
2015 EAST AFRICA REPORT



“New thinking. Unleashing growth that creates opportunity. Promoting development that lifts all people out of poverty. Supporting democracy that gives citizens their say. Advancing the security and justice that delivers peace. Respecting the human rights of all people. These are the keys to progress—not just in Africa, but around the world. And this is the work that we can do together.”

*— President Barack Obama,
African Union Headquarters,
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2015*



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MESSAGE FROM THE USAID
MISSION DIRECTOR

AN INTEGRATED, PROSPEROUS AND RESILIENT EAST AFRICA



Karen L. Freeman

I am proud to introduce our first regional annual report which comes at a pivotal time for the region, and for us, as we finalize a five-year strategy that reinforces our focus on achieving an integrated, prosperous and resilient East Africa.

USAID supports regional institutions including the East African Community, the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, and their vision for a new Africa. Through integration, the commitment of governments and private partners, and several U.S. Presidential Initiatives, USAID and other U.S. Government agencies have contributed tremendously to progress in the region.

- In 2015, **Trade Africa** facilitated \$81 million in exports from East Africa to the United States under the U.S. African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), and the U.S. Government extended the trade preference for another 10 years. These efforts are creating jobs, especially for women and youth, and are boosting the competitiveness of the region.
- Through the **Young African Leaders Initiative**, we are preparing young people to step boldly into leadership roles in their own countries.
- Through **Feed the Future**, East African scientists are advancing research to mitigate the harmful effects of crop diseases that are ravaging the health and incomes of smallholder farmers.
- East Africans are better positioned to respond to devastating disease outbreaks with expertise and resources leveraged through the **Global Health Security Agenda**.
- With **Global Climate Change** support, East African scientists have developed innovative tools that are preparing the region to respond to a changing climate.
- We are addressing President Obama's strategy to **combat wildlife trafficking** and raise awareness on the urgency of wildlife conservation.
- **Power Africa** is bringing experts together to consider the most efficient ways to harness the region's vast natural resources for clean energy to affordably power more homes and businesses.

Our accomplishments illustrate the enduring partnerships we have built with individuals, organizations and institutions — lighting the way to progress for this vibrant region.

My optimism is best reflected in the words of an alumna of the Young African Leaders Initiative, whose comment was simply, "I hope that I will be the change." Our investments are built on the belief that East Africans are the architects of the Africa they believe in — and we are honored to support this vision.

*A vendor sells fruit by the road in
Kayanza Province, Burundi.*



A customer pays for bananas at Kawonza Market in Eastern Province, Rwanda.

REGIONAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION PARTNERS

USAID collaborates with regional intergovernmental organizations to promote integration and growth and to guide and coordinate development efforts. These partnerships complement work carried out through multilateral, national, local and private-sector partners, and contribute to results achieved by in-country USAID missions.



The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA): USAID has maintained a strong partnership with COMESA since 1998. COMESA is based in Zambia and comprises 19 African member states. USAID has contributed \$111 million to help COMESA advance the common market, focusing on harmonizing policies and standards. Intraregional trade within the COMESA region has grown by 40 percent, and the cost of doing business has decreased. USAID works with two COMESA agencies: with the Alliance for Commodity Trade in Eastern and Southern Africa (ACTESA) to improve regional integration, harmonize policies and increase competitiveness for staple foods and markets, and with the Eastern Africa Power Pool (EAPP) to increase access to electricity for all East Africans in the region.



East African Community (EAC): The EAC, a common market, was formed in 1999 and consists of Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and most recently South Sudan. It is based in Tanzania and enacted the EAC Single Customs Territory (SCT) in 2014. The SCT, which requires goods to clear customs only once upon entering a country, is an important building block of regional integration and a key outcome of years of USAID partnership. To date, USAID has provided nearly \$19 million in assistance to the EAC to support its efforts in trade, environment, and harmonizing health and agriculture policies and standards. The Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC) was established by the EAC to coordinate activities for economic growth and conservation on the lake and throughout the basin. USAID supports the LVBC to improve access to health services while empowering communities to manage their natural resources. USAID is also strengthening the EAC Climate Change Coordination Unit, established in 2015, to improve regional cooperation to address climate change issues.



Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD): USAID and IGAD have been partners since 2006. IGAD was created in 1996, is based in Djibouti and comprises eight African member states: Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda. The IGAD mission is to assist and complement member-state efforts to increase cooperation to (1) achieve food security and environmental protection; (2) promote and maintain peace and security; (3) manage humanitarian affairs; and (4) support economic cooperation and integration. USAID has provided \$23 million in assistance and supports three initiatives under IGAD: the IGAD Conflict Early Warning and Response Mechanism (CEWARN) helps to counter violent extremism and strengthen cross-border conflict management in the Horn of Africa; the IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI) works with member states to prepare for drought and other extreme weather events; and the IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Center (ICPAC) integrates climate science and research into the region's economic policies.



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CREATING
OPPORTUNITIES
FOR YOUNG
AFRICAN
LEADERS





PROMOTING REGIONAL INTEGRATION

\$81

MILLION IN NEW TRADE DEALS FACILITATED UNDER THE AFRICAN GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY ACT

29,000

FULL-TIME JOBS CREATED FOR EAST AFRICANS

5,395

EAST AFRICANS RECEIVED AGRICULTURE OR FOOD-SECURITY TRAINING

Traffic passes through the Malaba Border between Kenya and Uganda.

