# Re: USAID/InterAction chat on disinformation

**jmachleder@usaid.gov Joshua Machleder** Friday, June 4, 2021 at 2:18:01 PM Eastern Daylight Time
To: [redacted] Fivenson, Adam
Cc: dparzik@usaid.gov Diana Parzik, [redacted] Bazley-Bethea, Princess, [redacted] Katie, [redacted] Meade, Luci

sounds good!
thanks!
and have a pleasant weekend.
best, josh

On Fri, Jun 4, 2021 at 2:12 PM Fivenson, Adam <[redacted]> wrote:

> Hi Josh,
>
> Let's go with 10:30 – 11 AM next Thursday. I don't think we'll need more than 30 minutes. I'll send an invite now.
>
> Have a great weekend and speak to you soon!
>
> Best,
>
> Adam
>
> ---
>
> **From:** Fivenson, Adam
> **Sent:** Wednesday, June 2, 2021 4:46 PM
> **To:** 'Joshua Machleder' <jmachleder@usaid.gov>
> **Cc:** Diana Parzik <dparzik@usaid.gov>; Bazley-Bethea, Princess <[redacted]>; LaRoque, Katie <[redacted]>; Meade, Luci <[redacted]>
> **Subject:** RE: USAID/InterAction chat on disinformation
>
> Hi Josh,
>
> That's great, thanks very much!
>
> On meeting next Thursday: we're meeting tomorrow afternoon so I'll get back to you on a time soon after.
>
> Speak soon,

Adam

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**From:** Joshua Machleder <jmachleder@usaid.gov>
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 2, 2021 3:42 PM
**To:** Fivenson, Adam <[redacted]>
**Cc:** Diana Parzik <dparzik@usaid.gov>; Bazley-Bethea, Princess <[redacted]>; LaRoque, Katie <[redacted]>; Meade, Luci <[redacted]>
**Subject:** Re: USAID/InterAction chat on disinformation

Hi Adam,

Thanks for the calendar invite. I'll get it on our leadership's calendar.

I think we should both be available to meet next Thursday, what times for work for you. I can see that Diana and I have openings 10-11, 12-2, 3-5.

We can definitely provide some opening comments on the Primer and how USAID is approaching disinformation. We would be happy to invite other colleagues working on this issue from other areas of USAID.

Best, Josh

On Wed, Jun 2, 2021 at 2:06 PM Fivenson, Adam <[redacted]> wrote:

> Hi Josh,
>
> Just a heads up that we'd like to go with Wednesday, July 14th from 2-4 PM. I'll send a calendar invite so you can block the time off and forward to anyone else, and will add details to the description as we draw closer.
>
> Would you and Diana be available to check-in next Thursday or Friday? By then we should have some of the attendees confirmed and will be able to talk some details.
>
> Two things to note in the meantime: first, following the draft agenda in the concept note, it would be great to have USAID deliver some opening comments on the Primer itself and touching on your broader disinformation

portfolio & strategy. Second, if there are people from other bureaus (Global Health, BHA, GDL, Food Security, etc…) who you think might benefit from being a part of this conversation, we're very open to that.

Speak soon!

Best,

Adam

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**From:** Fivenson, Adam
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 1, 2021 12:15 PM
**To:** 'Joshua Machleder' <jmachleder@usaid.gov>
**Cc:** Diana Parzik <dparzik@usaid.gov>; Bazley-Bethea, Princess <[redacted]>; LaRoque, Katie <[redacted]>; Meade, Luci <[redacted]>
**Subject:** RE: USAID/InterAction chat on disinformation

Thanks very much Josh, much appreciated.

We'll start reaching out to potential participants today and will let you know ASAP about finalizing the date/time.

Best,

Adam

---

**From:** Joshua Machleder <jmachleder@usaid.gov>
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 1, 2021 11:04 AM
**To:** Fivenson, Adam <[redacted]>
**Cc:** Diana Parzik <dparzik@usaid.gov>; Bazley-Bethea, Princess <[redacted]>; LaRoque, Katie <[redacted]>; Meade, Luci <[redacted]>
**Subject:** Re: USAID/InterAction chat on disinformation

Hi Adam,

Just consulted with our new director and the times/dates that work best for us are:

- Tuesday, July 13th 2 4 PM
- Wednesday, July 14th 2-4 PM
- Thursday, July 15th, 1-3 PM

Let me know which one you'd like to go with and I'll get it on our (and our director's) calendars.

