



USAID supported the completion of the Kipeto Wind Farm, bringing clean energy to 250,000 Kenyans. Photo credit: USAID

## EAST AFRICA

### EAST AFRICA ENERGY PROGRAM

Two out of three people in sub-Saharan Africa lack access to electricity. Through the Power Africa East Africa Energy Program (EAEP), USAID works to optimize power supply, increase grid-based power connections, strengthen utilities and other power sector entities, and increase regional power trade. EAEP covers nine countries in the Eastern Africa region and is headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya. EAEP aims to optimize the power supply through technical assistance, capacity building, and investment promotion.

The program works to ensure that new, renewable power projects are brought to a financial close and that stalled transactions are reviewed and moved forward. We increase the capacity of the industry to strengthen the generation, transmission, and distribution of electricity through strategic power planning, competitive procurement, and grid modernization.

We also provide technical assistance to utility companies to procure and implement new technologies, and to improve planning and management of grid extension initiatives through geographic information systems (GIS) and enhanced data analysis. Utility strengthening is at the core of the EAEP activities. The program provides technical and capacity support to utilities to improve their operational and financial performance, enhance cost recovery and quality of service, and reduce technical, commercial, and collection losses.

## KENYA

While Kenya's power sector is one of the most developed in sub-Saharan Africa, the country still suffers from challenges like unreliable electricity supply, long delays in new grid connections, and an inefficient and financially struggling utility sector. Kenya currently has an electricity access rate of 78 percent, which is skewed towards the urban and peri-urban areas. The program supports the Government of Kenya's universal electrification goals by increasing the access to clean, adequate, reliable, and cost-effective electricity supply to drive Kenya's economic development, enhance sustainability, and viability of the utilities while providing opportunities for increased private sector participation. The interventions include financing, grants, technical assistance, advocacy, and investment promotion in the energy sector.

## THE EAST AFRICA REGION

The program is working with host-country energy sector stakeholders and regional bodies like the Eastern Africa Power Pool and the Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action Program to build the regional power market in East Africa.

EAEP works to advance gender equity for end-users and in decision and policy making by supporting the integration of more women into the energy workforce. The program supports utilities to adopt and implement gender equitable human resource practices and policies, and through the facilitation of internship opportunities for women in energy sector companies.

## ACHIEVEMENTS (2021)

- 708,009 new on-grid connections for the Kenya Power and Lighting Company.
- The 100-megawatt Kipeto Wind Power Project reached commercial operation, providing clean power to 250,000 Kenyans.
- One hundred and forty-one percent increase in revenue for KPLC, resulting in an additional \$92.4 million in revenue.

**BUDGET:** USD \$65.5 million

**DURATION:** 2018-2022

### ACTIVITY LOCATIONS

Kenya, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, Somalia, Uganda, DRC, Djibouti

### IMPLEMENTING PARTNER

Research Triangle International (RTI)

### KEY PARTNERS

Tetra Tech  
Fieldstone Africa  
Norton Rose Fulbright  
Centre for Climate Change Strategies  
Khulisa

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