THE U.S.–KENYA PARTNERSHIP

U.S. EXPORTS TO KENYA

KSH 66 BILLION ($758 MILLION)

Total trade between the U.S. and Kenya

KSH 92.4 BILLION ($1.061 BILLION)

KENYA EXPORTS TO THE U.S.

KSH 26.4 BILLION ($303 MILLION)

nearly 96% ($290 million) of which was exported duty-free through the African Growth and Opportunity Act

132,400 U.S. citizens visited Kenya in 2013
Together, we can deliver historic leaps in development. We can do this. But only if we move forward with the seriousness and sense of common purpose that this moment demands.

Development that offers a path out of extreme poverty for that child who deserves better. Development that builds the capacity of countries to deliver the health care and education that their people need. Development that unleashes broader prosperity and builds the next generation of entrepreneurs and emerging economies. Development rooted in shared responsibility, mutual accountability and, most of all, concrete results that pull communities and countries from poverty to prosperity.

Remarks of U.S. President Barack Obama
Millennium Development Goals Summit
United Nations Headquarters

John Nyoike, grafting avocado plants in the Fresh Produce Exporters Association of Kenya's Practical Training Center for Horticulture in Thika, Kenya.
Our Agency for International Development, USAID, manages America’s key development investments in Kenya. From advancing Kenya’s constitutional reforms to empowering youth, increasing food security, and improving Kenyans’ health and productivity, USAID supports millions of Kenyans to contribute to their country’s social, economic, and political development. We measure our achievements by the accomplishments of our Kenyan partners in government, civil society, and the private sector who have embraced the democratic ideas and values, technologies, and American know-how that underpin the U.S. Government’s development assistance in Kenya.

This report highlights how American investments have supported Kenya’s development achievements. It provides insight into how our partnerships with the Government of Kenya, civil society, and Kenya’s private sector are maturing and moving Kenya toward its vision of becoming a middle-income country by 2030.

USAID support to the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission, the judiciary, and civil society organizations (especially Kenya’s growing youth movement) contributed to 14 million Kenyans being able to freely participate in fair and peaceful elections.

USAID’s work to facilitate inclusive economic growth and to expand access to quality health and education services helped lay the foundation for Kenya’s peaceful elections. Under the Feed the Future initiative, close to a half-million small-scale farmers, half of whom are women, are applying new ideas on their shambas that are helping them double their incomes from agriculture. Growth in the agriculture sector has also benefited from the assistance USAID has given to the Kenyan banks and microfinance institutions to mobilize KSh 22.27 billion ($262 million) in credit through innovative loan products designed for agriculture.

With funding from the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, and in collaboration with other U.S. and Kenyan partners, USAID has been able to provide health and livelihood services to more than 600,000 Kenyans living with HIV and 650,000 children either infected with or affected by HIV last year. Rather than having more than a million vulnerable Kenyans burdening their communities and the Kenyan health system, these people are leading productive lives and contributing to Kenya’s growth.

USAID has also made great accomplishments in supporting the Government of Kenya’s goal to attain a clean, secure, and sustainable environment. More than 2.5 million hectares of ecologically significant land is under improved management; the Kenyans involved are earning money from conservation enterprise. Substantial results were also achieved in water, sanitation, and hygiene, including the provision of clean drinking water and first-time access to improved sanitation for hundreds of thousands of Kenyans.

On behalf of the American people, we are proud to continue our 50-year partnership with the Kenyan people to help them realize their vision for a better future.
In 2013, USAID/Kenya completed a five-year strategy that supported Kenya through a constitutional reform process and invested in measurable improvements in child survival, food security, and enhanced well-being and productivity of millions of Kenyans. Central to that strategy was a commitment to empowering youth through education, economic opportunities, and civic responsibility. Our YesYouth Can program proved to be a vibrant component of our support to Kenya’s peaceful and credible election process.

One million youth have organized themselves into 20,000 community-level bunges, or parliaments, with elected representation in 26 county youth forums and a National Youth Bunge Association. More than 5 million Kenyans participated in U.S.-sponsored events designed to build mass support for peace and reconciliation. Unprecedented numbers of youth, women, and people living with disabilities are acting on the greater civic responsibilities and rights afforded them in the new constitution.

In 2013, students in schools piloting a USAID-supported early-grade reading methodology performed up to three times better on reading assessments than those in control schools.

This investment in human capital ensures that the children and youth of today will be Kenya’s leaders tomorrow.

USAID partners with the government, the private sector, and civil society to improve the health status of Kenyans, ensure effective devolution within the health sector, and build a sustainable Kenyan-owned and managed health system. In 2013, USAID-supported health financing reform and workforce development ensured continuity of services at health facilities countrywide. There are also now more community health workers ready to provide quality service. This is particularly relevant for the over 50 percent of women who still deliver their babies at home. Those children will have access to improved nutrition because of USAID’s efforts.

I am proud of the stories and statistics in this report. They provide a snapshot of the progress that millions of Kenyans have made in the areas of health, education, agriculture, governance, and natural resource management.

This report is only part of an ongoing dialogue between USAID and the people of Kenya. We look forward to continuing this partnership as we move into a new phase under our 2014-2019 strategy.

2013 HIGHLIGHTS

Both local and international observers judged the 2013 general election to have been free and fair.

USAID supported 20 million Kenyans in voter and civic education to make informed choices, reduce conflict, and promote peace in their communities; collaborated with institutions responsible for delivering peaceful and credible elections, such as the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission; and supported the Kenyan National Assembly to pass constitutionally mandated laws.

USAID empowered 1 million youth to expand their opportunities through Yes Youth Can; partnered with the Ministry of Education to pilot effective methods for increasing reading skills in primary schools; and provided positive options for vulnerable youth in Garissa.
USAID helped strengthen Kenya’s health delivery systems; supported HIV counseling and testing services to nearly 4 million Kenyans; increased access to family planning and reproductive health services; and increased prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of malaria.

USAID expanded rural finance; introduced science, technology, and other agriculture-boosting initiatives; developed a strategy to move Kenyans in the arid lands from humanitarian assistance to sustainable food security; and helped women and youth access agricultural inputs, training, and credit.

USAID promoted biodiversity conservation and natural resource management; helped Kenyans mitigate the effects of global climate change; and helped landless farmers enter the global carbon market.
USAID supported the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission, the judiciary, political parties, and millions of peace-minded Kenyans to facilitate the most complex election in Kenya’s history. Local and international observers judged the March 2013 election to have been free, fair, and for the most part peaceful, reflecting the will of the Kenyan people.

This election has paved the way for rapid implementation of a devolved government, as mandated by the new constitution. The envisioned land reforms, gender equity, electoral reforms, and the devolution of authority and budgetary resources to 47 new county-level governments will address the historical injustices that fueled violence in past elections. This new commitment to peace and national unity in Kenya will enable accelerated and inclusive economic development.

8,000 Civil society organizations with enhanced advocacy skills to build alliances, identify and mitigate threats, and engage policymakers to influence laws or policy

55 Laws subject to substantive amendment and final vote in the legislature with technical support from USAID

5,289,814 People participated in U.S.-supported events designed to build mass support for peace and reconciliation
The United States is the largest single investor in Kenya’s reform process and a leader in a multidonor effort to support key Kenyan institutions to implement these reforms. USAID’s partnerships with Kenya’s Parliament, the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission, and the National Cohesion and Integration Commission reflect both countries’ mutual goal to build the Kenyan people’s confidence in, and active support for, the reform process. USAID invests equally in partnerships with Kenya’s civil society organizations to engage Kenyans in keeping the reform process moving forward, particularly for women and youth.

