



SisterCities
INTERNATIONAL



2013 Membership Directory



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Greetings,

For Sister Cities International 2012 was a year to remember. This year Sister Cities International leadership and staff focused on improving communications with our members and sister cities throughout the world, as well as developing new strategic partnerships and resources to assist our members.

The response to the introduction in March of our new logo, tag line, and website at the National Press Club in Washington, DC has been fantastic. We know that in order to increase our exposure and success as an international nonprofit organization and provide a worldwide reach for our members we need to use technology to our benefit. With a vibrant new Facebook page and Twitter account and by taking advantage of new forms of communication, we have shown that if you “Connect globally” – you can “Thrive locally.”



The Africa Urban Poverty Alleviation Program came to a close with 24 successful projects administered by U.S.-African sister cities. Just a few examples of the significant impact of this grant were Richmond, Virginia building new toilet facilities for two schools and a clinic with their partners in Segou, Mali; Milwaukee, Wisconsin constructing water points to bring potable water to 18,000 residents in uMhlathuze, South Africa; and St. Louis, Missouri developing a sanitation project, improving diabetes prevention, and renovating a high school with their sister city of Saint Louis, Senegal. A second grant we received for the Sino-African Initiative is building trilateral relationships among U.S. sister cities in Africa and China to address economic development and urban poverty and will continue through 2013.

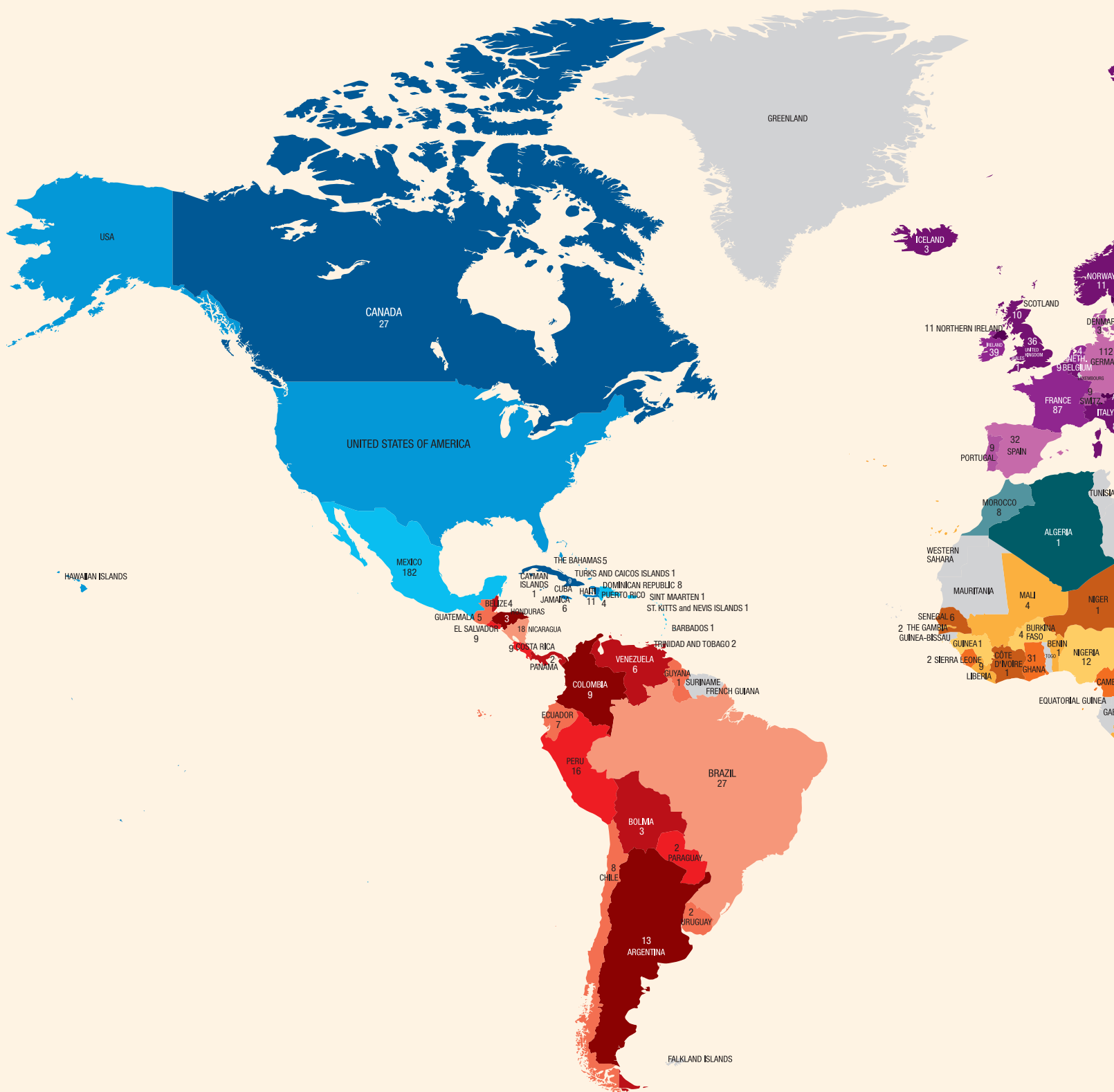
As we do every year, Sister Cities International held conferences for our members to network and discover new opportunities. In 2012, we met in Jacksonville, Florida for our Annual Conference and Cincinnati, Ohio for our Regional Meeting. Both events were marked by practical skills-building sessions and peer-learning among members. Sister Cities International was also selected as one of nine non-profits in the Washington, D.C. area to receive pro bono management consulting services from Compass Marketing and Booz Allen Hamilton focusing on enhancing Sister Cities International's organizational structure to provide optimum service for our members.