INCREASING TRADE

East African governments committed to regional economic integration to create larger, globally competitive markets and spur more equitable and sustainable growth. Trade Africa is the U.S. Government's contribution to the African regional integration agenda. Launched in 2013, Trade Africa is increasing investment and boosting trade with and within East Africa, while reducing the time and cost to transport goods throughout the region.

USAID has partnered with regional institutions, including EAC, COMESA and IGAD, for many years in their efforts to bring member states' resources together to address shared development issues.

As integration advances, the volume and variety of goods moving throughout the region is growing, transportation costs are falling and policies are being developed to encourage trade, investment and infrastructure to enhance regional competitiveness.

Under the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), adopted in 2000, the U.S. eliminated import levies on more than 7,000 products from Africa, ranging from textiles to manufactured items. Over the last seven years, the act has increased non-oil imports, mostly apparel, from Africa to the United States by 46 percent, and U.S. goods exported to Africa by 59 percent. In 2015 AGOA was extended for 10 years.



STRONGER U.S.-AFRICA TRADE: USAID, through President Obama's Trade Africa initiative, provides assistance to African firms to increase exports through AGOA. In 2015, more than 3,000 domestic and international visitors representing 26 countries attended the Origin Africa trade expo in Addis Ababa, a USAID-supported event to raise awareness of Africa as a place to do business and as a sourcing destination for the cotton, textile and clothing industries.

With this exposure, the world's three largest apparel manufacturers established a sourcing hub in East Africa in 2015 and committed to doubling sourcing from the region annually for the next three years. If the hub is successful, about 250,000 jobs will be created in the apparel industry alone.

Photo above: A designer and model walk the catwalk at the USAID Origin Africa Presents: Africa Sourcing and Fashion Week in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.



INCREASING EMPLOYMENT: Apparel and textile manufacturing can drive urban employment, providing critical livelihoods to women and young people.

United Aryan Limited (UAL) is a leading Kenyan exporter of apparel to the United States and exports virtually 100 percent of its products under AGOA. In 2015, the company opened the first new textile factory in Kenya in decades.

Photo left: A worker checks specifications on apparel at the UAL factory in Nairobi.

“Africa’s progress will depend on unleashing economic growth — not just for the few at the top, but for the many, because an essential element of dignity is being able to live a decent life. That begins with a job. And that requires trade and investment.”

— President Barack Obama
African Union Headquarters, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2015

FACILITATING PRIVATE INVESTMENT: USAID helps investors and entrepreneurs close mutually beneficial deals, increasing private investment in the region. These efforts help companies take advantage of opportunities provided by common markets and pursue cross-border trade and growth.

Photo right: In Ethiopia, a transaction was facilitated between U.S.-owned Schulze Global International and Ethiopian dairy firm MB Private Limited Company, known as Family Milk. The investment will allow Family Milk to expand capacity from 20,000 liters of milk per day to more than 60,000 liters through the purchase of a more efficient processing machine.



REDUCING TRADE BARRIERS



TRADEMARK EAST AFRICA | USAID

Photo above: An aerial view of the Gatuna border crossing between Uganda and Rwanda.

The Northern Corridor links landlocked countries — Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi — with the Kenyan seaport of Mombasa. The corridor also serves parts of the Democratic Republic of Congo, South Sudan and Tanzania.

A customs union would enable East African businesses to move goods regionally with fewer delays and less expense. Building on years of support from USAID and other development partners, the EAC launched the Single Customs Territory (SCT) in June 2014. The SCT is one step closer to full attainment of a customs union. When fully operational, the union will merge multiple customs territories into one, allowing goods to move more freely throughout the region with the goal of increasing trade and investment.

In 2015, implementation of the SCT resulted in duties being paid at the port of entry, as compared to being paid in the receiving country. This applies to 90 percent of all goods entering the EAC.

The SCT also reduced the amount of fees and clearances paid for the transit of goods from country to country — decreasing traffic congestion at borders, shortening transit time and reducing shipment costs. For example, five years ago, cargo arriving in Mombasa and transiting to Kigali, Rwanda, took 21 days and cleared customs five times: at entry and exit points in Kenya and Uganda and upon arrival in Rwanda. Today, that same container, after paying duties at the Port of Mombasa, clears customs only once upon arrival in Kigali and the trip takes just six days.

To complement the EAC in its efforts to remove hurdles to trade along the Northern Corridor, USAID, other donors and TradeMark East Africa (an East African not-for-profit business) are improving infrastructure, such as ports, roads and one-stop border posts, as well as streamlining systems, processes and standards.



IMPROVING TRADE INFRASTRUCTURE: To address port infrastructure issues at the key ports of Mombasa, Kenya, and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, USAID supported both port authorities to implement a series of reforms to improve performance and reduce the time and cost of transit, including improving port management and operations, replacing old infrastructure and streamlining yard management.

Photo above: The container yard at the Port of Mombasa



TRADEMARK EAST AFRICA

ENHANCING THE EFFICIENCY OF ONE STOP BORDER POSTS: With the introduction of the East African Community One Stop Border Post, motor vehicles and pedestrians stop for customs formalities at only the receiving country. This procedure expedites commercial traffic and reduces the cost of doing business.

Photo above: USAID and other donors support clearance operations and systems within this Holili, Tanzania border post and at other border posts between Uganda and Rwanda, and between Kenya and Uganda.

