EAST AFRICA ANALYTICS FOR DEVELOPMENT

The Feed the Future Kenya and East Africa Analytics for Development program helps USAID's activities in the region adapt to environmental, political, and market changes, especially the impacts of multifaceted shocks and stresses. To be effective, activities need responsive and timely analytics to support decision making and programmatic adaptation based on analysis and learning. The program supports activities that enhance food security and resilience through improving the competitiveness and diversity of agricultural market systems and livelihoods, investing in nutrition-sensitive agriculture, and water, sanitation and hygiene services (WASH), ensuring economic opportunities for women and youth, and advancing regional and international trade.

USAID support improved the consumption of nutritious foods for Margaret and pastoralist communities in Isiolo County. Credit: Eric Onyiego/USAIDKenya

Objectives and Focus Areas

The program provides applied research and analytical support to bilateral and regional activities to:

- Strengthen knowledge management, adaptive learning, and data-driven decision making. This guides ongoing and future U.S. Government investments and improves development outcomes in the East Africa region.
- Contribute to research and institutional capacity development that enhances the ability of local organizations and researchers to conduct high-quality research and influence development programs and policies more effectively.

Research will focus on four key thematic areas: agriculture-led growth and transformation, resilience, nutrition-sensitive agriculture and consumer demand, and WASH. Support functions will include:

- **Analytics:** Collecting and using existing data and applying analytical tools and methods.
- **Learning and adaptive management:** Supporting testing of the theory of change, and monitoring and learning from on-going activities to improve program implementation; and
- **Knowledge management:** Identifying, packaging, and disseminating for targeted audiences.

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Methodology

Learning and adaptive management is needed to achieve the Feed the Future objectives of inclusive and sustainable agriculture-led economic growth, strengthened resilience among people and systems, and a well-nourished population. Adaptive management involves accumulating knowledge through a process that ensures tight feedback between ecosystem change and decision makers in a structured cycle of conceptualizing, doing, monitoring, reflecting, learning, and adapting.

BUDGET: $2.4 million

DURATION: 2021-2022

FOCUS COUNTRIES
Kenya and East Africa region

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER
Michigan State University

CONSORTIUM
Tegemeo Institute of Agricultural Policy and Development at Egerton University Purdue University

The program utilizes a range of learning, analytics, and knowledge management methodologies to collect, analyze, and synthesize data, develop findings, and communicate results to stakeholders and decision makers. Technical components of the analytical agenda, however, are identified through a co-creation process to create ownership of the research agenda by local partners and stakeholders. Consortium researchers will develop and use simulation models to forecast the effects of systemic shocks such as climate change, and partial equilibrium and econometric models to assess the production, trade, and price impacts of weather shocks and policy change. Researchers will also conduct macro-level analysis at a regional level and apply a political economy lens to understand and interpret results and evidence generated from quantitative analysis and policy process mapping using the Kaleidoscope Model developed by Michigan State University's Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Food Security Policy.

Expected Results

- Strengthened capacity of USAID's bilateral and regional activities to implement adaptive management based on knowledge to guide a structured cycle of conceptualizing, doing, monitoring, reflecting, learning, and adapting.
- Knowledge accumulation through research and analysis to generate the knowledge that feeds into decision-making for development partners, including local development organizations and local/county/national governments.
- Knowledge dissemination tailored to the needs of policymakers, donors, and local development partners.

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