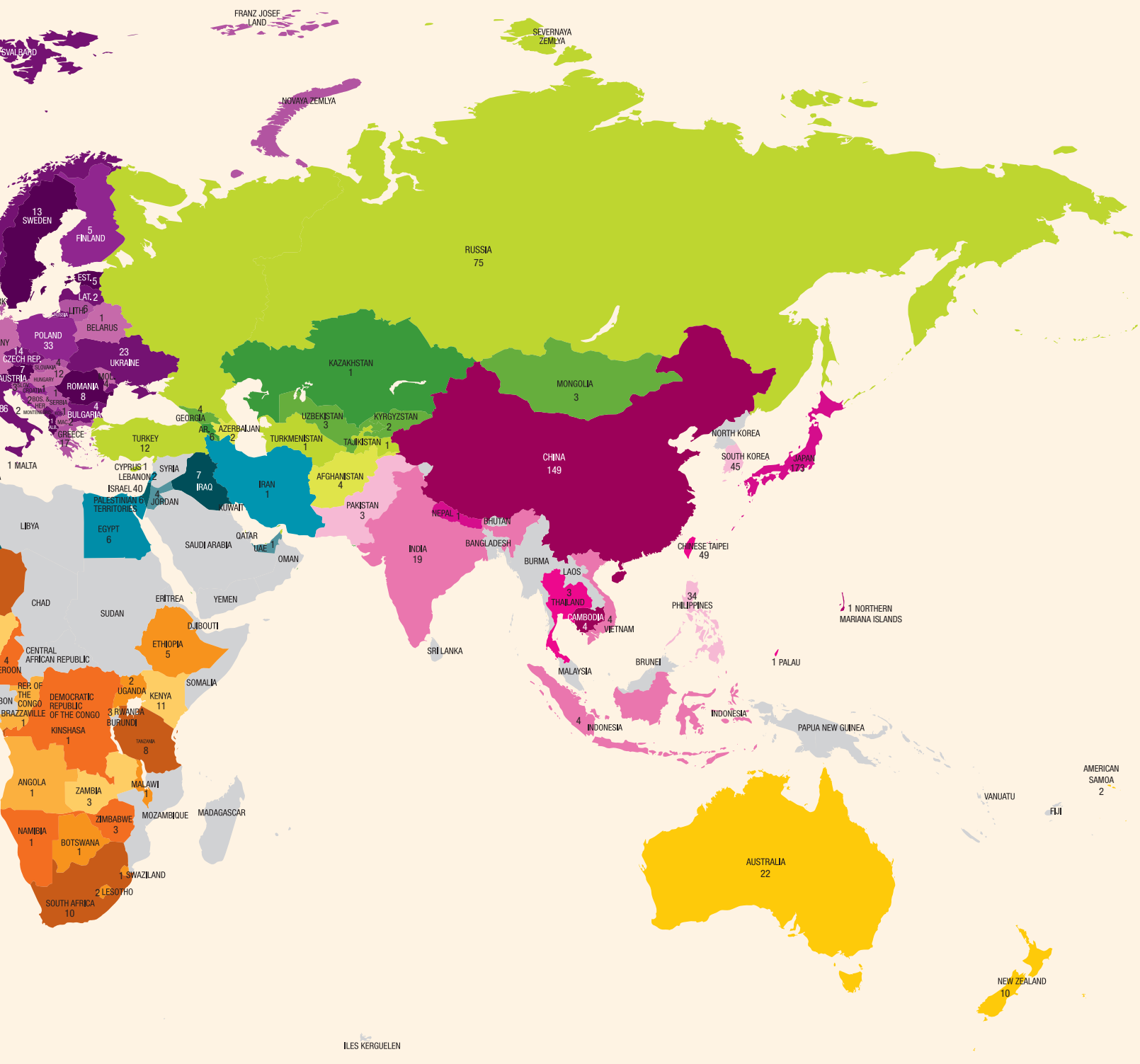
In 2012 we also formalized longstanding relationships with our friends in China, India, and Mexico. Memorandums of Understanding were signed with the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries in Chengdu, China; the All India Institute for Local Self Government in Jacksonville, Florida, and the Asociacion de Ciudades Hermanas de America in Cincinnati, Ohio. These partnerships will allow us to provide better assistance to members who are looking to form new sister cities in these countries and enhance existing partnerships.

The work of the Sister Cities International network is at the forefront of international community engagement. Participation in youth programs such as the Young Artists and Authors Showcase, sponsored by the Frank Carvey Family Foundation and Project Earth, sponsored by Ecology and Environment, Inc. has increased since we began expanding our communications capabilities. With the improvement of our “Cities seeking Cities” services members are receiving more assistance than ever in their search for new partners. This has truly been a banner year for Sister Cities International and as we move forward into 2013 I want to thank all of our members and partners for your incredible work and support. Together, we are making a difference and creating a better, more peaceful, and more prosperous world.

