



Agile Harmonized Assistance for Devolved Institutions (AHADI)

USAID/ Cosmas Kavinda



Fiona Emali, a youth trainer on human rights, devolution and the Constitution, leads a youth training forum at Mbotela Ward in Makadara Constituency, Nairobi City County. USAID leads youth education activities to raise awareness on the new Constitution and devolution.

Funding Level:
\$49.4 million

Duration:
January 2014 – December 2019

Activity Goals:

- Strengthen the capacity of counties through training, mentoring, and technical assistance for key leaders – building skills and accountability in governance and service delivery
- Build the capacity of civil society to more effectively represent citizen interests and needs to county governments
- Support institutions and structures that will facilitate the devolution process, and strengthen cooperation and ties between counties and the national government

Implementing Partner:

- Center for International Development of the State University of New York, in partnership with:
- Kenya School of Government
 - Institute for Development Studies
 - University of Nairobi
 - ACT! Kenya
 - The Urban Institute
 - Local Development International
 - The Institute for Social Accountability
 - African Institute for Health and Development
 - Institute for Research and Policy Analysis

ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

With the adoption of the 2010 Constitution, Kenya set itself on a path toward devolution, introducing a new system of governance that includes 47 county governments with governors and legislatures. The purpose of AHADI is to support Kenya’s vision and agenda for achieving the promise of devolution. AHADI aims to promote governance systems that are transparent, accountable, effective in service delivery, and responsive to empowered citizens by working at both the national and county government levels.

ACTIVITY APPROACH

In partnership with Kenyan institutions, AHADI will enhance capacity to implement devolution by piloting innovative tools, knowledge sharing mechanisms, and capacity building activities that benefit both devolved and national-level institutions. AHADI activities will be planned and implemented in collaboration with Kenyan leaders in government and civil society, and in close coordination with other development partners.

AHADI will build capacity of all actors – national, county, sub-county, and civil society – who have a role in the devolution process. Capacity building will be Kenyan-led and demand-driven. It will combine training, on-the-job mentoring, and experiential learning to advance the work of government and citizens.

AHADI will support county governments and citizens to learn from each other. An information hub on devolution will disseminate practical tools, policy research, and lessons learned to ensure that shared learning, peer mentoring, pilot programs, and cross-county exchanges benefit all county and national institutions.

AHADI will integrate citizen participation into training, policy development, and research activities to provide a key link between citizens and government. AHADI will work with community organizations, as well as regional and national organizations, to help them seize opportunities for government participation. AHADI will also work to implement constitutional and statutory provisions for meaningful citizen participation.

Key Partners:

Parliament – National Assembly and Senate,
County Assemblies

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AHADI will create linkages between County Assemblies, Governors, County Executive Committees, and Parliament to advance and maintain devolution's momentum. It will also facilitate consultative forums bringing together citizen associations and civil society organizations in constituencies and key coordinating bodies to foster sound relationships and dialogue. AHADI will work with key national institutions to foster improved linkages between and among policy makers at all levels.