ENSURING FREE, FAIR, AND PEACEFUL ELECTIONS
In light of the 2007/2008 election violence, USAID spent the last five years building community networks, training peace actors, engaging in reconciliation efforts, and establishing the foundations for peace.

A total of 5,289,814 people participated in U.S.-assisted events designed to build mass support for peace and reconciliation. USAID voter education efforts through multiple media reached an estimated 20 million Kenyans.

STRENGTHEN ELECTORAL ADMINISTRATION
USAID supported the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission both through the United Nations Development Program and with KSh 527 million ($6.2 million) of direct technical assistance through the International Foundation for Electoral Systems. This included support for election-related regulations, voter education, dispute resolution, and the use of technology systems.
Foundation also supported the Office of the Registrar of Political Parties in developing nomination and ballot production software to replace the previous manual system. In addition, USAID trained 577 judicial officers and staff in electoral dispute resolution, case management, and development of guidelines.

**SUPPORT CIVIL SOCIETY OBSERVATION OF ELECTIONS**

A USAID partner, the National Democratic Institute (NDI), supported the Elections Observation Group (ELOG) in training 542 long-term domestic observers and deploying them to politically sensitive counties in 2012-2013. Trainings included parallel vote tabulation through which field monitors sent information by coded SMS to the tabulation center. These long-term observers monitored key thematic issues throughout the country, including gender mainstreaming, conflict, media reporting, implementation of electoral legislation, and civic education to ensure a more credible process during the elections in March 2013.

USAID technical assistance and support to ELOG contributed to the training of 1,500 special parallel vote tabulation observers and 5,500 poll watchers. With this support, ELOG was able to assist in diffusing tension during the 2013 elections. To further its impartial assessment of the electoral process, USAID supported the Carter Center to conduct an international observation mission to make recommendations for improvement, act as a deterrent against fraud and violence, and contribute to the legitimacy of the elections. The mission was deployed to constituencies that were highly contested or prone to conflict.

“Kenyans are working to heal deep wounds, to forge national cohesion and unity, and to build an institutional framework to safeguard their nation’s future.”

— Kofi Annan, Former Secretary General of the United Nations

Kenyans reached through U.S.-assisted public information campaigns to support peaceful resolution of conflicts

To administer a nationwide domestic elections observation effort that includes a parallel vote tabulation, data clerks used information from 1,500 special parallel vote tabulation observers to verify data.
In the 2007 election, balanced news coverage was lacking in Kenya. In the 2013 election, USAID provided journalists and editors with training on objective and conflict-sensitive reporting. Journalists received training in interviewing and research skills to professionalize their coverage.

Local media played a large role in maintaining peace during the election period, especially during the period when the Supreme Court was deliberating election results. Media preached calm and patience, setting the tone for the country through 16,531 media stories that were disseminated with U.S. Government support.

In partnership with NDI, USAID trained 356 youth under the Leadership and Campaign Academy and sent 950 youth delegates to the Inter-Party Youth Forum, where youth pledged to uphold the law and embrace peace.
USAID supports the private-sector-led Shujaaz FM Multimedia Youth Communications Initiative. Safaricom and the Nation Media Group distribute 1 million comic books free of charge every month to complement broadcasts on 26 radio stations, maintain a Facebook page with 450,000 followers, and communicate via other social media. The popular characters reflect the diversity of Kenya’s youth and use the urban slang language Sheng’ to engage 6 million youth each month in conversations on good leadership, political manipulation, devolution, voter registration, getting an identification card, women’s rights, and the dangers of tribal stereotyping.

The popular characters in Shujaaz reflect the diversity of Kenya’s youth and engage at least 6 million youth each month in conversations.
SUPPORTING PARLIAMENT TO IMPLEMENT THE KENYA CONSTITUTION OF 2010

Through the State University of New York, USAID brought American expertise to help Kenya’s legislators advance critical reforms concerning gender equity, land reform, and the imminent move to devolved budgeting through robust public consultations on legislation covering elections and public financial management. USAID partners assisted Parliament in reviewing, analyzing, and passing 55 bills, including the 16 required by the Constitution, making this the most productive legislature in Kenya’s history in terms of both quality and quantity of legislation passed.

USAID partners also worked with a number of parliamentary components to help them advance their reform agendas and introduce new mechanisms for external oversight of public resources. This included support to the Speaker’s Office, the Office of Legal Counsel, several oversight committees, and the Kenya Women Parliamentary Association.

ENHANCING LEGISLATIVE CAPACITY
The new constitution gives Parliament significant powers and responsibilities, particularly with regard to budget oversight. To build the capacity of new members, which includes the new Senate, USAID delivered 23 induction and training workshops, training 1,320 members and staff at the national and county levels.

REALIZING THE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO BE FREE FROM HUNGER
With a small grant from the USAID- and DFID-funded Parliamentary Strengthening Program, the African Women’s Studies Centre conducted research designed to contribute to the implementation of Article 43 (1)(c) of the bill of rights in Kenya’s new constitution, which says “every person has the right to be free from hunger, and to have adequate food of acceptable quality.” This research comparing food security successes in Malawi, Brazil, Botswana, Malaysia, Singapore, and South Africa led to the publication of “Rebuilding the Broken African Pot,” celebrating the constitutional article and making specific policy recommendations to enhance Kenya’s food security. These recommendations, in combination with public sector hearings supported by the African Women’s Studies Centre, resulted in an allocation of KSh 81 million ($953,000) toward the development of a comprehensive food security program for Kenya. In addition, the director of the center, Professor Wanjiku Mukabi Kabira, has joined the Agricultural Sector Coordinating Unit’s working group to monitor implementation of food security programs.

USAID partners assisted Parliament in reviewing, analyzing, and passing 55 laws, including the 16 required by the constitution.

INCREASE THE TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF LAWMAKERS
USAID provided expert advice to Parliament as it worked to improve public vetting and approval processes for new appointees to public office. This has significantly increased public involvement in governmental appointments. A recent example of this process at work includes the public engagement that resulted in withdrawal of the initial Supreme Court justices and appointment of new ones that met public
USAID/KENYA 2013 REPORT

EQUITABLE ACCESS TO LAND
With USAID support, significant revisions to the Land Act and Land Registration Act incorporated the constitutional principles and values of “equitable access to land” and “elimination of gender discrimination in law, customs, and practices related to land and property in land.” Revisions to the Land Act also provide a definition of the “matrimonial home” and an inclusive definition of “marriage” that will be important in the comprehensive application of the law’s substantive protections for spouses to include civil, customary, and religious marriages. Revisions to the Land Registration Act also provided that spouses hold matrimonial land in joint-tenancy, and that spousal rights to matrimonial property are an “overriding interest,” meaning that consent must be provided by both spouses in property sales. These provisions are likely to play a significant role in securing women’s rights over land and land-based resources on private land.