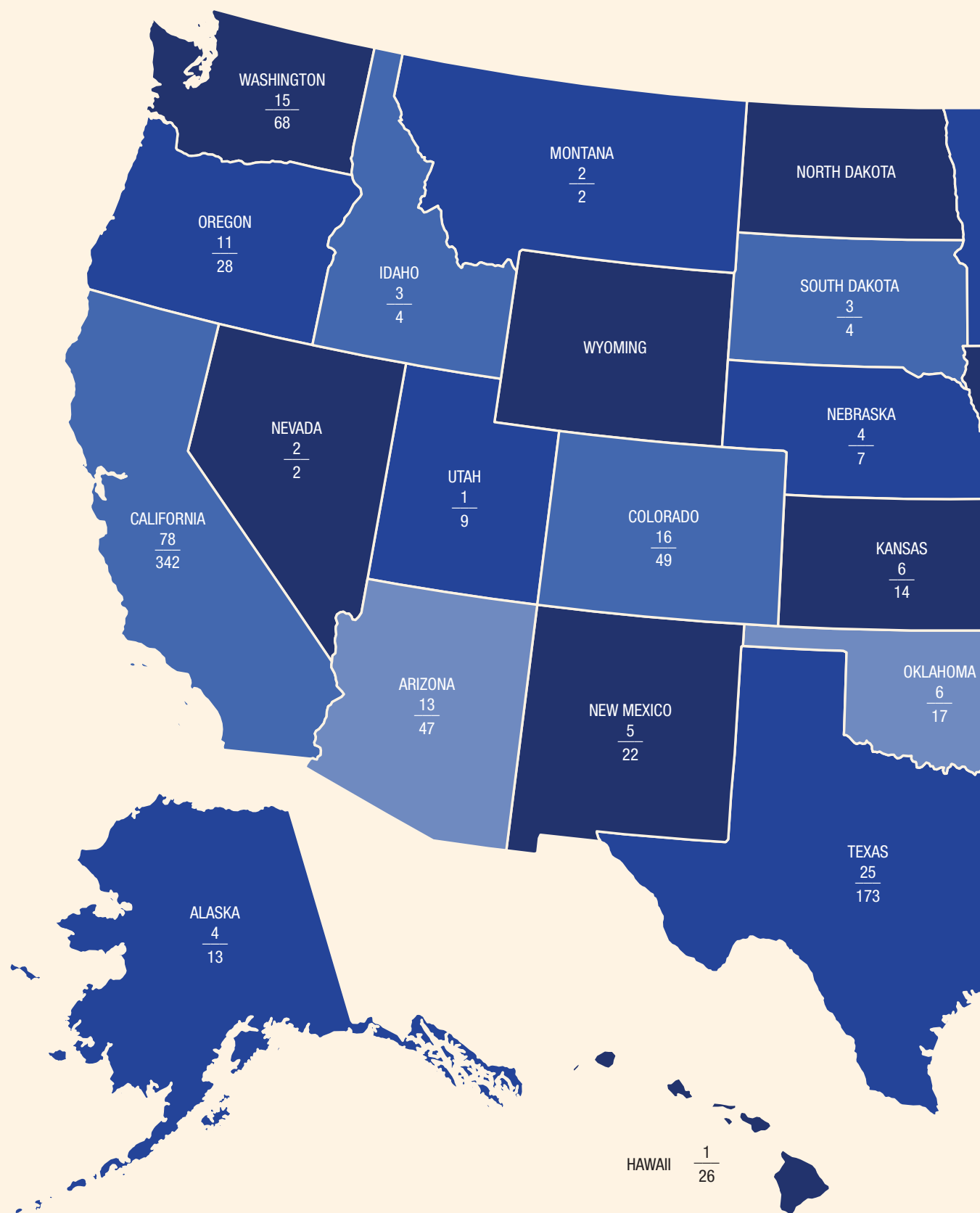
Mary D. Kane
President & CEO

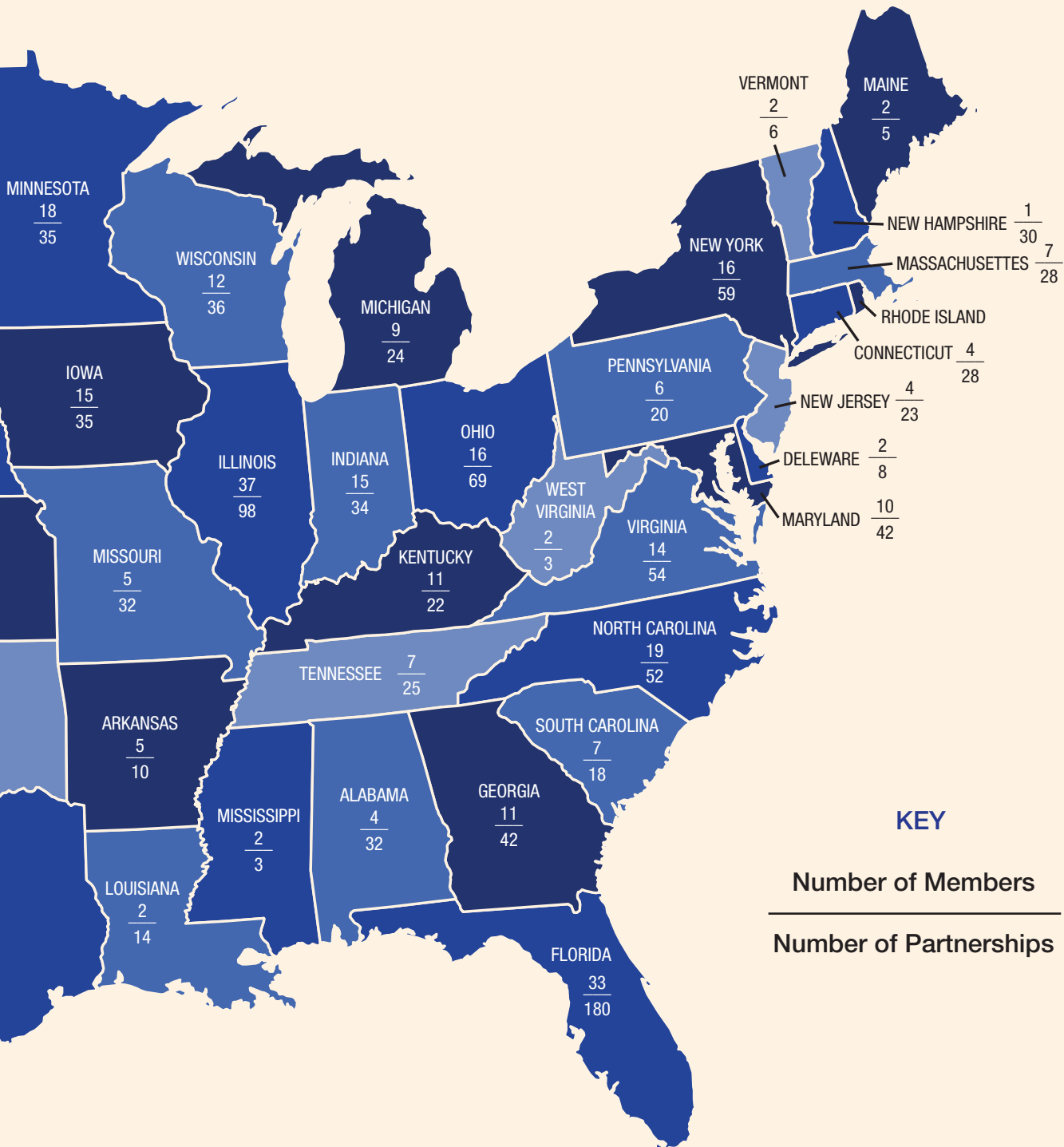
U.S. Partnerships Worldwide





U.S. Members and Partnerships





Who We Are

Sister Cities International is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that has been working since 1956 to advance peace and prosperity through cultural, educational, humanitarian, and economic development exchanges. It serves as a hub for institutional knowledge and best practices in the field of citizen diplomacy.



President Dwight D. Eisenhower, Sister Cities International founder

Since its inception Sister Cities International has played a key role in renewing and strengthening important global relationships. Sister Cities International was created at President Eisenhower's 1956 White House conference on citizen diplomacy, where he envisioned an organization that could be a champion for peace and prosperity by fostering bonds between people from different communities around the world. By forming these relationships, President Eisenhower reasoned that people of different cultures could celebrate and appreciate their differences and build partnerships that would lessen the chance of new conflicts.

