



## KENYA AND EAST AFRICA

### EDUCATION AND YOUTH

As the responsibility for leadership passes to the next generation, Africa's future and its global competitiveness will be driven by academically gifted and entrepreneurial young people empowered to lead. USAID is providing state-of-the-art education to millions of Kenyan children, expanding educational and employment opportunities for young adults, and preparing a new generation of young African leaders with the skills and mindset to transform the region and the continent.

In 2022, USAID and the Government of Kenya (GOK) through National Treasury and the Ministry of Education signed a five-year agreement outlining the terms of its partnership in education, youth workforce development, and youth leadership programming. The GOK has committed to co-finance at least 15 percent of the total joint investments in education and youth development priorities in Kenya and East Africa.

### EARLY-GRADE READING

Reading is a fundamental skill that lays the foundation for all future learning. USAID and the Kenyan Ministry of Education co-fund and jointly implement the flagship Tusome ("Let's Read" in Kiswahili) Early Grade Reading program in all 22,954 public primary schools and over 1,500 low-cost private schools across Kenya. Tusome has trained over 77,000 teachers to provide improved reading instruction to over 9 million learners, including learners with disabilities.

Teachers and learners are using over 26 million new Tusome textbooks and learning materials, including distance learning materials, to improve reading outcomes in the early primary grades. Tusome also developed an online monitoring and evaluation system to track real-time teaching and learning data, which provided critical feedback to teachers across the country and helped them improve classroom instruction and accountability across the education system.

Since 2015, the GOK has invested approximately \$87.9 million in teachers, curriculum support officers, and teaching and learning materials that complement the Tusome program, serving as the GOK's co-investment with USAID across Kenya. For every \$1 USAID invests in Tusome, it leverages \$0.91 in GOK contributions to the early primary grades. Through Tusome, Kenya is producing a new generation of learners reading at higher levels of fluency and comprehension than ever before.

## YOUTH LEADERSHIP

The Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI) supports youth to drive growth and prosperity, strengthen democratic governance, and enhance peace and security across Africa. There are three YALI programs in Kenya and East Africa. The Mandela Washington Fellowship provides support to young African leaders through training and coursework at 40 U.S. universities, enabling thousands of young Africans to make a difference and lead a new generation in their home countries. The YALI Regional Leadership Center for East Africa at Kenyatta University in Nairobi has trained over 4,700 young leaders from 14 East and Central African countries in business and entrepreneurship, civic leadership, and public management with an eye toward regional networking and collaboration. The YALI Network, with over 700,000 members continent-wide, provides online courses and a forum to equip young leaders with 21<sup>st</sup> century skills to transform their communities.

### KEY GOVERNMENT OF KENYA PARTNERS

Ministry of Education

### EDUCATIONAL PARTNERS

- Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development
- Kenya National Examinations Council
- Teachers Service Commission
- Kenyatta University

### PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERS

- MasterCard Foundation
- KCB Foundation
- DOW Chemical

### IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

- Kenyatta University
- RTI International

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