USAID PROMOTES GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN’S EMPOWERMENT IN DEMOCRACY RIGHTS AND GOVERNANCE

The Kenya Women Parliamentary Association developed Gender-Responsive Budgeting Guidelines to help members of Parliament to analyze the potential impact of national budget allocations in ways that affect quality of life for men and women. The analysis of Kenya’s 2012-13 budget identified the need to fund cancer screenings to prevent diseases severely affecting women’s health. As a result, Parliament allocated an additional KSh 297,500,000 ($3.5 million) to the Ministry of Public Health and Sanitation to procure cancer-screening equipment.
Kiambiu is a crowded informal settlement in Nairobi with a long history of violent conflict. Much of the conflict stems from housing issues, intensified by the fact that residents of Kiambiu are from different tribes.

Violence broke out in Kiambiu when Kenyans voted in 2007. (The candidates for president were from different tribes.) Since then, there has been significant tension among Kiambiu residents. Young people are the perpetrators of much of the violence and crime in Kiambiu. This creates deep mistrust between the young people and the local government officials.

USAID’s Kenya Tuna Uwezo program is working in Kiambiu to end the violence. Tuna Uwezo is Kiswahili for “We have the power!”

Today young people are talking to each other about the violence and conflict. It is an often-painful process, but necessary. Kenya Tuna Uwezo brought together young people from the Taliban and Mungiki gangs. Members from both gangs confessed past acts of violence. Gang members explained how politicians and elders had exploited them. The young people committed to work together to stop violence from happening again.

Mwangi, a young man who attended a meeting supported by Kenya Tuna Uwezo, said, “This is an important day for me, we have never seen so many young people come together. … Those ethnic lines are destroyed today.”

Muiruri, the provincial officer for the Kamukunji District, agreed. The local government had tried many times to bring the groups together, but failed. According to Muiruri, “These young people have never come face-to-face since 2001. This is the greatest achievement for peace in Kiambiu.”

USAID has partnered with the American nonprofit Global Communities and two Kenyan groups, PeaceNet and Kitu Cha Sheria, to implement the peace program. They help Kiambiu residents initiate conversations to break down issues and search for mutual understanding and possible solutions. This dialogue builds trust and removes misplaced hatred. Now young people from different tribes play football together. People who were once hostile to each other are slowly making friendly connections. Communities and government entities, including the police, are forging stronger bonds.

Young people who mistrusted local government are now talking to district-level officials and the police. They can raise issues and problems without being violent. Collaborative resolution is building trust.

The communities are opening up to one another and young people are connecting and working together to improve their community. The language is changing, the behavior is changing, and the focus is shifting from fighting between ethnic gangs to working together to improve the community.
RAlia Mohammed: The Voice of the Girl Child

Ralía Mohammed is just 17 years old, but she began championing children’s rights from an early age. In 2007, Ralia witnessed the horrific events of Kenya’s post-election violence unfold in Korogocho, the slum where she lives in Nairobi. Ralia said the violence affected women and children adversely.

Today, Ralia hosts a three-hour weekly show, Teens Live, which airs on Koch FM every Saturday. She uses her media platform to talk with teenagers and children about their rights and roles in society. Ralia says the main problem for children living in informal settlements is that they assume adult responsibilities at a very early age. Very young girls are forced to help their parents with household chores and raise younger siblings. They are denied the ability to be like other children because they do not have time to play or focus on their education.

The National Youth Bunge Association has become one of the largest youth movements in the world, empowering 1 million Kenyan youth to expand their economic opportunities, serve their communities, and become contributing members of society. Twenty-six County Bunge Forums have launched Savings and Credit Cooperative Organizations that offer a safe place for members to save money, as well as provide credit for youth-run microenterprises like this milk cooling and distribution business in Nyandarua County.

Creating Opportunities for Youth

USAID/KENYA 2013 REPORT
EDUCATION AND YOUTH
USAID joined with Microsoft, Intel, Cisco, and Kenya’s Ministry of Education to bring high-tech learning into rural classrooms. In three years, the pilot reached 39,000 students with digital education and enabled 46 focus schools to give every student access to a computer. The Permanent Secretary of Education visited the pilot sites to evaluate whether the program can and should be scaled nationwide.

1,000,000
Kenyan youth empowered to expand their economic opportunities through Yes Youth Can

316,000
Children benefited from quality teaching and up-to-date curricula

5,827
Educators provided with training or professional development
“If we’re serious about ending extreme poverty in two decades, then we need to lead with this new generation.”
– USAID Administrator Rajiv Shah, March 18, 2013

USAID youth programs have empowered more than 1 million Kenyans aged 18-35 to play a positive and stabilizing role in society. With technical skills, financial resources, and educational opportunities, youth can lead the country toward cohesion, peace, and prosperity. Basic education initiatives are ensuring that children aged 6 and older can read—a vital foundation to prepare them to be economically and socially responsible citizens. With its special focus on young people from marginalized communities, especially vulnerable children, and the participation of people with disabilities, USAID is demonstrating how inclusiveness can contribute to better governance, economic growth, and social empowerment while defusing ethnic and extremist threats in Kenya and across the region.

YES YOUTH CAN
Yes Youth Can is USAID’s largest youth program in the world. Outcomes from the program indicate that empowering youth to lead their own development can be very effective in a society where young adults have been systematically excluded from social, economic, and political decision-making. Yes Youth Can has empowered Kenyan youth to expand their economic opportunities, contribute to their communities, and become responsible members of society. It does this by promoting youth access to leadership and effective participation in governance; building the capacity of youth institutions and civil society to promote the youth agenda; increasing youth access to employment, entrepreneurship, and livelihood opportunities; and promoting youth participation in the ongoing peace, reconciliation, and justice process.

“My bunge has changed who I am. I realize change has to start with me and my fellow bunge members. ...Together we can change Kenya peacefully and for the better.”
– Joseph Nyapete, President, Migori County Youth Bunge Forum
The My ID, My Life campaign successfully secured national identity cards for more than half a million youth from 2012 to 2013. The campaign demonstrated the enormous potential of the National Youth Bunge Association to inspire, mobilize, and empower youth through results-driven partnerships with government entities.

USAID/Joan LeWa

USAID/Kenya’s Yes Youth Can activity launched 27 cooperative financial mechanisms that allow youth to save money and take out loans. Through these activities, 42,000 youth received new employment or livelihood opportunities through USAID-supported activities and 30,000 youth accessed financial services.

The youth bunge movement far exceeded expectations because of the success of its grassroots approach. USAID supported Kenyan youth to build local, representative networks to encourage collaboration among youth and leverage community resources. There are more than 20,000 village-level bunges with a total of 1 million members. These village bunges have gone on to elect county-level leaders and formed a National Youth Bunge Association.
USAID and the Ministry of Education have a partnership to improve primary school students’ reading skills. USAID supported a research-driven pilot program in 500 primary schools in various regions of Kenya. The program pilot tested revised learning materials and 150 innovative teacher’s guides for teaching reading in English and Kiswahili. Rigorous evaluations demonstrated that the piloted approach can improve reading skills nearly three times faster than methods and materials used in control schools.

Analysis suggests that 74 percent of the observed teachers showed good mastery of all active learning components, which include lesson planning, mastery of the subject content, classroom management, and active engagement of learners. The program will be rolled out for first and second grades nationally in 2014.

“We’re trying to change the way development works, with new partnerships, a greater emphasis on innovation, and a relentless focus on measuring and delivering results.”