Sister Cities International strives to strengthen the sister cities network through strategic institutional partnerships, grants, programs, and support for its members. Sister Cities International motivates and empowers private citizens, municipal officials, and business leaders to conduct long-term, mutually beneficial sister city, county, or state relationships.

The mission of Sister Cities International is just as important today as it was when it was founded. With the advent of the internet and new technologies, the world is becoming smaller, and the relationships and interactions between the U.S. and its foreign counterparts are more complex than ever. Despite this increase in online communication, the face-to-face meetings and personal relationships developed through sister cities are still vital and irreplaceable.

What is a Sister City?

A sister city, county, or state relationship is a broad-based, long-term partnership between two communities in two countries. A sister city, county, or state relationship is officially recognized after the highest elected or appointed official from both communities sign off on an agreement.

A city may have any number of sister cities, with community involvement ranging from a half dozen to hundreds of volunteers. In addition to volunteers, sister city organizations may include representatives from nonprofits, municipal governments, the private sector, and other civic organizations. Sister city relationships offer the flexibility to form connections between communities that are mutually beneficial and which address issues that are most relevant for partners.

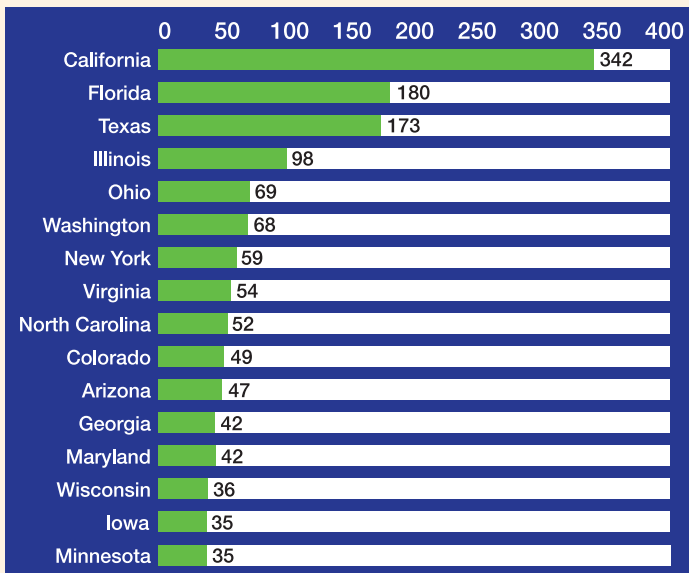


President Barack Obama, current Honorary Chairman for Sister Cities International

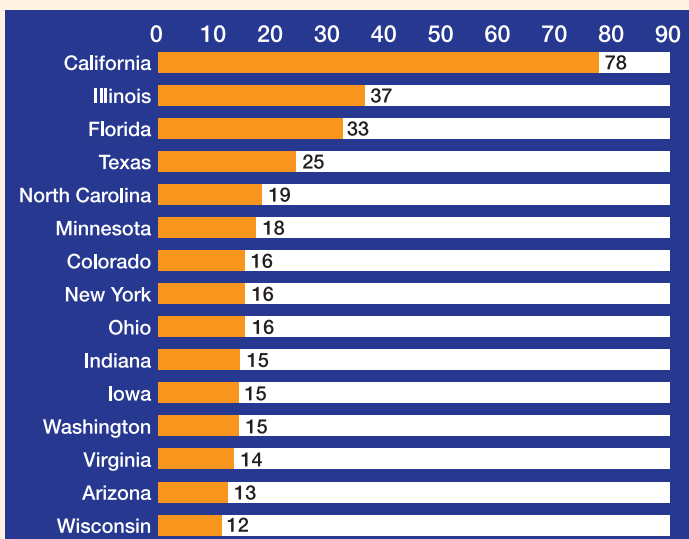
Membership

Membership in Sister Cities International is open to cities of all sizes, counties, states, international cities, and individuals. Members are a part of a network of citizen diplomats from over 500 communities with partnerships in over 1,900 cities and 140 countries around the globe. Sister Cities International provides members with unique support and resources for their sister city programs and empowers individual citizens to become diplomats who represent their community and their country in new and meaningful ways.

Sister City Partnerships by U.S. State



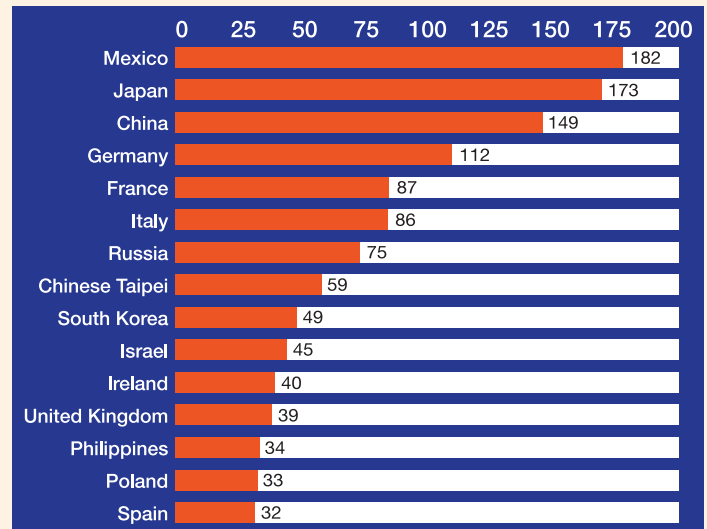
Sister City Member Communities by U.S. State



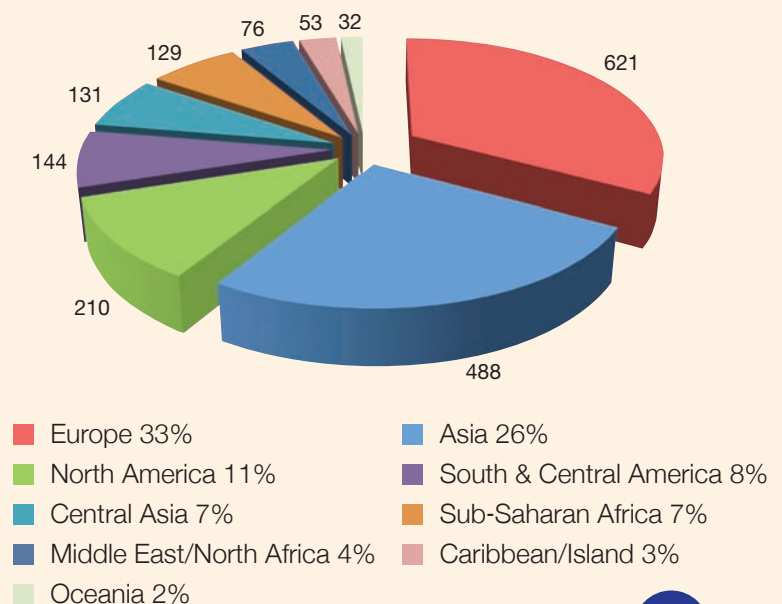
Membership At-a-Glance

U.S. Communities	494
Global Members	7
Total Members	501
U.S. Sister Cities	1884
Global Sisters Cities	34
Total Sister Cities	1918
Unique Sister Cities	1664
Countries Represented	144
U.S. Cities Seeking Partners	28

