions Activity*: This aims to support analysis, reform, and implementation of reforms to expand national land-based revenues, address institutional change, and address the land rights records that underpin land institution work.

- *City Council Land-Based Revenue Modernization Activity*: This activity aims to expand coverage and collection of land-based revenues, as well as to increase resources for key services and increase investment in land. MCC Funding shall support a sequence of activities in up to four cities (Lilongwe, Blantyre, Mzuzu, and Zomba).

3. *ACFD Project*: The compact program also includes allocation for the American Catalyst Facility for Development (ACFD) Project. The purpose of this funding is to facilitate U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) investments in Malawi. MCC and DFC will discuss specific transactions to be supported by the ACFD Project which shall be agreed to by the Parties in writing after proposals submitted by the DFC have undergone the ACFD screening and approvals process. Transactions supported by the ACFD Project shall be consistent with the missions of both MCC and DFC, as well as all applicable statutory requirements and authorities.

### Malawi Compact Budget

The table below presents the Compact budget and sets forth both the MCC funding allocation by Compact components and the Government's expected \$26,250,000 contribution toward the objectives of the Compact.

### MALAWI COMPACT TOTAL BUDGET

Component	MCC funding
1. Accelerated Growth Corridors Project .....	\$244,950,000
1.1 Road Corridor Improvement Activity .....	228,998,000
1.2 Policy and Institutional and Capacity Building Reform Activity .....	15,952,000
2. Increased Land Productivity Project .....	44,107,000
2.1 Land Administration Resourcing and Institutions Activity .....	20,034,685
2.2 City Council Land-Based Revenue Modernization Activity .....	24,072,315
3. American Catalyst Facility for Development .....	8,500,000
4. Monitoring and Evaluation .....	3,000,000
5. Program Management and Administration .....	49,443,000
Total MCC Funding .....	350,000,000
Total compact funding .....	Amount
Total MCC Funding .....	350,000,000
Government of Malawi Contribution .....	26,250,000
Total Compact .....	376,250,000

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### NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

#### Advisory Committee for Geosciences; Notice of Meeting

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, as amended), the National Science Foundation (NSF) announces the following meeting:

**NAME AND COMMITTEE CODE:** Advisory Committee for Geosciences (1755).

**DATE AND TIME:**

November 3, 2022; 11 a.m.–4:30 p.m.  
EDT.

November 4, 2022; 11 a.m.–4:00 p.m.  
EDT.

**PLACE:** NSF 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22314/Virtual.

Meeting registration information is available on the GEO Advisory Committee website at <https://www.nsf.gov/geo/advisory.jsp>.

**TYPE OF MEETING:** Open.

**CONTACT PERSON:** Melissa Lane, National Science Foundation, Room C 8000, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, Virginia 22314; Phone 703-292-8500.

**MINUTES:** May be obtained from the contact person listed above.

**PURPOSE OF MEETING:** To provide advice, recommendations, and oversight on support for geoscience research and

education including atmospheric, geo-space, earth, ocean, and polar sciences.

### Agenda

#### November 3, 2022

- Directorate and NSF activities and plans
- Panel Discussion with NSF Program Officers on Broader Impacts
- Discussion of AC GEO Report on 21st Century Geosciences (September 2021)

#### November 4, 2022

- Review and Vote on OCE Integrative Programs Section COV Report/Response
- Update on NSF Learning Agenda Related to Climate Equity