— USAID Administrator Rajiv Shah, March 2013
USAID’s partnership with the Ministry of Education has improved school management and learning outcomes in more than 750 preschools and primary schools in traditionally marginalized communities in the slums of Nairobi and the mainly Muslim communities of the Coast and North Eastern provinces.

The program has trained 2,900 teachers in areas such as active learning skills in language, mathematics, and science, Reading to Learn, and transition to primary. The program worked hand-in-hand with the Education Management Information System Department in the Ministry of Education and the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development’s Information Technology and Curriculum Development departments to train 51 local-level education officials in the coastal region and the Nairobi informal settlements to effectively capture and analyze data to measure learning outcomes.

The partnership improved school management and learning outcomes in more than 750 preschools and primary schools in traditionally marginalized communities in the slums of Nairobi and the mainly Muslim communities of Coast and North Eastern provinces.
Garissa is the seat of government of predominantly Muslim Garissa County. With 90 percent unemployment among youth, it could be a fertile ground for the recruitment of young people into extremist groups and activities, including into the al Qaeda-affiliated al Shabaab, which operates in nearby Somalia. The Garissa Youth Program (G-Youth) gives youth greater access to employment and helps keep them in school for secondary and higher education. More than 3,000 youth attended career development clinics and received career guidance and counseling. In addition, the program provided 1,363 youth with work readiness or business start-up training, 262 with internships, and 1,229 with educational scholarships. Another 237 young men and women were trained in computer repair and networking at the USAID-supported Cisco Networking Academy. Civic education activities promote tolerance and peaceful coexistence among diverse communities. The program provided 46 community grants to youth groups to tackle challenges that faced their local communities. Now G-Youth has transitioned into Yes Youth Can North Eastern Province, and has already mobilized 2,815 youth in Garissa and Wajir counties to form youth bunges. Youth bunges provide a forum for young women and men to organize and take action for social and economic improvement.

3,000+ youth attended career development clinics and received career guidance and counseling
Like many youth in Garissa, Muawiya Karone believed his dream of becoming a journalist was never going to materialize. “I stayed home for more than eight months after high school graduation. I had no future, no money and spent days doing nothing. I was depressed, desperate, and willing to do anything to make some money. That was the darkest period of my life and many of my fellow youth in Garissa have felt the same,” he explained.

Muawiya participated in the USAID G-Youth Work Readiness Program, where he learned leadership, interpersonal, and communication skills. Muawiya put his leadership skills into action when he organized a three-day Youth Action Summit. “The leadership skills enabled me to lead a team of 50 youths to organize a summit celebrating Garissa youth as leaders and change agents in our community. These skills have also helped me as the chairman of the Garissa Youth Consortium (GYC), leading the group in developing the ‘GYC Constitution’ whose vision is – ‘A skilled, empowered and united Garissa youth.’

Through the G-Youth program, Muawiya also received ICT training at the Career Resource Center. The USAID-funded center provides structured career development on information about pragmatic opportunities to pursue careers or transition into higher education. The center has been adopted as part of Cisco’s Community Knowledge Centers. Today, Muawiya is a beneficiary of the G-Youth scholarship program. He is pursuing an associate degree at the University of Nairobi.
USAID supports the private sector to help children orphaned due to the HIV/AIDS pandemic and those coming from economically distressed homes, enabling them to complete their education and become leaders in their communities. Through funding from the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), USAID partnered with Equity Bank, Equity Group Foundation, MasterCard Foundation, and UKaid in a Global Development Alliance to provide scholarships, mentorship, and leadership training to more than 6,000 orphans and vulnerable children from across the country. USAID’s contribution of KSh 2.295 billion ($27 million) supports more than 3,000 of these scholars to enter and complete high school.

Another public-private partnership that empowers more than 550 Kenyan girls from disadvantaged backgrounds—many of them orphans—is the Global Give Back Circle, which supports young women to escape the cycle of poverty. Microsoft, MasterCard Foundation, Standard Chartered Bank, Equity Bank, KPMG, Deloitte, Safaricom Foundation, Surgipharm, Barclays, Monsanto, Old Mutual, GM, and EcoLab are corporate funders as well as partners that contribute mentors to provide one-on-one guidance throughout the girls’ secondary school and tertiary education. In return, the girls implement “Give Back Commitments” in Nairobi or their local communities, mentor the next generation of girls, and commit to donate money—once they achieve financial independence.
Amercians invested KSh 14 billion ($165.5 million) in population and health programs in Kenya in 2013 to improve the survival, well-being, and productivity of the Kenyan population. HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, childhood disease, under-nutrition, and maternal mortality are a burden on Kenya’s families, its communities, its health system, and the economy. USAID partners with the Government of Kenya, multilateral organizations, civil society, faith-based organizations, and private-sector companies to improve the health status of Kenyans and to build a sustainable Kenyan-owned and managed health system.

12,300,000 Kenyans reached with information on improving water, sanitation, and hygiene practices

10,422,328 Doses of artemether-lumefantrine distributed as first-line treatment for malaria in Kenya

6,547,680 Rapid diagnostic tests (RDTs) procured to support national guidelines for malaria diagnosis in all fever cases before treatment
From immunizations to the prevention and control of malaria, to better nutrition in the first 1,000 days of life, to clean water and sanitation, USAID supports Kenyans to end preventable child deaths. Community health workers are at the vanguard of promoting practices that Kenyan parents can use to prevent illness.

The national immunization program continued to improve, as evidenced by a total of 691,155 children receiving the third dose of the pneumococcal vaccine by age 12 months. More than 688,000 children between 12-23 months received their third dose of the DPT (diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus) vaccine. USAID also supported increased social mobilization for polio campaigns, which led to higher demand for other routine vaccines.

**PREVENTING AND CONTROLLING MALARIA**

USAID manages Presidential Malaria Initiative (PMI) interventions in Kenya in support of the GOK 2009-2017 National Malaria Strategy. Prevention and control interventions are tailored to the current epidemiology of malaria, with a concentration of efforts in the western lake endemic zone. In 2012, the GOK adopted the policy of universal diagnosis before treatment of all fever cases suspected to be malaria. PMI supported the continued scale-up of rapid diagnostic tests (RDTs) by purchasing more than 6.5 million RDTs and training more than 5,500 community health workers on malaria diagnostics. A quality-of-care survey showed that availability of RDTs improved to 70 percent of all facilities, up from 8 percent in 2010, and adherence to treatment guidelines improved to 50 percent in all facilities, compared to only 15.7 percent in 2010.
The U.S. President’s Malaria Initiative brings resources from multiple government agencies to tackle this preventable illness. Peace Corps Volunteer Sarah Kaufmann works with the Odado Tumaini Orphan and Vulnerable Children Association in Samia District, Western Kenya, to help the community eliminate malaria. Children under 5 years old are at the greatest risk of malaria’s severe complications, which can include death.