Sister City Partnerships by Country



Sister City Relationships by Region



Programs

Sister Cities International administers a number of grant funded programs aimed at assisting members, whether through direct funding, expertise, opportunities to promote their work, or the provision of other resources.

Youth Ambassador Program: Trilateral North America

In 2011 and 2012, Sister Cities International conducted the U.S. State Department-funded Youth Ambassador Program, which focused on North America and helped bring students together from Mexico, the United States, and Canada. The theme of this program was local, national, and international discussion on the environment and poverty. Through workshops, site visits to NGOs, and cultural activities, students explored these issues and gained a sense of what cities, countries, and individuals are doing to alleviate problems in these areas. The program included visits to sister cities in the U.S. and Mexico, and a week in Washington, D.C. At the end of the program, students applied their experiences in the planning and implementation of local outreach projects in their cities.

The High School Home Stay

The High School Home Stay exchange program is an opportunity for U.S. communities to host students for a semester or year of high school in the United States. The foreign cities choose high school students who must be between the ages of 15 and 18 ½ years old on the first day of school. Once students are in the United States, the sister city organization will provide oversight of the students, organize host families, and include the students in sister city activities. In partnership with the American Cultural Exchange Service, Sister Cities International processes the J-1 secondary school exchange visa for roughly 25 students every year.

Young Artists and Authors Showcase

Each year, the Young Artists and Authors Showcase (YAAS) encourages youth from around the globe to express the mission of Sister Cities International through original artwork and literature. All students must submit their work based on a designated theme that is announced each year. Artwork is sent from member cities to Washington, D.C. where a panel of judges selects the winners based on originality, composition, and theme interpretation. There are more than 100 entries for the showcase every year, representing more than twenty states and ten countries. YAAS is made possible through the generous support of The Frank Carvey Family Foundation.

Project Earth Sister Cities International Challenge

In 2012 Sister Cities International announced a new collaboration with Project Earth – “The Project Earth – Sister Cities International Challenge” - to engage the next generation of citizen diplomats through environmental and renewable energy projects. Utilizing Project Earth’s online resources and sharing platforms and the Sister Cities International network of students, teachers, and schools, this challenge allows youth to work with fellow students in their sister cities to implement sustainable projects focused on mutual environmental problems. Project Earth is a global environmental education network designed to connect schools, students, and teachers around the world to help solve environmental problems. Founded by Ecology and Environment, Inc. Project Earth’s mission is to generate ongoing conversation and collaboration across national boundaries that will collectively lead to positive environmental change.

2012 Programs At-a-Glance

Non-Salary Program Funding: over \$3,000,000

Flights Provided to Members: 160

Number of U.S./Foreign Communities Participating in Programs: 145

Number of Foreign Countries Participating: 26

Number of Individual Participants: over 375



**Youth Ambassadors at Sister Cities International's
Washington, D.C. headquarters**

Sino-African Initiative

Sister Cities International's Sino-African Initiative (SAI) is a two-year program designed to address the manner in which U.S., African, and Chinese cities can collaborate on economic development and urban poverty issues in Africa.

In order to better understand U.S.-African-Chinese trilateral relations and its effect on economic development and urban poverty in Africa, SAI offered \$100,000 grants for three trilateral pilot projects and exchange funding to Sister Cities International member cities, with staff support and research provided by Sister Cities International. In 2012, the focus of the program was to complete the initial research and create the application process for SAI. A call for applications was announced in August 2012 and a number of U.S.-African-Chinese trilateral sister city partnerships submitted project proposals to receive grant funding. In October, distinguished judges with backgrounds in the U.S., Africa, China, cities, and community development projects selected three project proposals. In mid-October, the trilateral partnerships of Denver-Nairobi-Kunming, Asheville/Raleigh-Osogbo-Xiangyang, and Urbana-Zomba-Haizhu district became the subgrantees of the Sino-African Initiative, and the pioneers to test this trilateral project concept. The Sino-African Initiative completed the year with detailed project proposals from the three trilateral partnerships and subgrantees are looking forward to implementing their projects in water sanitation, primary education, primary health care, and waste management in 2013.

Project implementation and exchanges will continue throughout the year and projects will officially be completed by the end of January 2014. Sister Cities International will produce a feasibility report by February 2014 to expand on U.S., African, and Chinese trilateral cooperation in economic development and urban poverty issues in Africa for use by grantors and other sister city programs.

Leading Asia

"Leading Asia: Renewing the U.S. and Japan Sister Cities Network," is a 3 year program funded through a grant award from the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership (CGP). The overarching objective of this program is to increase the institutional knowledge of U.S.-Japan sister city partnerships by providing opportunities for current programs to become more active and for new relationships to be established. The program includes three core elements: exchange funding, research, and promotion of best practices. Exchange funding was provided to 12 US cities, including seven cities in 2012, giving members the opportunity to travel to their sister city to develop initiatives in new programming areas, namely the business, green energy and creative economy sectors.

The second element focused on outreach and research to compile best practices from the sister cities network as well as to develop new methods for engaging local business communities and youth in future programming. Sister Cities International developed a booklet entitled *"Incorporating Business Into Your U.S.-Japan Sister City Relationship,"* which outlines the important role that US-Japan sister city partnerships play in the local economies of both countries and ways to engage local businesses in order to expand their local economic impact.

Finally, a combination of webinars and conference sessions at Sister Cities International's national and regional conferences served as a way for Sister Cities International to communicate the impact of Leading Asia Exchanges as well as to provide the U.S.-Japan sister city network with greater access to information on best practices for exchanges and new and innovative programming models.