Best,

Josh

On Fri, May 28, 2021 at 4:32 PM Fivenson, Adam <[redacted]> wrote:

> Hi Josh,
>
> We huddled on our side and would like to propose the following dates/times:
>
> - Tuesday, July 13th 2-4 PM
> - Wednesday, July 14th 10 AM to noon
> - Wednesday, July 14th 2 4 PM
> - Thursday, July 15th, 1 3 PM
>
> Please let us know which (if any) of these dates/times would work for folks on your side. We plan to start outreach to InterAction member organizations next week, and will ask potential participants to choose from among the times that provisionally work for USAID.
>
> Thanks for the well wishes, hope you enjoy it too!
>
> Best,
>
> Adam

**From:** Joshua Machleder <jmachleder@usaid.gov>
**Sent:** Friday, May 28, 2021 2:20 PM
**To:** Fivenson, Adam <[redacted]>
**Cc:** Diana Parzik <dparzik@usaid.gov>; Bazley-Bethea, Princess <[redacted]>; LaRoque, Katie <[redacted]>; Meade, Luci <[redacted]>
**Subject:** Re: USAID/InterAction chat on disinformation

Thanks Adam! Have a great weekend.

Best, Josh

On Fri, May 28, 2021 at 12:45 PM Fivenson, Adam <[redacted]> wrote:

> Hi Josh,
>
> Thanks for the quick follow-up, and the great news about Rosarie!
>
> We'll reach out to members and get back to you with some options for dates ASAP.
>
> Best,
>
> Adam

---

**From:** Joshua Machleder <jmachleder@usaid.gov>
**Sent:** Thursday, May 27, 2021 3:50 PM
**To:** Fivenson, Adam <[redacted]>
**Cc:** Diana Parzik <dparzik@usaid.gov>; Bazley-Bethea, Princess <[redacted]>; LaRoque, Katie <[redacted]>; Meade, Luci <[redacted]>
**Subject:** Re: USAID/InterAction chat on disinformation

Hi Adam,

It was nice speaking with you and Princess last week.

We've gotten our new director on board for opening up an event.

Could you propose 2-3 dates/times in July that would work well for you, and we'll try and sync up with her availability?

Best,

Josh

On Tue, May 18, 2021 at 10:29 AM Fivenson, Adam <[redacted]> wrote:

> Hi Josh, no worries and welcome back! I'm sending an invite for Friday from 11 to 12 noon. We probably won't need the entire hour but we might need a bit more than 30 minutes to talk through some of the details.
>
> Speak soon!
>
> Best,
>
> Adam

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**From:** Joshua Machleder <jmachleder@usaid.gov>
**Sent:** Monday, May 17, 2021 6:18 PM
**To:** Fivenson, Adam <[redacted]>
**Cc:** Diana Parzik <dparzik@usaid.gov>; Bazley-Bethea, Princess <[redacted]>; LaRoque, Katie <[redacted]>; Meade, Luci <[redacted]>
**Subject:** Re: USAID/InterAction chat on disinformation

Hi Adam,

I apologize for my delayed response -- the last week I was trying to catch up after 2 weeks of leave. I'd be happy to discuss on Friday at any time between 11am and 1pm.

Best, josh

On Mon, May 17, 2021 at 11:05 AM Fivenson, Adam <[redacted]> wrote:

> Hi Josh, hope you're well! Have you had a chance to look at the concept note? Let me know if you'd like to discuss this week. I could meet Wednesday between 3-5 PM or Friday between 11 AM and 1 PM.
>
> Best, Adam

**From:** Fivenson, Adam
**Sent:** Friday, May 7, 2021 4:45 PM
**To:** 'Joshua Machleder' <jmachleder@usaid.gov>
**Cc:** 'Diana Parzik' <dparzik@usaid.gov>; Bazley-Bethea, Princess <[redacted]>; LaRoque, Katie <[redacted]>; Meade, Luci <[redacted]>
**Subject:** RE: USAID/InterAction chat on disinformation

Hi Josh,

Hope all is well!

We are pleased to share the concept note for InterAction's proposed feedback loop for the Disinformation Primer.

Let us know what you think, and if you have any suggestions or changes. Happy to discuss over Zoom, just let me know.