1,740,000
Long-lasting, insecticide-treated nets procured through the U.S. President’s Malaria Initiative
The Government of Kenya has intensified its efforts to improve maternal and child health outcomes through the implementation of a new community health strategy and a new policy that provides free maternal health services. In 2013, the number of women who received at least four antenatal care visits during pregnancy rose by 30 percent compared to 2012. This can be attributed to the introduction of free antenatal care and maternity services in Kenya. USAID worked with the Ministry of Health Services and other partners to put in place a competency-based emergency obstetric and newborn care training curriculum. USAID’s five regional service delivery projects scaled up maternal, newborn, and child health services at the facility and the community level. USAID also trained 6,395 community health workers in maternal and/or newborn health. Because more than 50 percent of the women in Kenya stilldeliver at home without skilled care, community health workers play a critical role in decreasing maternal and infant mortality. In addition to encouraging women to use skilled care at birth, community health workers encourage women to use early antenatal services, which includes testing for HIV, a critical first step in the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV and preventative treatment against malaria in pregnancy. Community health workers also promote immunization, hand washing with soap, and use of latrines.
Kenya is making greater commitments to its health sector and assuming strategic leadership enabling USAID to shift to expert technical support in areas of highest need and where the U.S. comparative advantage is strongest. USAID supports the Government of Kenya’s efforts to promote family planning with high-impact practices, including the promotion of long-acting and reversible contraceptive methods through outreach services.

Joyce Kebchirchir knew she wasn’t ready to have a second child.

“I was so surprised when I heard on the radio that I can visit any government health clinic for family planning services,” she said. When Joyce visited Musoriot Rural Health Center, she saw posters and drawings on the walls about the family planning services available at the clinic. “I still wasn’t convinced until I sat in front of the nurse, who was very knowledgeable about the family planning methods,” she recalled. “They were all very kind to me and explained all the methods. I chose Jardell, which is a five-year method of family planning. I am very happy with this method, thanks to that radio message I heard and thanks to these wall paintings and posters.”

The 13 percent increase in couple years of protection from 2012 (1,940,383) to 2013 (2,197,942) in USAID-supported activities indicates that more women are able to prevent unplanned pregnancies and choose when to have children.

In 2013, USAID purchased:
- 3.8 million doses of three-month injectible contraceptives
- 91,000 5-year contraceptive implants
- 2.7 million monthly packs of pills
- 3.8 million doses of three-month injectible contraceptives

“This sounds perhaps like a paradox, but when fewer children die, people choose to have smaller families, knowing with greater confidence that their children will survive to adulthood, and then eventually there are more working adults, supporting fewer dependents, which makes it easier for a country to make investments that drive sustained economic growth.”

— Former U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, June 14, 2012
According to the Kenya Demographic Health Survey 2008-2009, 39 percent of women aged 15-49 had experienced physical violence while 12 percent had experienced sexual violence. Among sexual violence survivors, only 1 percent sought help from a doctor or medical practitioner. Additionally, preliminary data from the Kenya Violence Against Children Study indicated a high rate of physical and sexual violence against children and adolescents. According to the study, levels of violence prior to age 18 as reported by young adults aged 18 to 24 indicate that during childhood, 32 percent of females and 18 percent of males experienced sexual violence; 66 percent of females and 73 percent of males experienced physical violence; and 26 percent of females and 32 percent of males experienced emotional violence.

USAID strengthens local mechanisms and skills for gender-based violence prevention, reporting, management, and pathways for response. Youth-focused theater programs such as the Sita Kimya (Kiswahili for “Speak Out”) and G-Pange campaigns encourage dialogue on gender-based violence. “Queen and King of Change” mentorship sessions teach children about their rights. USAID also supports the Suluhisho ni Mimi (Kiswahili for “I am the solution”) Centre, managed by the Centre for Rights Education and Awareness in Kibera, to increase the community’s capacity to better prevent and respond to gender-based violence through referral mechanisms. Out of the 185 new cases handled, 101 were referred from gender-based violence service providers and other stakeholders in Kibera. The level of awareness and action among community members has also improved, with the number of cases reported increasing from 140 to 185.
**IMPROVING NUTRITION**

One in three Kenyan children is stunted, reflecting chronic undernutrition. The Government of Kenya joined the Scaling Up Nutrition Movement in 2012. USAID supports the scale-up of high-impact nutrition and the Government of Kenya’s community health strategy through its APHIAplus activities. In 2013, APHIAplus activities trained and supported the supervision of 7,157 community health workers to ensure that nutrition interventions were an integral part of household visits. USAID regional nutrition programs reached 2,221,969 children below age 5, with 1,796,168 children receiving Vitamin A. In 2013, fewer children were found to be underweight than in 2012. This could be attributed to enhanced efforts by USAID and the Government of Kenya in reaching out to communities on adequate child feeding through the use of effective methodologies like Positive Deviants Hearth, which works on a peer-to-peer support system. USAID’s Feed the Future is also working with the Ministry of Agriculture to improve food production and utilization.

**ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER, HYGIENE AND SANITATION**

USAID’s Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) activity assists the Government of Kenya and communities to increase access to improved water and sanitation facilities and improve hygiene.

In 2013, USAID supported:

- **368,762 Kenyans** to obtain access to clean drinking water for the first time
- **242,893 Kenyans** to access improved sanitation facilities for the first time
- **263 villages** to achieve open-defecation-free status

By helping communities access more and better water, the WASH activity:

- **improves health** by reducing water-borne and other disease;
- **reduces the burden**, which usually falls on women and children, of trekking long distances for water, leaving more time for study and other tasks;
- **creates** community-managed water systems that will endure without further interventions.

In 2013, USAID trained 2,240 community health workers to improve the WASH practices of approximately 12.3 million Kenyans.

2,221,969 children reached by U.S.-supported nutrition programs.
AIDS-FREE GENERATION

Youth are one of the most at-risk groups for HIV, reducing worker productivity, savings, and investment. The U.S. President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief supports activities that equip young people with the knowledge and skills necessary to prevent HIV.

24,072 children on HIV treatment through USAID support
USAID is committed to helping Kenya achieve an AIDS-free generation. In addition to clinical care, USAID activities support HIV prevention for in- and out-of-school youth and livelihood support to enhance risk-reduction behaviors. All USAID HIV/AIDS activities are carried out in partnership with the Government of Kenya.

USAID’s Healthy Outcomes through Prevention Education (HOPE) activity uses peer education, teacher sensitization, and community engagement to address knowledge and practices around HIV/AIDS. This year, USAID HOPE reached 11,427 people through individual and small-group prevention interventions, and another 1,225 conduct these interventions.

The HOPE activity also assisted the Ministry of Education, Science, and Technology to revise its Education Sector Policy on HIV/AIDS and will lead its rollout in all 47 counties.

4,000+ parents are now equipped to discuss sensitive issues with their children.
HOME-BASED TESTING

The preliminary findings of the Kenya AIDS Indicator Survey (KAIS 2012) demonstrated a reduction in HIV prevalence among adults from a high of 7.2 percent (about 1.4 million persons) testing positive for HIV in 2007 to 5.6 percent (about 1.2 million) in 2012. Still, in some parts of the country the rate is much higher. In Port Victoria, Busia, on the shores of Lake Victoria, the local practice of women trading sex for fish translates to an HIV infection prevalence of close to 30 percent. USAID’s Academic Model Providing Access to Healthcare activity is implementing a Perpetual Home-Based Counseling and Testing methodology to reverse the trend in Western Kenya. Jedidah Daidho is a counselor who is responsible for educating people about HIV and encouraging them to get tested for the virus. She makes it as easy as possible for people to get tested by providing convenient and confidential home-based testing. Jedidah will be following up with her target community members for three years in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the methodology. Across all of its health programs, USAID provided HIV counseling and testing services to 3.89 million Kenyans in 2013.