Africa Urban Poverty Alleviation Program

Sister Cities International's Africa Urban Poverty Alleviation Program (AUPAP) was designed to address urban poverty through water, health, and sanitation projects developed collaboratively by U.S. and African sister city programs. This program included participation and support from the private sector, non-governmental organizations, community-based organizations, municipal governments, and traditional leaders in Africa to provide sustained technical assistance and community development strategies. Beyond these projects, the program has developed a support network for sister cities on the continent of Africa to promote the mission of peace and prosperity through international people-to-people collaboration.

Twenty-five sister city partnerships, representing 13 African countries and 16 U.S. states, completed projects in the areas of water, sanitation, and health to address local problems in these areas. Projects included the construction of toilets and showers, the renovation of health clinics and provision of medical equipment, the construction of water boreholes and hand pumps, and the implementation of a waste management system. These projects were performed across the continent, in Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Morocco, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Swaziland, and Tanzania.



Mary Kane joins members of the Milwaukee-uMhlathuze partnership in inaugurating the new piping system which will provide potable water to 18,000 residents.

Sister Cities International also worked closely with three partner organizations to promote the sister cities model and twinning in different regions of Africa: African Global Sister Cities Foundation, based in Accra, Ghana, operating in West Africa; Africa Sister Cities, based in Casablanca, Morocco, operating in North Africa and francophone countries; and Eastern Africa Sister Cities, based in Nairobi, Kenya, operating

"I learned about working together and really listening to each other—dialogue and communication are important to make sure things are getting done."

**—Alderman Joe Davis,
Chair of City of Milwaukee Sister Cities Committee**

in Eastern Africa. Together they provided programmatic and informational support to existing partnerships and promoted twinning between African cities and other communities around the world.

Sister Cities International provided U.S. and African sister city organizations with administrative and technical support for project design, contracting, and procurement. Throughout AUPAP, Sister Cities International was involved in the planning and implementation process, helping sister city committees whenever they needed assistance or guidance.

The AUPAP projects were meaningful and worthwhile to all the U.S. and African sister cities alike, helping to strengthen relationships and create friendships. Ron Johnson, Jacksonville Sister Cities Association Board Member and Vice President of Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality Committee, shared what he relished the most about AUPAP: "I really enjoyed the camaraderie and relationships with our partners, as well as seeing the kids happy and smiling. I was satisfied with the job we did—every milestone was a good moment." AUPAP participants recognized the importance of citizen diplomacy and collaboration, and understood the essence of the projects—to improve the lives of the people living in marginalized communities and create strong bonds of friendship. "It's not about benefactors and takers—it was about talking as friends and getting to know each other," said William Brewer, member of the Lansing Regional Sister Cities Commission.

The sister city partnerships that participated in AUPAP plan to track their respective projects and pursue new projects in the future. Making sure that sanitation facilities and health clinics are sustainable is an important concern for sister city members. Many U.S. sister city participants are in the process of taking trips back to their African sister cities, to follow up on the maintenance and management of their projects. New relationships with local schools, municipalities, and hospitals have allowed sister city members to build on their relationships and continue taking part in mutually beneficial projects and exchanges.

2012 Annual Conference

The 56th Annual Conference in July brought together over 300 citizen diplomats from across the U.S. and the world to Jacksonville, Florida. In the opening session of the conference, Sister Cities International and the All India Institute of Local Self-Government signed an MoU to promote cooperation for the mutual benefit of local communities in the U.S. and India. Keynote speakers Amy Liu of the Brookings Institution and Goli Ameri, founder of the Center for Global Engagement also provided insight into the current state of international affairs and citizen diplomacy.

Over three days, attendees participated in specialized sessions on innovation, technology, social media, grant writing, fundraising, and more. Award winning programs shared their best practices in arts and culture, youth and education, humanitarian assistance, and general program areas. A conference track on economic development also provided attendees with numerous sessions on this rapidly expanding programming area. The sessions provided sister city members with a comprehensive set of tools to grow and strengthen their programs.

Sister Cities International will build on this success with its 2013 Annual Conference, to be held in San Antonio, Texas.

2012 Regional Conference

The 2012 Regional Conference in October in Cincinnati, Ohio on the theme “Diversity in Action” challenged attendees to think of diversity in a new light. Sessions focused on how communities and organizations are strengthened through diversity of members, partnerships, funding, and skills training.

Expert speakers included Deborah Foster from United Way Worldwide and Martin Wilhelmy, Honorary Consul of the Federal Republic of Germany. Tailored sessions included: *Why & How of Crafting a Diversity Statement*, *Partnering with Diverse Networks*, *Building an International Strategy for your Community*, and *Protocol Training*. Experts from affinity chambers in the region explored the many ways sister city members and Chambers of Commerce can partner. The sessions provided community leaders with a number of tools to increase their cities’ global appeal.

Attendees also had the opportunity to attend the TEDxCincinnati “*Every Citizen a Diplomat*” at the historic National Underground Railroad Freedom Center a day before the Regional Conference. The featured talks showcased how citizens can influence opinions on a global scale and stimulated discussion on the importance of cultural understanding, diversity, and international relationship building in creating a strong community.

The following programs were recognized at the 2012 Annual Conference for outstanding achievement in 2011

Best Overall Program

Population Under 25,000- Fountain Hills, AZ
Population 25,001-50,000- Hot Springs, AR
Population 50,001-100,000- Corvallis, OR
Population 100,001-500,000- Birmingham, AL
Population Over 500,000- Fort Worth, TX

Innovation in Arts & Culture

Population Under 100,000- Brighton, CO
Population 100,001-500,000- Tacoma, WA
Population Over 500,000- San Antonio, TX

Innovation in Humanitarian Assistance

Population 100,000-500,000- Minneapolis, MN
Population Over 500,000- Houston, TX

Innovation in Youth & Education

Population Under 100,000- Palm Desert, CA
Population 100,001-500,000- Fort Lauderdale, FL
Population over 500,000- Denver, CO

Innovation in Energy: Duluth, MN

Innovation in Sustainable Development: Long Beach, CA

Volunteer of the Year: Kathleen Borland, Chicago, IL

Michael A. Guido Award for

Distinguished Leadership: Governor Terry Branstad, Iowa

Corporate Responsibility Award: Booz Allen Hamilton

Member Services

Over the past year Sister Cities International added or enhanced a number of its services for members. Whether it is developing new skills, recognizing milestones, providing much needed information, or connecting members to the world, Sister Cities International is committed to boosting the impact of its membership. Be sure to visit Sister Cities International's website to see an up to date list of all member benefits and more information on taking advantage of these valuable services.