Best,

Adam

---

**From:** Fivenson, Adam
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 8:22 PM
**To:** 'Joshua Machleder' <jmachleder@usaid.gov>
**Cc:** Diana Parzik <dparzik@usaid.gov>; Bazley-Bethea, Princess <[redacted]>; LaRoque, Katie <[redacted]>; Meade, Luci <[redacted]>
**Subject:** RE: USAID/InterAction chat on disinformation

Hi Josh,

Apologies for the radio silence from our end, lots going on here as always! We are working on a concept and should be ready to share it next week.

Best,

Adam

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**From:** Joshua Machleder <jmachleder@usaid.gov>
**Sent:** Friday, April 16, 2021 12:53 PM
**To:** Fivenson, Adam <[redacted]>
**Cc:** Diana Parzik <dparzik@usaid.gov>; Bazley-Bethea, Princess <[redacted]>; LaRoque, Katie <[redacted]>; Meade, Luci <[redacted]>
**Subject:** Re: USAID/InterAction chat on disinformation

Thanks Adam -- likewise, it was great talking to you and the team!

Best,

Josh

On Fri, Apr 16, 2021 at 12:47 PM Fivenson, Adam <[redacted]> wrote:

> Josh & Diana,
>
> Thanks again for taking the time to meet yesterday, it was great to catch up and to hear more about your thinking around the Disinfo Primer.
>
> We are meeting next Thursday afternoon to discuss specific ideas and will get back to you shortly thereafter with our thoughts.
>
> Best,
>
> Adam

**From:** Fivenson, Adam
**Sent:** Thursday, April 8, 2021 4:34 PM
**To:** 'Joshua Machleder' <jmachleder@usaid.gov>
**Cc:** Diana Parzik <dparzik@usaid.gov>
**Subject:** RE: USAID/InterAction chat on disinformation

Perfect, thanks Josh. I'll send the invite now. Speak soon!

-Adam

---

**From:** Joshua Machleder <jmachleder@usaid.gov>
**Sent:** Thursday, April 8, 2021 4:13 PM
**To:** Fivenson, Adam <[redacted]>
**Cc:** Diana Parzik <dparzik@usaid.gov>
**Subject:** Re: USAID/InterAction chat on disinformation

Hi Adam,

I think Thursday 1-2 would work.

Best,

Josh

On Thu, Apr 8, 2021 at 3:55 PM Fivenson, Adam <[redacted]> wrote:

> Hi Josh,
>
> I'd like to include Princess Bazley-Bethea and Luci Mede, who run our Together Project, and Katie LaRoque, who runs our DRG coordination group, both of which would be involved in the feedback process.
>
> Unfortunately the Monday time doesn't work, but would either Tuesday 2-3 PM or Thursday 1-2 PM work for you? Either time would work for everyone on our side. If so I can send out the invite and will include Diana as well.
>
> Thanks!

Adam

---

**From:** Joshua Machleder <jmachleder@usaid.gov>
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 7, 2021 6:33 PM
**To:** Fivenson, Adam <[redacted]>
**Cc:** Diana Parzik <dparzik@usaid.gov>
**Subject:** Re: USAID/InterAction chat on disinformation

Actually, it looks like my 3:00 got booked. Would Monday at 1pm or 2pm work on your side?

Best,

Josh

On Wed, Apr 7, 2021 at 5:29 PM Fivenson, Adam <[redacted]> wrote:

> Hi Josh, I am just waiting to see if one of my colleagues can join us, but can we say 3 PM tentatively? I will confirm tomorrow latest.
>
> Best,
>
> Adam
>
> ---
>
> **From:** Joshua Machleder <jmachleder@usaid.gov>
> **Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 7:01 PM
> **To:** Fivenson, Adam <[redacted]>
> **Cc:** Diana Parzik <dparzik@usaid.gov>
> **Subject:** Re: USAID/InterAction chat on disinformation
>
> Hi Adam,
>
> Great to hear from you and I hope you are doing well. Would you have some time to connect between 2 - 4pm on Friday?
>
> Best, Josh

On Tue, Apr 6, 2021 at 5:37 PM Fivenson, Adam <[redacted]> wrote:

> Hi Josh, hope you're well!
>
> I'm just now coming up for air, after a challenging March. Let me know if you'd be available to connect later this week or next week to discuss InterAction support around the Disinfo Primer.
>
> Best,
>
> Adam

---

**From:** Joshua Machleder <jmachleder@usaid.gov>
**Sent:** Friday, March 5, 2021 11:44 AM
**To:** Fivenson, Adam <[redacted]>
**Cc:** Diana Parzik <dparzik@usaid.gov>
**Subject:** Re: USAID/InterAction chat on disinformation

Thanks Adam! Looking forward to it.