GROWING AND MARKETING STAPLE FOODS



“Reaffirming our resolve...through deliberate and targeted support, that all segments of our populations, particularly women, the youth and other disadvantaged sectors...must participate and directly benefit from growth and transformation opportunities to improve their lives and livelihoods.”

— African Union Malabo Declaration 2014

The World Bank estimates East Africa grows enough food to feed itself. Yet, poorly performing markets and barriers to trade within the region leave many without reliable access to affordable, nutritious food. This chronic food insecurity damages communities' ability to recover from shocks such as floods and droughts.

Feed the Future is the U.S. Government global hunger and food security initiative. In East Africa, the initiative is improving access, availability and movement of regionally grown staple foods. It is also increasing private-sector investment and helping EAC leadership integrate markets and address food quality and safety issues.

By giving African organizations knowledge and skills to drive agricultural-led economic growth, Feed the Future is helping them fulfill commitments made under the African Union Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP). CAADP is a commitment by African countries to boost economic growth through increased investment and intra-African trade in agricultural commodities and services. The program also equips food producers with the necessary knowledge, skills and opportunities to increase their incomes, even amidst challenges posed by climate change.



Photo above: A woman measures grain at Mwanza town market, Tanzania.

The majority of East Africans living in rural areas earn all or some of their income through agriculture. Studies show that women provide 70 percent of agricultural labor; yet have little control over farm decision-making and income and lack access to new technologies and credit. Evidence demonstrates that when the status of women is advanced, agricultural productivity increases, poverty is reduced and nutrition improves.

By tracking agricultural data by gender, governments and development partners can gain a deeper understanding of how women contribute to and are impacted by agricultural investments.

In 2015, USAID trained national government officials in the disaggregation of agriculture data by gender and conducted an online survey with responses from 11 countries that identified the

challenges and opportunities inherent in collecting gender-sensitive data. The AgInvestAfrica database, which tracks regional investments in agriculture, is also being updated to provide more specific information to determine whether agriculture and food security programs are inclusive and responsive to the unique needs of both men and women.

The Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (ReSAKSS) monitors and analyzes food security and nutrition data to promote smart policies in support of the CAADP agenda. In 2015, USAID helped ReSAKSS organize meetings with national ministers from Burundi, Rwanda and Uganda to discuss the participation of men and women in agricultural cross-border trade. As a result, Burundi's Minister of Agriculture requested assistance in reviewing the country's gender policy in agriculture.

STRENGTHENING AFRICAN ORGANIZATIONS

Sometimes a little boost goes a long way.

“We have now leaped,” said Agricultural Market Development Trust (AGMARK) Managing Director James Mutonyi. “The procedures we had in the organization were there by chance; they were not formal procedures.”

AGMARK, a regional non-profit development organization, helps smallholder farmers and pastoralists access supplies and technologies that increase productivity and connect to markets. In 2015, Feed the Future helped the organization improve governance, finance, procurement and operational systems and procedures.

With this support, AGMARK was able to increase its funding almost immediately.

“The Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa has now requested us to do a program in Congo. Do you know why? Because when they came and assessed the organization, all we needed to do was show them our systems and they were satisfied with it,” James explained. “We have also now been able to talk with a fertilizer company based in Morocco about a huge program for West Africa.”



FARMERS ACROSS BORDERS: In 2015, AGMARK trained 109 agro-dealers and 198 women — from eight cross-border women’s trader associations — on business management skills and how to access agricultural inputs that increase productivity and enhance the cultivation of export-quality crops.

Photo above: Women sort seeds at the Agricultural Seed Agency in Arusha, Tanzania.

EXPANDING REGIONAL HARMONIZATION

The ability to comply with product standards is an important factor in accessing markets, both for countries and for individual farmers seeking to expand. Universal standards facilitate trade, making it easier for goods to cross borders with the assurance that they are of acceptable quality and safety. Standards can also help to reduce the cost and time of doing business.

USAID supports EAC and COMESA efforts to ensure conformity of products traded within the

region, which includes preparation, approval and adoption of standards.

In 2015, standards for 22 staple foods and 147 other heavily traded goods within the region were harmonized, paving the way for more seamless trade across borders. COMESA published a Seed Harmonization Policy to assist in the smooth flow of seed between countries and a policy to guide member states in the use of biotechnology in agriculture.



ADVANCING BEST PRACTICES: Feed the Future partnered with the East African Grain Council, the leading regional trade association for staple foods, to hold an African Grain Trade Summit in Rwanda. Trade commitments for 30,000 metric tons of staple foods and 47,000 advanced technology ‘zero fly’ bags were signed. These efforts will help prevent pest infestations and engage the private sector in a thriving grain trade.

Photo above: These maize cobs were not dried properly on a ground cloth, which reduces their quality and value, and makes them more susceptible to high levels of aflatoxins. Consumption of these toxins can be harmful to humans and animals. USAID works with regional organizations to train farmers on how to dry and store maize to reduce postharvest loss.

INCREASING FOOD STANDARDS, QUALITY AND SAFETY

A significant portion of agricultural trade occurs informally across borders and many crops are not held to quality or health standards. As a result, plant diseases and pests can spread rapidly throughout the region. Addressing this challenge involves standardization and effective implementation of policies between neighboring countries.