TREATMENT GIVES HOPE

After contracting the virus in 2006, Alex became too weak to continue fishing. Through its partnership with Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital, USAID has provided Alex with the training and capacity-building he needed to become a farmer. Alex now earns 100,000 KSh ($1,176) per quarter from selling fresh produce from his shamba. He has invested in a manual pump to improve irrigation on his farm and he has plans to invest in a greenhouse.

Alex’s wife is also HIV-positive. His children are all negative. Alex is able to support his family of six, including paying all of the school fees for his four children. The family needs no support from the community. Alex and his wife receive antiretroviral therapy supported through the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). The therapy is more effective because Alex and his family eat a healthy, balanced diet, thanks to the farm. In 2013, 631,000 Kenyans received HIV treatment through PEPFAR.
CREATING AN AIDS-FREE GENERATION

The U.S., through the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), invests more in the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS in Kenya than any other country invests in any other disease in the world. That investment is supporting the work of millions of Kenyans committed to achieving an AIDS-free generation. From Kenyan citizens like Jedidah Daidho and David Oniang’I Wanga to institutions like Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital, Kenyans are involved in stopping the spread of HIV, caring for the children orphaned or left vulnerable by HIV, preventing the transmission of HIV from mother to child, and helping people with HIV to lead more productive lives.

PEPFAR leverages private-sector resources to increase access to education for orphans and vulnerable children. More than 21 partners support the Global Give Back Circle to provide scholarships, mentorships, life-skills training, reproductive health, financial literacy, and computer technology to more than 550 disadvantaged girls and 27 boys. In return, scholars serve their community and mentor other scholarship awardees.

David Oniang’I Wanga is supporting two nieces and a nephew orphaned when David’s sister and brother died of AIDS. David has established a kitchen garden on his land. He says, “The training we received from USAID was very important. Now I don’t have to spend money to buy vegetables for the children, and I can sell the extra sukumu wiki in the market to help pay for school fees.”

David’s nephew, Wellington Wanga, has been able to excel in school. He received a 350 (out of a possible 400) on his class 8 national exams. David says, “If we neglect these orphans and vulnerable children, they will become thieves and hooligans, and they will be robbing us in the community. So we need to give them an education. Now Wellington can be a doctor or an engineer!”

The investment is supporting the work of millions of Kenyans committed to achieving an AIDS-free generation in Kenya.
ECONOMIC GROWTH AND AGRICULTURE
In Busia County, Cornelia Ossare grows sweet potatoes as an alternative to maize. A family is considered food-secure when its members do not live in hunger or fear of hunger. People require a reliable and consistent source of quality food and sufficient resources to purchase it. They must also have the knowledge and basic sanitary conditions to choose, prepare, and distribute food in a way that results in good nutrition for all family members.

39 agricultural policies in development with U.S. assistance

51% of the 447,659 farmers who applied new technologies or management practices are female

4,975 food security private enterprises (for-profit), producers’ organizations, water users’ associations, women’s groups, trade and business associations, and community-based organizations receiving U.S. assistance
More than 440,000 of Kenya’s smallholder farmers have embraced new ideas and farming practices as part of the United States President’s Global Hunger and Food Security Initiative, known as Feed the Future. This has increased the volume and value of their crops. By planting new or more varied crops, rural-farming families are eating a more nutritious diet. Better-nourished families, with more income, are more resilient during times of food scarcity.

USAID’s Feed the Future initiative is increasing smallholder household incomes through integrated value chain programs that focus on maize and other staples, dairy, horticulture, and livestock subsectors. These activities develop improved production and post-harvest technologies, enhance intra-household productivity, strengthen producer organizations, create business linkages, facilitate access to business services, and expand agricultural products in domestic and export markets, taking full advantage of export opportunities under the African Growth and Opportunity Act.

Gabriel Odiambo with millet on his farm in Siranga, Western Kenya.

A member of the Amukeni Community-Based Organization with soybeans from his community’s plantation in Western Kenya.
USAID’s Kenya Horticultural Competitiveness Program is helping smallholder farmers profit from the Government of Kenya’s investment in the Moi International Airport in Kenya’s Northern Rift Valley.

The horticulture project is partnering with Canken International Limited, a cargo-handling export company at the airport. The company is exporting a variety of fruits and vegetables to European and Middle East countries. Canken executives say the USAID horticulture program has had a quantifiable impact on the region. The company now exports more than 750 tons of fresh produce, compared to 226 tons in 2007. This is due to the fact that Canken is now able to source produce from more than 4,000 smallholder farmers in the region. Farmers deliver their produce to nine shaded collection points where Canken staff sort, grade, and pack for export. Charcoal coolers control temperatures in the grading areas.

The horticulture project assists Canken International to train farmers on land preparation, crop maintenance, harvesting, and post-harvesting technology. Farmers are linked with banks and other microcredit institutions to take loans to purchase seeds and manure, or to invest in irrigation technology.

To enable an all-year production of fresh produce despite the drought spells, the horticulture project trains farmers on irrigation and water harvesting techniques. Seventy-five demonstration plots have been installed with irrigation kits and 30 water harvesting demonstration tanks have been set up.

“These interventions have enabled the horticultural industry to realize an increase in sales and profits of more than 200 percent. Previously, a farmer earned KSh 4,080 ($48) per month now they earn more than KSh 20,400 ($240). Increased income from horticultural exports from the smallholder farmers has provided a lasting foundation for progress against malnutrition and food security. The farmers are now able to purchase foods and other nutritional products that they couldn’t afford before. They are also able to diversify into producing other commercial crops, increasing food security in the region," explains Dominic Biwot, general manager of Canken International Limited.

KSh 9.62 billion ($113.16 million) value of purchases from smallholder farmers facilitated by USAID value chain programs.
USAID has long partnered with the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI) to conduct adaptive research on drought-tolerant crops and other staple crops that are well suited for Kenya. Support to KARI enables it to develop a range of technology packages, including improved seeds, livestock vaccinations, maize, and soil and water management practices. In 2013, USAID supported research by KARI on 34 new agricultural technologies, conducted field trials of 16 new technologies, and completed efforts on 26 new technologies that are being disseminated to end-users. The technologies ranged from the development of high-yielding crop varieties to crop and livestock disease management practices, to integrated soil fertility management techniques.

USAID supports the Tegemeo Institute at Kenya’s Egerton University to conduct agricultural policy research and analysis. The research informs USAID’s Feed the Future activities in Kenya and contributes to guiding the implementation of the Kenya Government’s Agricultural Sector Development Strategy. The strategy is aligned with Vision 2030, the blueprint for transforming Kenya into a middle-income country. The Agricultural Sector Development Strategy reflects the principles of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program and is part of the Government of Kenya’s commitment to improving food security and nutrition for all Kenyans.

Agriculture is managed both centrally and by the 47 new county governments created in the March 2013 national election. To guide this process of transformation, new legislation to regulate agriculture in Kenya is required. In 2013, the U.S. Government helped guide the development of 39 policies in the agricultural sector.

In collaboration with other donors, major progress was made in implementing sector-wide legal reforms, including the consolidation of the agricultural sector legislation that involved 131 agriculture-related acts of Parliament.
Dairy is critical to the livelihoods of 2 million Kenyan dairy farming households in generating steady income streams and providing a primary source of nutrition for the country. The dairy subsector also offers tremendous possibilities for economic growth and job creation.