Cities Seeking Cities

This year Sister Cities International greatly expanded its Cities Seeking Cities program to help members find and connect with new communities abroad. Cities can not only advertise their search on their profile page, but also receive support and guidance from Sister Cities International staff to identify and contact potential matches abroad. Through Sister Cities International's global network of city-twinning organizations, embassies, municipal associations, and other partners, members have more support than ever to develop links to foreign cities.

Webinars

In 2012 Sister Cities International hosted seven interactive webinars for members, with topics such as online fundraising, incorporating alumni into programs, accounting for sister city programs, and environmental innovations in programming. Best of all, these webinars were recorded and are available to members at any time through Sister Cities International's website.

Visa Assistance

Sister Cities International offers members valuable information on visa types and advice on navigating the visa process for international delegations. In 2013 Sister Cities International partnered with a number of experts in immigration law and visas to provide members with pro bono advice on specific visa questions they might have. To request visa assistance members can visit the "Requests" section of the "Member Area" on Sister Cities International's website.

Insurance

Sister Cities International continues to offer members access to affordable travel insurance and special events insurance. With members participating in thousands of delegation visits and hundreds of events every year, insurance is a much needed benefit which Sister Cities International is proud to offer through its partner. For up to date information on available insurance and to access these special rates, members can visit the "Insurance" section of the "Member Area" on Sister Cities International's website.

Certificates

Sister Cities International wants to make sure that whether a sister city is new or 50 years old it is recognized as a step forward for citizen diplomacy and peacebuilding. All members can now request complimentary certificates for their communities as well as their international partners that recognize new partnerships or milestone anniversaries. These commemorative certificates are available to Sister Cities International members and can be requested in the "Member Area" of Sister Cities International's website.

Sharing Your Stories and Events Calendar

Whether on Sister Cities International's website, Facebook page, Twitter feed, or direct press releases, every day Sister Cities International showcases what makes it a globally recognized organization—its members. Sister Cities International has a dedicated "Submit Your Member Story" page that allows members to submit details on what is happening in their sister city organization. Members are encouraged to send Sister Cities International details of their organization's accomplishments, including upcoming exchanges, events, sister city anniversaries, board meetings, testimonials, pictures, and other activities. Once members submit their story, Sister Cities International staff will be in touch to find the best way to share it with the sister cities network and the public.

Sister Cities International also maintains a publicly available calendar of events for all members. Conferences, meetings, fundraisers, trade delegations, student exchanges, cultural festivals, or any other event, large or small, can be submitted to Sister Cities International for posting.

Member Badge

Sister Cities International members can now use Sister Cities International's Member Badge, as well as the tagline "Connect globally. Thrive locally." to proudly display their membership in one of the world's largest networks of citizen diplomats. The Member Badge is a reminder of the network's shared mission of promoting peace and understanding, and is appropriate for use in any communications or in conjunction with a member's own logo. Members can download the Member Badge from the "Toolkits and Templates" section of the "Member Area" of Sister Cities International's website.



Member Profiles

In May 2012 Sister Cities International launched a new website in conjunction with its new logo and tagline. In addition to a sleek new design and easier access to member resources, this new website offers each member the opportunity to profile its partnerships, contact information, social media, and information about the community itself to the world in a user-friendly and eye-catching new format. Members can customize their information directly through the site, ensuring that changes take effect immediately. And through search engine optimization, these pages are often the first search result when anyone looks for information about sister city organizations.

Interactive City Directory



Contact information and social media fields allow the public to get in touch with members and learn more about their program

Sister Cities Town, USA

Population: +80,000,000

Website: www.sister-cities.org

Twitter: @SisterCitiesInt

Facebook: [facebook.com/SisterCitiesInternational](https://www.facebook.com/SisterCitiesInternational)

Contact Name: Mr. Eisenhower

Contact Email: info@sister-cities.org

Contact Phone: (202) 347-8630

About Our Program

We are a 501(c)3 nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that has been working since 1956 to advance peace and prosperity through cultural, educational, humanitarian, and economic development efforts, and serves as a hub for institutional knowledge and best practices to benefit citizen diplomacy.

Seeking New Sister Cities

Sister Cities Town, USA seeks new relationships in the following regions:

- Central America
- Southern Africa

Areas of interest for new exchanges:

- Youth/Student exchange programs
- Economic partnerships/Business development/Trade delegations
- Municipal governance exchanges

We specialize in connecting communities in the U.S. with communities abroad, and are looking for partners to assist us in this mission.

Sister Cities

- Ciudad Hermana, Argentina
- Ville Jumelage, Mali

Friendship Cities

- Städtepartnerschaft, Germany

Emeritus Status

- Behan Shahar, India

Sister City, Friendship City, and Emeritus relationships are listed and conveniently displayed on the map

Members can advertise when they are looking for new partners, including specific regions or program areas where they have an interest