By engaging the ingenuity of the scientific community, particularly wheat and maize experts,

Feed the Future supports the development of smart policies to increase agricultural productivity and farmer incomes, while boosting regional trade. Such policies promote freer movement of safer staple foods across the region and, if implemented, can expand opportunities for global export that contribute to the economic growth of national economies and trade blocs within East Africa.



EXPERT LEADERSHIP ON REGIONAL ISSUES: As members of the World Trade Organization, EAC member states must meet sanitary and phytosanitary measures (SPS) on certain products. Feed the Future deployed an SPS expert to work with the EAC Secretariat to accelerate implementation of EAC's protocol on SPS measures, which guide production, processing and handling for plant, animal and food products traded across borders.

Photo above: A plant inspector checks for pests on snow peas at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport.

PLANT DISEASES AND PESTS



Photo above: Charity Mutegiati, left, Kenyan aflatoxin expert, works with two farmers.

USAID works with international research organizations, including the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) and the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT), to reduce the spread of plant pests and diseases that damage crops and threaten food security.

Aflatoxins are poisonous and cancer-causing fungal compounds found in peanuts, maize, milk and other foods. If contaminated, these foods can cause illnesses such as cancer and even death in humans and domestic animals. To combat the toxin, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) developed aflasafe™ for the U.S. market. This biocontrol product reduces aflatoxin in crops by up to 99

percent. IITA, USDA and USAID have successfully adapted the product for use in several African countries, including Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal and Tanzania.

Maize Lethal Necrosis (MLN) is a major threat to the production of maize, one of the most important cereals in East and Central Africa. In 2011, the disease wiped out entire maize harvests of many smallholder farmers. USAID is improving the quality and quantity of scientific research to provide agricultural solutions for farmers. With CIMMYT support, national research institutions, regulatory agencies and businesses in East Africa are making progress in identifying maize varieties that could combat MLN.



Photos above: Ears of (a) an MLN-resistant pre-commercial hybrid; (b) an MLN-susceptible commercial hybrid.

In the arid and semi-arid Horn of Africa, many Africans rely on livestock for their livelihoods.



BUILDING RESILIENCE IN THE ARID AND SEMI-ARID LANDS

Drylands in the Horn of Africa are vibrant centers of livestock trade. Pastoralists in these areas are renowned for their ability to adapt to remote, changing conditions and have migrated across national borders for centuries. However, more frequent and severe droughts brought on by climate change are threatening their environment and ability to survive. With the population expected to increase substantially by 2030, these communities urgently need knowledge and skills to prepare for and adapt to changing weather patterns.

In 2011, in the aftermath of a severe drought, IGAD and heads of state from the region called for increased long-term development to complement emergency assistance. This approach, they said, will help governments mitigate the effects of recurring droughts on vulnerable communities. Soon thereafter, IGAD developed the Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI), a regional response to end drought-related emergencies, build the collective resilience of communities and governments and speed up economic growth and sustainable

development in drought-prone areas.

In line with this strategy, USAID and other development partners supported the development of regional and country resilience plans. Informed by local priorities, these plans strengthen the community's role in identifying and managing programs in their areas.

Through direct USAID support, the IGAD Secretariat is better positioned to lead and coordinate resilience activities. Improvements in communication, finance, procurement, human resources and program management have improved organizational effectiveness. In 2015, IGAD developed a five-year operational plan and set up a specialized unit to guide, monitor and coordinate programming and resources to support the IDDRSI strategy. The unit introduced new knowledge management tools and systems for monitoring and evaluating programs and capturing and storing knowledge. These efforts facilitate the sharing of information and approaches necessary to build stronger, more resilient communities.

“Water that has been begged for does not quench the thirst.”

– Proverb from the Soga people living near Lake Victoria, Uganda

IMPROVING LIVESTOCK HEALTH AND TRADE

In the arid and semi-arid areas of the Horn of Africa, most pastoralists rely on livestock for their livelihood. The trade in live animals and livestock products is one of the largest in the world and contributes between 10 and 20 percent of the gross domestic product (GDP) of IGAD member states' national economies. Yet, sporadic disease outbreaks have prompted trade bans in the past, constraining exports within the region and to the Middle East. These restrictions reduce government revenue and income for pastoralists, with rippling effects that push pastoralist communities deeper into poverty.

Controlling transboundary diseases is essential for a thriving livestock industry. USAID, the African Union InterAfrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) and the IGAD Center for Pastoral Areas and Livestock Development (ICPALD) are harmonizing animal health approaches to address outbreak of livestock diseases in the Horn of Africa. By preventing outbreaks that could lead to livestock bans, these efforts are contributing to the

trading of about eight million animals per year (a value of \$600 million) to Middle East and North African countries.

In 2015, seven countries (Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Uganda and Tanzania) approved Standardized Methods and Procedures (SMPs) to improve surveillance, epidemiology, laboratory diagnostics, disease control and information sharing between countries. Nine new SMPs will support community efforts to detect and report disease incidents and facilitate prompt and appropriate response through vaccination campaigns and other activities in cross-border areas.

Vaccination improves the health and appearance of livestock, which earns pastoralists more money. To support best practices in vaccination as outlined by the SMPs, USAID provided reagents and equipment to regional vaccine production laboratories in Ethiopia and Kenya, enabling them to produce more and higher quality vaccines.



Photo above: Pastoralists congregate at the Haro Bake livestock market in southern Ethiopia.

POWER AFRICA

“Access to electricity is fundamental to opportunity in this age. It’s the light that children study by; the energy that allows an idea to be transformed into a real business. It’s the lifeline for families to meet their most basic needs. And it’s the connection that’s needed to plug Africa into the grid of the global economy. You’ve got to have power.”