USAID assists a wide range of financial institutions in the dairy sector, from the largest banks to the smallest microfinance institutions. USAID’s most successful partnership is with Kenya Commercial Bank (KCB), the largest bank by asset size. Over the past two years, USAID helped KCB develop an agriculture strategy and is now helping the bank make loans available to farmers.

In Kiambu on the outskirts of Nairobi, a KCB branch is offering dairy herd improvement loans – what their clients want. “We call it the ngombe loan, or dairy herd loan,” explains K.K. Kariuki, a loan officer at the Kiambu branch. According to Kariuki, dairy farming becomes profitable only once a farmer is able to maintain a herd of six or more cows. The ngombe loan allows smallholder farmers the opportunity to achieve that scale.

Kariuki, who started out at KCB in a back-office job doing credit analysis, thrives on the fieldwork required by value chain lending. “A typical day for me starts in the office, when one or more farmers come in to sign their loan agreements. Then it is out to the field. I might visit a milk collection center to verify how much milk a loan applicant is selling, or I might visit a loan recipient to confirm that he has purchased his new cows.”

Wilfred Musau, director of retail banking, noted: “For us at KCB – a large and conservative bank – lending into agriculture at the smallholder level and to others in the value chain that are not corporates was a major shift in thinking for us. Doing so would not have been possible without USAID’s research, product development, and training it provided us.” He added, “USAID’s approach to financing value chains helped us to better understand and mitigate risks, thereby creating the conditions to receive important board approvals to enter agriculture finance for the smallholder farmer.”

KCB’s success has encouraged other financial institutions to begin lending into the sector, creating a positive demonstration effect.

In partnership with private sector institutions like KCB, USAID helped mobilize more than KSh 22.27 billion ($262 million) in credit to agriculture and rural businesses in 2013.
USAID activities to strengthen the value chains in horticulture, staple crops, dairy, and livestock strategically target women and youth who have not traditionally had access to the same agro-inputs as men.

USAID activities promoted high-value nutritious crops in areas where women predominate in production and marketing. The *Farming as a Family Business* model ensures women have greater control over revenues earned, as research shows women are more likely to invest their earnings in educating their children and preparing more nutritious food. Although fewer female-owned micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises received assistance to access bank loans (only 19 percent), the total value of agricultural and rural loans disbursed to women (KSh 14.92 billion of the KSh 22.27 billion) far exceeded the share disbursed to men.

USAID supported a comprehensive professional development program for Kenyan women scientists to develop and promote improved agricultural technologies, especially labor-reducing technologies developed for women farmers such as drip irrigation. Women comprised 51 percent of the 447,659 farmers who applied new technologies or management practices as a result of U.S. Government assistance.

The USAID-supported African Women in Agricultural Research and Development (AWARD) group, which works with some 75 national agricultural research institutions, raises awareness and support for the career development of African women scientists. Nearly 50 percent of AWARD’s mentors are African men in senior positions. They play a key role in influencing organizational culture about the important role of African women scientists. Many mentors report that they are better leaders as a result of experience gained through AWARD.
The Kenya Horticultural Competitiveness Project supported the involvement of 30,050 youth in the horticulture value chain from production to marketing. The program established institutional links with schools, colleges, and universities, including Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, Moi University, and the University of Nairobi, where local partnerships created awareness of job opportunities for youth in the horticulture industry. USAID activities support the Government of Kenya’s efforts to change the negative perception many young people hold that farm work is drudgery with very little reward.

Concilia Anyango Amina vaccinates Gabrielle Odiambo’s chickens against Newcastle disease for 5 shillings per chicken.

Young people in rural areas have trouble finding paid work. Farmers in rural areas have trouble accessing new technology and improved seeds. Farm Input Promotions-Africa has developed a model to address both problems. Farm Input Promotions-Africa has trained Concilia, and thousands of young people like her, to be village-based advisers. Concilia is able to provide farmers in her community with inputs, services, and advice on best farming practices. She distributes small packs of improved seed varieties to give farmers the chance to try out new varieties on their own shambas, or small farms. When farmers see the improvement in yield and quality from the improved seeds, they come back to Concilia to buy more seeds for the next season. An energetic village-based adviser like Concilia can earn KSh 10,000 ($125) per month by selling small seed packs and seedlings and by vaccinating chickens.
USAID has unlocked hundreds of millions of dollars of Kenyan capital by providing technical assistance to and product development for Kenya’s banking sector and microfinance institutions, and by utilizing USAID’s Development Credit Authority to provide partial loan guarantees. Kenya’s financial institutions are now starting to lend into the agriculture sector, supporting needs of farmers and entrepreneurs once excluded from commercial finance. During 2014, USAID’s Financial Inclusion for Rural Microenterprises and USAID-supported One Acre Fund helped 249,996 farmers and small enterprises gain access to bank loans. Financial Inclusion for Rural Microenterprises also supports American businesses seeking to expand their operations in Kenya and the region, including Fairview Capital, Burn Manufacturing, General Electric, and Seaboard Corporation.

The value of new private sector investment in the agriculture sector or food chain leveraged by Feed the Future implementation is estimated at KSh 25 billion ($294.1 million).

Another innovative approach to giving farmers access to better agricultural inputs is the Asset-Based Financing for Smallholder Farmers activity that advances inputs such as improved seed and fertilizer to farmers who then return a percentage of their crop.

Robai is an example of the dramatic increase in crop production that can occur with a loan from the Asset-Based Financing for Smallholder activity. After signing on to the activity’s loan package, Robai began attending training sessions.

“I have now been trained on how to plant and apply fertilizer. I have been trained on how to store my maize after harvesting,” said Robai.

Training also included best time to harvest, how to use an “active” drying technique, and how to use metal maize shellers to reduce loss due to broken kernels.

After receiving the loan package and training, Robai harvested 20 bags of maize on the acre of land where she previously harvested four. She plans to sell 12 of the bags to build an improved house for her and her three children.
BUILDING RESILIENCE IN KENYA’S NORTHERN ARID LANDS

Although some areas in Kenya generate surplus food, up to 1 to 2 million Kenyans may require food aid each year due to droughts or floods. The majority of these people are located in Kenya’s northern arid lands. Recognizing that they will continue to face environmental shocks, USAID has committed KSh 6.8 billion ($80 million) to increasing the resilience of families living in the arid lands, to reduce their risk of suffering from famine.

The Resilience and Economic Growth in the Arid Lands-Accelerated Growth activity improves resilience by helping pastoralists earn more money from their herds so that they can afford food even in times of scarcity and high prices. The Accelerated Growth activity works along the livestock value chain in Marsabit and Isiolo, from pastoralists to veterinarians to markets to processors, to promote a more competitive and inclusive livestock sector. The Resilience and Economic Growth in the Arid Lands-Improving Resiliency activity works with communities to build social, economic, and environmental resilience in Garissa, Marsabit, Wajir, Isiolo, and Turkana.

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The Kenya Arid Lands Disaster Risk Reduction Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene activity invests in water and sanitation infrastructure in Garissa, Marsabit, Wajir, Isiolo, and Turkana to reduce diarrheal diseases and improve health. Diarrheal disease makes people more susceptible to malnutrition when food is scarce. The resilience activities build on the proven methods used by the Kenya Drylands Livestock Development Program and the Northern Rangelands Trust. The livestock program has worked with pastoralists in Garissa, Wajir, Mandera, and Tana River Counties since June 2010. The Northern Rangelands Trust has assisted more than 400,000 pastoralists to use rangelands management techniques that ensure increased fodder in areas prone to drought and floods.