Members can customize a brief description about their sister city program

Thanks to Sister Cities International's 2012 Donors & Supporters

\$500,000+

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

\$400,000+

United States Department of State

\$75,000+

The Japan Foundation's Center for Global Partnership

\$50,000+

Sister Cities Foundation

\$10,000+

Amazon Web Services LLC

Michael Hyatt

Mary Ellen and Michael Fox

\$5,000+

Robert & Martha Atherton Foundation

Mary Palko

Thelma Press

Sharon Receveur

Cincinnati-Liuzhou Sister City

Committee

\$2,500+

The Community Foundation for the

National Capital Region

Washington Examiner

Norris Hermsmeyer

\$1,000+

Louis and Thelma Press Trust

The McGraw-Hill Companies

Leroy Allala

Mimi Barker

Carolyn Bishop

Fred Blanton

William T. Boerum

Carol Burdette

Neal Burnham

Brad Cole

Chris Dufour

Gil Garcia

Angie Gomez

Jeanne Goodvin

Ron Gossett

James Hromas

Nancy Huppert

Joseph Kressaty

Tom LaBonge

Tom Lisk

Dr. William Lites

Carol Robertson Lopez

Frances Lorenz

David Miller

Tim Quigley

Darrell Smith

Frank Tripicchio

Steve Yoshida

Carla Walker

Mark Walton

Paula West

\$500+

United Way of Greater Cincinnati

World Services of La Crosse

Mary D. Kane

Carol Pristoop

\$100-\$499

Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex

CFC/Community Health Charities of Texas

Garcia Architects

Global Impact

Jean van Buskirk

Mary Stokes Cort

Alexander Durtka

Sharon Durtka

Gerald and Nancy Eidam

Stephen A. Fulling

Susan Herlin

Judy Hinkle

Georgianna McLeod

Doug Rider

Shirley Rivens Smith

Gayle Stallings

Lawrence Uebner

Johann Vielberth

Up to \$100

Lexington Sister Cities

Niagara Frontier Combined Federal Campaign

Northern Lights Combined Federal Campaign

Principal Combined Federal Campaign

South Jersey Combined Federal

Campaign

Mary Aldrich

Hicham Amaaou

W. Fontaine Bell

Scott Colson

Carl Daiker

Nilesh Dasondi

Gokay Dikman

Sharon Dunn

Dennis Fong

Elizabeth Forte

Jacob Horhoruw

Neil Isbell

Sheryl James

David Kane

Frank Lin

Thomas Loeve

Susan McCormick

Bruce McDowell

Georges Miessi

Frederic Morton

Wallace Munden

Neal Peirce

In Memory of Lou Press

Nicole Rautama

Jeffrey Reiss

Carol Seidberg

Mary Strawinski

Robert Swart

Janis Torrey

Richard Vanden heuvel

In-Kind Donors

Booz Allen Hamilton

Cincinnati USA Sister City Association

Covington & Burling LLP

City of Jacksonville

Brad Cole

Greg Berk, Carothers DiSante &

Freudenberger LLP

Ginger Partee, Baker & McKenzie LLP

Yi Song, Mona Shah & Associates

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Diplomatic Courier

The Washington Examiner

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Richmond, VA

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Sonoma, CA

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Boulder, CO

Secretary

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Santa Fe, NM

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San Jose, CA

At Large/Young Professional Representative

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Ms. Carol Burdette
Anderson, SC

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Cincinnati, OH

Ms. Paula K. West
Phoenix, AZ

State Coordinator Representative

Ms. Louise Simon Schoene
Buffalo, NY

Youth Representative

Mr. Nicholas Jaber
Newport Beach, CA

Chair Emeritus (Non-Voting Member)

The Honorable Brad Cole
Carbondale, IL

Global Envoys

Global Envoys are highly distinguished volunteer leaders of Sister Cities International who represent the organization. There is no higher honor in the Sister Cities International network. The role of a Global Envoy is to represent Sister Cities International at events around the world and to serve as a diplomat and spokesperson for the organization.

Nancy Huppert
Rochester, NY
nmhuppert@cs.com

Thelma Press
San Diego, CA
louispress@sbcglobal.net

Mary Palko
Fort Worth, TX
marypalko@earthlink.net

Sharon Receveur
Louisville, KY
sreceveur@insightbb.com

State Coordinators

Sister Cities International's State Coordinators are a volunteer group of leaders in the sister cities network who provide expertise and assistance to members in their respective states.

Alabama

Scotty Colson

(205) 254-2317

democolson@aol.com

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Honorary Board

The Honorary Board is comprised of key individuals who have shown great leadership in Sister Cities International through the years. They are long-standing volunteers from the membership, former members of the Board of Directors, or former State Coordinators who, because of their outstanding support and involvement in the organization, were voted as Honorary Board members. As a self-governing body, the Honorary Board stands ready to assist Sister Cities International members with a wealth of institutional knowledge and experience.

James Amato	Glenn Gray	Kathleen Roche-Tansey
Tony Anderson	Priscilla Harris	Patricia Sanders
Martha Atherton	Rob Heuermann	Kay Sargent
Randy Avon	Kevin Hill	Sylvia Sass
Sherman Banks	James Hromas	Raymond Schultz
Mimi Barker	Nancy Huppert	Michael Scorcio
Fred Blanton	Michael Hyatt	Ethelda Singer
Carlo Capua	Laverne Johnson	Brian Smith
Alan Chambers	Launa Kowalski	Charles Stokke
Henry Cole	Boubker Mazoz	Robert Swart
Mary Cort	Sandra McCormick	Tom Tenhoeve
Michael Curd	Georgiana McLeod	Frank Tripiccio
Rick Donohue	William Mitchell	Jane Tublin
Jody Edgerton	Virginia Mueller	Jim Turner
Nancy Eidam	Sue Myrick	Jean Van Buskirk
Mary Jean Eisenhower	Richard Neuheisel	Hans Vielberth
Bill Evans	Len Olender	Mark Walton
Patricia Fallin	Mary Palko	Amanda Wash
Mae Ferguson	Thelma Press	Paula West
Stelle Feuers	Avi Rabinovitch	Charles Wheeler
Ann Galloway	John Raeside	Linda Whitton
José Luis Garcia	Rodger Randle	Wylie Williams
Roxi Goin	Sharon Receveur	Jane Wood
Ron Gossett	Shirley Rivens-Smith	

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Sister Cities International Inaugural Gala

Sister Cities International holds the distinct honor of having the President of the United States serve as its Honorary Chairperson. It was thus fitting that on the evening of January 17, 2013, the first-ever Sister Cities International Inaugural Gala kicked-off the 2013 Presidential Inaugural celebrations in Washington, D.C.

Prior to the start of the Gala, an exclusive VIP reception set an upbeat mood for the start of a great evening. Washington D.C. Mayor Vincent Gray, European Union Ambassador to the U.S. João Vale de Almeida, other visiting dignitaries, and elected officials mingled with members of the nonprofit, diplomatic, and corporate worlds.

The President's own U.S. Marine Band provided the opening performance, and the Air Force Color Guard presented the colors as the band played the United States national anthem. The Inaugural Gala Host Committee's Mae Ferguson, Mary Palko, and Tim Quigley welcomed the guests, and VIPs were joined by citizen diplomats and

community leaders who showcased the thriving sister city network. Sister Cities International Chairman Thomas A. Lisk, Mayor Gray, Ambassador Almeida, and Mike E. Fox Sr. provided opening remarks.

In a special address, Congressman Mike Honda (CA-17) praised the network's citizen diplomats, calling them "some of the most giving people I've met." He later added, "The energy in the room and spirit of the event showcased the commitment, passion, and strong principles of this network in its efforts to achieve peace and prosperity for all."

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