— President Barack Obama



Electra Therm Vice President of Sales Robert Emrich gives delegates a walk-through of the company’s modular generator units. ElectraTherm is interested in partnering with Djibouti and other East African countries in steam development.

BRINGING POWER TO EAST AFRICA

East African countries have substantial regional solar, wind, biomass and geothermal renewable energy. Harnessing these technologies can generate a greener (lower-carbon) form of power that provides more people with access to electricity.

In June 2013, U.S. President Barack Obama launched Power Africa, a partnership among the U.S. Government, African governments, bilateral and multilateral development partners and the private sector to double access to electricity in sub-Saharan Africa. This access is essential to reduce poverty and boost economic growth.

To achieve this goal at the regional level, USAID works with national governments in East Africa and regional organizations such as the East African Power Pool (EAPP), East African Community (EAC) and Nile Equatorial Lakes Action Program (NELSAP) to advance regional power trade. Support for the regional organizations includes both 'hard' power infrastructure development, such as power plants and grids, and 'soft' infrastructure, such as institutional capacity, policies and regulatory frameworks necessary for long-term power-sector growth.



Photo above: East African delegates toured the Ormat McGinnis Hills Geothermal Power Plant in Nevada. The plant harnesses resources similar to those along the East African Rift.

PROMOTING GEOTHERMAL ENERGY

Geothermal power is found deep within the Earth's core. To learn more about this form of energy, senior officials from Djibouti, Ethiopia and Kenya attended the largest geothermal conference in North America in 2015.

The East Africa Geothermal Partnership (EAGP), a USAID initiative established to promote the development of geothermal resources in the region, brought legal experts to Ethiopia in order

to help increase production. This effort resulted in development of a geothermal proclamation expected to move to the Ethiopian Parliament for ratification. The EAGP and the United Nations Environment Program also organized the fifth African Rift Geothermal Conference with more than 100 participants from 13 East African countries, Australia, Iceland, New Zealand and the United States.

ENHANCING POWER DELIVERY

USAID is helping energy experts in East Africa gain the skills to plan for national power needs and develop models that accurately predict usage. Working with the U.S. Energy Association, the EAPP updated its regional power capacity planning model, incorporating new information received from energy utilities in Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda. The information provided is the most accurate available in East Africa, and includes an analysis of the flow of electric power in the grid that delivers electricity from suppliers to consumers. After receiving extensive training, engineers from these countries developed initial calculations for the capacity of transmission stations to deliver electricity along national borders. The improved data will be used by power experts to plan more comprehensively for national and regional energy needs.

HARMONIZING POWER REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS

Understanding the costs associated with the sale of electricity is essential to expanding access to power. In 2015, national and independent utility regulators from Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda established the cost of delivering power to customers and standardized national utility accounting practices. This will promote greater transparency in energy costs and encourage cross-border trade.

Increasing power generation depends on closing energy deals with private businesses to advance a country's national power strategy. The EAPP Independent Regulatory Board approved a power wheeling tariff framework for the region. "Wheeling" allows power to be moved between non-contiguous countries via a third, intermediary country. For example, Ethiopia will sell power to Tanzania by wheeling it through Kenya, and Kenya will sell power to Rwanda through Uganda. This framework is a crucial step in power trade, allowing a country with excess capacity to supply a country with a deficit, thus laying the groundwork for strong and interlinked regional power trade.



Photo above: East Africa Regional Transmission Planning Partnership (EATP) conducts a training in Kigali, Rwanda. EATP is training transmission planners throughout the region to develop the energy infrastructure as a means to encourage trade and electricity exchange, increase private energy investment and support clean energy resources.



IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF EAST AFRICANS

24,566

HEALTH COUNSELING VISITS
PROVIDED BY COMMUNITY
CONSERVATION AND
HEALTH WORKERS

12,090

CHILDREN VACCINATED
AGAINST POLIO ALONG
CROSS-BORDER POINTS
BETWEEN ETHIOPIA AND
KENYA

2,665

EAST AFRICANS RECEIVED
HIV TESTING AND
COUNSELING SERVICES

Alice Njoki provides HIV testing and counseling to a client in Malaba, Kenya, on Kenya's western border with Uganda.

BRINGING HEALTH CARE TO TRANSPORT CORRIDORS

As barriers to trade and commerce are removed and East African countries become integrated, more people are moving throughout the region. This presents unique health challenges considering most mobile and vulnerable communities have traditionally not had consistent access to quality health care.

Effective solutions must be national, regional and global. EAC member states, working with USAID through the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, are bringing integrated, quality health services to marginalized and mobile communities. In 2015, USAID developed a package of services to standardize prevention, treatment and care provided along East African land transport

corridors and wet border areas. The package follows EAC guidelines and outlines approaches to improve the quality and reach of HIV services to meet the needs of vulnerable and mobile populations, with a focus on HIV patients and their sexual partners. This package will be tested in 10 cross-border sites in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda.

Accurate and up-to-date data on the cost of health services is essential to make the most of available funds and save as many lives as possible. In 2015, an assessment began that tracks inpatient and outpatient health care costs for HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis services at dispensaries, health centers and hospitals in Kenyan border areas.