On Thu, Mar 4, 2021 at 5:37 PM Fivenson, Adam <[redacted]> wrote:

> Hi Josh,
>
> That's great, thanks very much. I've already started sharing on an individual basis. Let's plan to circle back at the end March or beginning of April to discuss ideas around feedback. In addition to the promotional value, the blog might be useful for kicking off some creative engagement with NGOs centered around getting their feedback. I have some thoughts and will be in touch!
>
> Best,
>
> Adam

**From:** Joshua Machleder <jmachleder@usaid.gov>
**Sent:** Thursday, March 4, 2021 10:44 AM
**To:** Fivenson, Adam <[redacted]>
**Cc:** Diana Parzik <dparzik@usaid.gov>
**Subject:** Re: USAID/InterAction chat on disinformation

Hi Adam,

I'm attaching the version of the Primer which has been cleared for external distribution (and without the label: For Internal Use Only).

Please feel free to share, post, blog about, etc. And let us know how we can help in the distribution.

I would really like the opportunity -- if / when appropriate, to do some kind of presentation for you and your members. Early April is actually a really good time for us as March is insane.

Thanks much!!!

Best, Josh

On Wed, Mar 3, 2021 at 4:41 PM Fivenson, Adam <[redacted]> wrote:

> Hi Josh,
>
> Thanks for that, I'll be sure to mention that the public distribution strategy is still pending, but for technical purposes it will be very useful.
>
> On a blog & round of feedback for the Primer, happy to discuss any time. That said, it might not be until in early April, after the current sprint on our disinfo toolkit, that I'll have bandwidth to write and organize.
>
> Also, I did reach out Lisa Schirch, who runs the Alliance for Peacebuilding's new social media working group and she's happy to add you both to their email list for updates and future events. They've also got Nicole Patierno and Richard Morgan from USAID/DRG on there. I'll send an email intro now.
>
> Speak soon!
>
> Best,

Adam

---

**From:** Joshua Machleder <jmachleder@usaid.gov>
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 2, 2021 6:44 PM
**To:** Fivenson, Adam <[redacted]>
**Cc:** Diana Parzik <dparzik@usaid.gov>
**Subject:** Re: USAID/InterAction chat on disinformation

Hi Adam,

Please feel free to share on an individual basis for now. I have a meeting tomorrow with our communications folks and will be talking about a distribution strategy. Actually promoting it on the Interaction blog would be great -- and I'll let her know that this would be a great opportunity for us. We also should discuss feedback -- this would be incredibly useful as we are going to start thinking this summer about the next edition (based on user feedback & based on new developments).

Thanks so much!

Best,

Josh

On Tue, Mar 2, 2021 at 5:25 PM Fivenson, Adam <[redacted]> wrote:

> Hi Josh,
>
> Thanks so much for sharing this, I appreciate it.
>
> I just gave it a quick scan and can say that there's so much useful content in here, particularly the strategies and recommendations in sections 6 & 7. I'm also enjoying seeing some of the same research I'm citing from the We Are Social & Pew reports in section 2—good to know we're thinking about the same global trends.
>
> Would it be alright for me to share this on an individual basis for now? I have a few chats coming up with InterAction Member orgs' disinformation specialists and it

would be great to be able to pass this along.

In terms of distribution strategy, we would be happy to write up a blog about it and host a discussion/ feedback session with InterAction members come April/May, if it would be helpful.

Best,

Adam

---

**From:** Joshua Machleder <jmachleder@usaid.gov>
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 2, 2021 3:58 PM
**To:** Fivenson, Adam <[redacted]>
**Cc:** Diana Parzik <dparzik@usaid.gov>
**Subject:** Re: USAID/InterAction chat on disinformation

Hi Adam,

Just wanted to share this with you. It's USAID's Disinformation Primer, and it was just cleared for external circulation.

We haven't yet come up with a distribution strategy, and will have one soon, I'm sure. But thought you might be interested in having a copy.