“At a time when droughts are becoming longer and more severe, we need to help communities withstand disasters, not just provide relief after they strike.”

– USAID Administrator Rajiv Shah, 2012
USAID Annual Letter

51,000
people benefited from livestock sales and tourism in the Northern Rangelands Trust
Omar Godana, chairman of the Nasuulu Community Conservancy in Isiolo County, explains how USAID’s Northern Rangelands Trust activity has helped bring four tribes to work peacefully together in a community conservancy. The 6,000 members of the Nasuulu Community Conservancy, drawn from Turkana, Somali, Borana, and Samburu tribes, are standing strong together to block a route previously used by cattle rustlers and poachers.

12% of Kenya’s GDP
derived from tourism, thanks to Kenya’s rich biodiversity

60% of Kenya’s wildlife
living outside protected national parks and reserves
Kenya hosts 35,000 species of animals, marine life, and birds. This rich biodiversity attracts hundreds of thousands of tourists each year. Tourism is the second-highest revenue earner, accounting for 12 percent of GDP. Conservation and sustainable management of this natural capital is an important strategy for Kenya’s economic growth. Sixty percent of wildlife is found outside protected parks and reserves. Rapid population growth, shifting land use patterns, and the high demand for economic development space have exerted tremendous pressure for the extraction of environmental goods and threaten Kenya’s celebrated biodiversity.

Two innovative activities, the Northern Rangelands Trust and Laikipia Biodiversity Conservation, are addressing this complex set of challenges by engaging communities outside the national parks and reserves to participate in the sustainable conservation of invaluable biodiversity. Through the implementation of biodiversity management plans, initiation of mechanisms for securing land tenure rights for communities, private-sector investment, collaborative natural resource management and wildlife monitoring, more than 2.5 million hectares of biologically significant land were put under improved management. More than 19,000 individuals – 40 percent of them women – received training in biodiversity conservation management.

At the same time, 65,000 men and women participating in biodiversity programs earned up to KSh 224.4 million ($2.54 million) in income from a variety of conservation enterprises – ecotourism, women’s butterfly farming and crafts exports, sale of seedlings and honey, livestock business, and payment for environmental services.

Wildlife poaching continues to be a growing issue in Kenya. Recently, insecurity spilling over from regional conflicts and a growing global black market for wildlife trophies has borne a great cost to some of the high-value species, such as rhino and elephant. In 2013, rhino killings even occurred in protected parks (Nairobi, Nakuru, and Tsavo). The community conservation model has proven an effective way to encourage wildlife conservation, reduce poaching, and improve the livelihoods of the participating communities. Nineteen community conservancies are members of the USAID-supported Northern Rangelands Trust. The community conservancies are improving the lives and livelihoods of more than 200,000 people while also securing peace and conserving natural resources across the rangelands in seven counties. By ensuring a safe environment that is hospitable to wildlife, the conservancy approach has attracted millions of dollars of private sector ecotourism investments that directly benefit these communities.

USAID has supported the Northern Rangelands Trust since 2004, investing more than KSh 425 million ($5 million) in its work to improve livestock and water management, facilitate private investment and ecotourism, improve lives and livelihoods for pastoralist communities through income diversification and conflict resolution between groups, and reduce human/wildlife conflict. The Northern Rangelands Trust conservancies earn more than KSh 85 million ($1 million) annually from wildlife tourism, livestock investments, and women-owned bead craft enterprises.

The intelligence work of more than 400 trained community rangers linked to the Kenya Wildlife Service and the Kenya Police Service have significantly contributed to reduced banditry, poaching, cattle rustling, and human/wildlife conflict in conservancy areas.
35,000 species of animals, marine life, and birds in Kenya
GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate change in Kenya is making unpredictable, extreme, and harsh weather the norm rather than the exception. These fluctuating patterns of rainfall and temperature have had adverse impacts on Kenya’s economy. Availability of water is a major concern and conflict has erupted among communities as well as between people and wildlife over access to resources. USAID’s adaptation interventions through biodiversity conservation and helping communities build resilience proactively address the issues of conflict. For example, in Laikipia, USAID is working across 23 rivers to ensure that communities maintain equal access to water, regardless of whether they are upstream or downstream.

As part of the U.S. Global Climate Change Initiative, the U.S. Government is partnering with the Government of Kenya to meet their international commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. USAID invests strategically in Kenya to help build lasting resilience to unavoidable climate impacts; reduce emissions from deforestation and land degradation; and support low-carbon development strategies.

According to a 2011 U.S. Government report, deforestation is responsible for more greenhouse gas emissions than all global transportation combined. The internationally recommended standard for forest cover is 10 percent of a country’s landmass. Kenya today has less than 2 percent. The drought in the Horn of Africa that ended in 2009 cost many lives and destroyed livelihoods. It also amplified Kenya’s underlying challenges, including the continued breakdown of traditional pastoral grazing systems; conflicts over insecure property rights; ineffective forest management; and historic animosity between ethnic groups.

In 2013, USAID, in collaboration with a range of public and civil society organizations, supported the implementation of projects that resulted in 306,806 metric tons of greenhouse gas reduced or avoided through USAID assistance.
of policy actions aimed at restoring Kenya’s tropical forests resources. USAID’s SECURE activity provided technical support to the Ministry of Lands and Urban Housing to prepare initial drafts of the land use policy, community land bill, and settlement and evictions bills. The policy and the three bills are expected to provide a legal basis for the protection of dry land forests and community conservancies that are mainly on community land.

USAID worked with approximately 1,000 community-based organizations to diversify sources of income at the household level by supporting the development of nature-based enterprises, including: the packaging, branding, certification, and marketing of nettles; the establishment of tree nurseries; cook stoves; apiculture; and training youth in tour and bird-watching guiding.

USAID promotes the use of improved cook stoves by strengthening demand through community trainings on the stoves’ advantages. USAID supported 54,000 people to use more fuel-efficient stoves. There are now several local companies manufacturing stoves with a fuel-efficient design. Improved cook stoves better the lives of women in rural areas by reducing time spent on collecting wood for fuel and by reducing indoor air pollution. The use of improved cook stoves increases climate resilience by lowering demand for wood, which reduces deforestation. Kenya is a member of the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves, an initiative launched by former U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

USAID and the Kenya Wildlife Service launched the Kibodo-Boni-Lungi and Lower Imenti forests’ natural resources management plans respectively. Each plan includes aspects of building carbon stocks for marketing that was not included in earlier management plans. The plans document key strategies to conserve endangered fauna and flora. In 2013, USAID supported the development and signing of more than 400 new forest carbon agreements with farmers.

2,556,025 hectares of biologically significant land under improved management as a result of U.S. assistance.
**BUDGET ALLOCATION**

**USAID/Kenya Foreign Assistance, Fiscal Years 2008-2013**

**FY2013 USAID/Kenya Budget, by Objective (in $Millions)**

- **Health**: 64%
- **Economic Growth**: 18%
- **Education**: 8%
- **Environment**: 3%
- **Democracy and Governance**: 5%
- **Counter-terrorism**: 2%
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