MOBILE HEALTH: USAID supports the expansion of innovative mHealth (mobile health) solutions that will improve the quality of health services. In 2015, USAID held an 'mHealth' meeting in Malawi for government, private sector and civil society representatives to review progress on scaling up digital health technology and the expansion of public-private partnerships for health across Africa.

Photo right: FIO Corporation Vice President for Clinical Innovations Professor Stephen Kinoti demonstrates the use of the Deki Reader, a device developed by the Fio Corporation that performs rapid diagnostic tests for HIV, syphilis, TB and pregnancy, as well as data collection and analysis. The device is currently being tested for its suitability to collect real-time client data from the field, health facilities and cross-border service providers.



Photo below: EAC partner state representatives unveil several publications that provide new health data from along major transport corridors in East Africa.



Photo above: Constance Were, right, a coordinator for AIDS and sexually transmitted infections, provides guidance to other counselors in Malaba, Kenya. USAID supports the training and mentorship of health care providers to offer integrated services to mobile and resident communities in cross-border areas.

JOINING FORCES TO ERADICATE TUBERCULOSIS



Photo above: Rubber boots and flashlights helped outreach workers reach difficult areas for vaccination and other essential health services.

Treatment for tuberculosis (TB), a disease which usually attacks the lungs and throat, can last between 6 and 20 months. The treatment should be given daily in the presence of a health worker for at least two months, according to global health recommendations. But, those infected first have to be identified to receive treatment. In northeast Kenya, only 25 percent of infected individuals are identified. The movement of these patients across borders makes it difficult for health workers to track treatment and manage drug stocks. This also results in a lack of comprehensive data that national and local health leaders need to adequately plan for and finance commodities.

Incidence rates for this highly infectious, airborne disease decline only through early diagnosis, a correct and full course of treatment and directly observing that patients take all their prescribed medicines. Therefore, timely communication about patients' health status within and across borders is essential. A referral tool was developed to assist national TB programs to track and deliver a full course of treatment. The tool is useful for sharing patient information with neighboring cross-border health facilities between Kenya, Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan and Uganda. USAID is supporting the East, Central and Southern Africa Health Community (ECSA-HC) to advocate for the World Health Organization (WHO) to identify the standard use of this referral tool as a best practice.

Multidrug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB) — or TB that is resistant to common drugs — is a significant health threat caused by inadequate or interrupted TB treatment. In East Africa, a large number of patients from Somalia with MDR-TB cross the border to Kenya seeking treatment or as refugees. While diagnostic capacity for MDR-TB exists in Somalia, there is little treatment capacity. More than 500,000 Somali children live beyond the reach of routine health services. New pediatric TB guidelines were developed in 2015 and were incorporated into the Somalia national health program to identify and control TB in children.

In 2010, the Regional Center of Excellence for East Africa on Programmatic Management of Drug Resistant Tuberculosis was established in Kigali,

Rwanda, with support from USAID to meet the high demand for education and training about MDR-TB in the region. Intended for use by East African countries, the center now provides training to individuals from across the continent, and added new courses in 2015 on laboratory strengthening, TB infection control and childhood TB.

Laboratory analysis is essential for diagnosing TB and monitoring treatment. Professional regional laboratories play a vital role in reducing the prevalence of TB in the region. As a result of technical assistance provided by USAID, ECSA-HC was awarded \$6.1 million by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria to build a regional network of national TB reference labs.



SERVING MOBILE POPULATIONS: Experts estimate as many as 6,000,000 pastoralists, 900,000 cross-border traders, 700,000 refugees and internally displaced persons, 57,000 truck drivers and 8,000 migrant/mobile sex workers in the region are on the move and in need of health services.

Photo above: A pastoralist family moving from Wajir, Kenya, to Ethiopia.

ERADICATING POLIO

In 2013, a polio outbreak in Somalia spread rapidly to Kenya and Ethiopia. USAID was at the forefront of the response and supported the establishment of the CORE Group Horn of Africa Polio Project, a team of on-the-ground polio experts from various development organizations who lend their expertise to national and local governments to eradicate polio. Working with WHO, national ministries of health, local health facilities and community health workers, CORE is now the leader in efforts to eradicate polio in mobile populations in the region. More people are accessing prevention and treatment services through stronger, more targeted polio vaccination campaigns, surveillance and detection, and monitoring and evaluation.

Micro-planning is the cornerstone of this success. Updated by CORE, the tool helps community health facilities track services provided; map communities, key landmarks and the movements of mobile populations; and alert health providers about infectious cases or those in need of immunization. This tool, one of the first and most successful efforts to map and track nomadic populations, was accepted for regional use by WHO and adopted by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) and the International Office of Migration (IOM) to help manage influxes of refugees. Four countries have adopted the tool and 361 health workers were trained in its use at border sites in Kenya and neighboring countries.



Photo above: A health worker vaccinates a child on the Kenya-Somali border.

IMPROVING HEALTH SECURITY

Just two years after the world's largest Ebola epidemic, the experience remains a sobering reminder of the magnitude of infectious disease. Human population growth, increased mixing of people, wildlife and livestock, and more frequent travel and trade between countries can increase the emergence and spread of disease. Roughly 75 percent of newly emerging human infectious diseases are caused by microbes that originate in animals. These include HIV and AIDS, influenza strains such as H5N1, Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and Ebola. Several of these diseases have caused global pandemics.

The Global Health Security Agenda, initiated by President Obama, is a network of nearly 50 countries that provide additional momentum and resources to help countries prevent, detect and respond to outbreaks before they become epidemics.