Best, Josh

On Fri, Feb 19, 2021 at 10:30 PM Fivenson, Adam <[redacted]> wrote:

> [redacted]

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**From:** Joshua Machleder <jmachleder@usaid.gov>
**Sent:** Friday, February 19, 2021 7:58 PM
**To:** Fivenson, Adam <[redacted]>
**Cc:** Diana Parzik <dparzik@usaid.gov>; Michelle Parker <mparker@usaid.gov>
**Subject:** Re: Disinformation contact?

Hi Adam,

Sorry for the delay in responding. Thursday at 3:30 would be great.

Best,

Josh

On Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 9:25 PM Fivenson, Adam <[redacted]> wrote:

> Hi Michelle, nice to reconnect and thanks for the intros, much appreciated!
>
> Josh it's great to meet you and the same goes for Diana.
>
> How does next Wednesday 2/24 2-3 PM look for you? I could also do Thursday 1-2 PM or 3:30 to 4:30.
>
> Speak soon!
>
> Best,
>
> Adam

---

**From:** Joshua Machleder <jmachleder@usaid.gov>
**Sent:** Thursday, February 18, 2021 4:24 PM
**To:** Michelle Parker <mparker@usaid.gov>

**Cc:** Fivenson, Adam <[redacted]>; Diana Parzik <dparzik@usaid.gov>
**Subject:** Re: Disinformation contact?

Hi Adam, nice to meet you, Thanks, Michelle for the introduction.

I'd be happy to talk -- we're working on coming up with a more coherent strategy here, and I'm really interested in hearing what you and your partners are thinking.

Copying my colleague, Diana.

Please let me know when are some good times to chat.

Best, Josh

On Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 2:49 PM Michelle Parker <mparker@usaid.gov> wrote:

> Hi Adam,
>
> Great to hear from you! It's been ages. I hope you and yours are well.
>
> I'd like to introduce you to Josh Machleder, Senior Media and Internet Freedom Advisor in the Democracy, Rights, and Governance Center. He is our Agency's lead on Disinformation and is best placed to engage with InterAction and its members on this critical issue.
>
> Josh,
>
> I'd like to introduce Adam Fivenson, who has been a fantastic sounding board and partner in convening InterAction members to discuss and provide feedback on our Digital Strategy work.
>
> Take care,
> Michelle
>
> On Wed, Feb 17, 2021 at 4:45 PM Fivenson, Adam <[redacted]> wrote:
>
> > Hi Michelle,
> >
> > Hope you're doing well and staying warm!
> >
> > InterAction and our member NGOs are increasingly concerned about the impact of disinformation on democracy and on development and humanitarian programming, so we're putting together a broad coalition of private sector, civil society, government and multi-lateral actors to share best practices, strategize, and coordinate action. I know that the Digital Strategy mentioned that USAID is thinking about disinformation, would you be able to

put me in touch with the person or team working on this challenge? Thanks very much!

Best,

Adam


## Adam Fivenson

Director of Data, Development Technology, and Innovation

InterAction

[redacted]











Learn more about Forum 2.1

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**Michelle Parker**

Senior Policy Advisor and Team Lead, Digital Strategy Implementation

Innovation, Technology, and Research Hub

U.S Agency for International Development

e: mparker@usaid.gov |


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Josh Machleder (*he / him/ his*)

*Senior Media and Internet Freedom Advisor*

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Email: jmachleder@usaid.gov

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Josh Machleder (*he / him/ his*)

*Senior Media and Internet Freedom Advisor*

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Email: jmachleder@usaid.gov

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

Adam Fivenson is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

[redacted]

--

Josh Machleder (*he / him/ his*)

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Josh Machleder (*he / him/ his*)

*Senior Media and Internet Freedom Advisor*

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Josh Machleder (*he / him/ his*)

*Senior Media and Internet Freedom Advisor*

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Email:jmachleder@usaid.gov

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Josh Machleder (*he / him/ his*)

*Senior Media and Internet Freedom Advisor*

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Josh Machleder (*he / him/ his*)

*Senior Media and Internet Freedom Advisor*

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Josh Machleder (*he / him/ his*)
*Senior Media and Internet Freedom Advisor*
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**Attachments:**

**image001.png** 2.9k

**image002.png** 2.1k

**image003.png** 1.9k

**image004.png** 1.8k