USAID is bringing together the public health, animal health, wildlife and environment sectors to prevent, detect and respond to infectious disease threats.

Known as the "One Health Approach," these efforts are helping countries better understand and respond to emerging infectious disease outbreaks. Using this approach in Asia, the Middle East and Africa — including the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda — USAID is helping government officials, parastatal organizations and universities learn how to detect and identify infectious diseases through wildlife and livestock sampling and laboratory testing.

USAID is also helping governments use the One Health approach to prepare for outbreaks and strengthen their response. Through an \$87 million grant to the U.N. Food and Agricultural Organization, USAID is strengthening government veterinary and laboratory services to control Ebola, Middle East Respiratory Syndrome and other emerging infectious diseases. Additionally, USAID supports a university network that is providing training on the One Health approach to university students who are studying public health, veterinary medicine, nursing and wildlife conservation.



Photo above: Field Veterinarian Dr. Oliver Nsengimana processes samples in the wildlife virology laboratory at the Rwanda Agriculture Board in Kigali.

PROTECTING ECOSYSTEMS AND IMPROVING HEALTH

Lake Victoria is Africa's largest lake by area and its basin supports more than 40 million people in Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda. East Africans depend on the environment for their well-being and development, but poverty and prolonged poor health can lead to destructive 'fast-cash' behavior, such as illegal logging for firewood, or to make space for farming or grazing, which damages the very environment that supports them.

The population, health and environment (PHE) approach brings conservation and health services to communities that live outside the reach of facilities and within endangered natural ecosystems. Data from an EAC Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC) study confirmed the dire need for health interventions in cross-border and marginalized areas of the basin. The study found low levels of contraceptive use and high

rates of home deliveries in the area. Excessive logging around Mt. Elgon and overfishing in Lake Victoria were also reported. A resolution to promote the PHE approach for sustainable development in East Africa emerged in 2015.

USAID supports community health workers who provide basic services to communities living within the Lake Victoria Basin. The workers are equipped with kits that contain essential medical commodities, including condoms, contraceptive pills and injectables and drugs, antiseptics and dressings to treat minor ailments in adults and children. In 2015, 256 additional community health workers were trained to provide family planning, maternal, newborn and child health services. These efforts reached more than 8,000 people living in Mt. Elgon, Kenya, and 6,400 people in Mt. Elgon, Uganda.



KRISTEN HENDERSON | PRB

Photo above: Young mothers from Bussi Island, Uganda, attend a regional population, health and environment conference in Kisumu, Kenya. In 2015, the Lake Victoria Basin Commission introduced the PHE approach to national environment programs in Burundi, Rwanda and Tanzania.

PIONEERING BEST PRACTICES AND INNOVATIONS



NORTH STAR ALLIANCE

Photo above: A laboratory technician works at a North Star Alliance Blue Box Laboratory and Wellness Centre in Kenya.

USAID invests in innovative global health solutions with the potential to expand access to health services in East Africa, especially for mobile transport workers and border communities. With the help of Duke University, innovators such as North Star Alliance, a regional social enterprise, have gained access to knowledge, networks and resources that help strengthen their businesses.

North Star Alliance and USAID extend health services to mobile workers, such as truck drivers and female sex workers, at busy transport corridors in Katuna and Malaba, Uganda through Blue Box Roadside Wellness Centers. These centers are shipping containers repurposed as mini-clinics and staffed with local health care and outreach workers.

Regional intergovernmental institutions recognize the need to adopt proven tools for learning, collaboration and skills development. USAID seconded knowledge management experts to work with the EAC to improve regional collaboration, sharing and learning; to scale up effective practices; and to reduce duplication of effort among member states.

Based on their support, the knowledge management specialists were nominated by the EAC to join an expert working group with representatives from each partner state. This group is currently building a knowledge management platform to facilitate the exchange of information among countries on good practices for HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted infections and TB programming.



Leaders and community members from the Karamoja, Turkana and West Pokot areas of Kenya and Uganda take part in a peace march in northeast Uganda near the border with Kenya.

REDUCING CONFLICT AND SUPPORTING PEACE

MORE THAN
6,000
EAST AFRICANS JOINED EFFORTS TO BUILD MASS SUPPORT FOR PEACE AND RECONCILIATION

38
NEW GROUPS OR INITIATIVES FORMED TO RESOLVE CONFLICT OR THE DRIVERS OF CONFLICT

21
NEW LOCAL PARTNERS SUPPORTED TO FACILITATE LOCAL PEACE-BUILDING

The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) is USAID's principal partner in countering violent extremism and mitigating conflict in the region. The organization plays a pivotal role in setting the African agenda and directing local, national and regional responses to conflict within and among its member states. By working primarily through the IGAD Conflict Early Warning and Response Mechanism (CEWARN), USAID is contributing to the development of effective policies and interventions that increase the security of vulnerable communities, especially those along conflict-prone border regions between Kenya/Somalia, Kenya/Ethiopia, Kenya/South Sudan and Kenya/Uganda.

With USAID support since 2002, CEWARN has increased its engagement with communities, governments and other partners to reduce conflict and has expanded its role in the region. Initially focusing on competition for natural resources,

CEWARN now responds to a wider range of conflicts, including those that arise from elections, land disputes and ethnicity. CEWARN has also developed a comprehensive system that receives and organizes information on conflicts throughout the region and provides timely analysis and reports through its secretariat.

Through local, national and regional networks, CEWARN has developed a model of rapid information sharing that helps to bridge the gap between early warning and early action. It includes seven national Conflict Early Warning and Response Units (CEWERUs), based in capital cities, which share information and coordinate conflict-mitigation activities with community-based civil society organizations and field monitors. CEWERUs also respond to potentially violent conflicts along regional borders and, where appropriate, elevate issues to national and regional officials with analysis and recommendations.



Photo above: CEWARN convened business leaders, political analysts and senior representatives of IGAD, EAC, COMESA and the African Union to examine links between peace, business and development. Participants emphasized the economic costs of the recent political crisis in Burundi and the threat terrorism has had on tourism in Kenya. Participants encouraged the private sector to invest in the region's large youth population as a way to avert violent conflicts.

REGIONAL AND COUNTRY-LEVEL PEACE GAINS

To address cross-border conflicts, USAID is increasing productive interaction between cross-border communities through "peace-dividend" activities. In 2015, two livestock markets — one in Sololo, Kenya and another across the border in Magado, Ethiopia — were constructed. The markets will be co-managed by communities from each side of the border. In addition to providing a way for communities to work together, these markets also provide an avenue for community members to earn income from livestock trade.

CEWERUs provide information to help national governments prepare for and respond to conflict

and violent extremism. The Somalia unit conducted a conflict analysis and gathered early-warning information in security-sensitive areas of the country that proved useful to the Somalia National Army and African Union Mission in Somalia. In Ethiopia, an assessment that analyzed the potential for election-related violence provided valuable insight for the Ethiopian government.

CEWERUs in Djibouti and Somalia received computers, printers and software to enhance their ability to rapidly collect, analyze and report conflict information in challenging environments.



PEACE JOURNALISTS: In support of the South Sudan peace and reconciliation process, USAID helped CEWARN conduct a mapping survey on media presence and trained South Sudanese journalists on conflict-sensitive reporting and peace messaging. "Historically, media has been perceived to play a very negative and aggravating role in crisis situations in many countries in Africa. For this reason, we recognize that media is an important partner that we cannot afford to neglect in promoting peace," said Director for CEWARN Richard Barno.

Photo above: Journalists hold certificates of completion from the training.

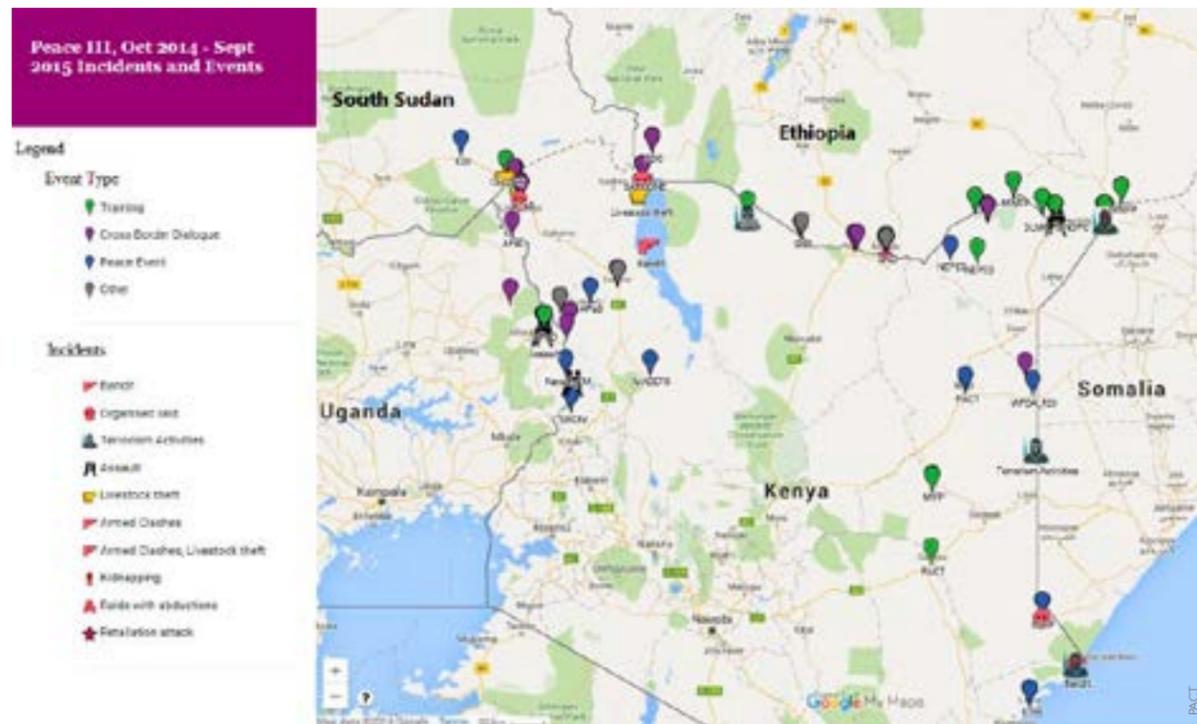
COMMUNITY-BASED PEACE GAINS

Through training and expert assistance, civil society organizations have become more active and capable in their advocacy and increased community participation. Working with USAID, civil society organizations have de-escalated violent conflicts along borders. This has elevated the role of local civil society organizations and their importance as partners alongside governments in reducing conflict.

All community members, regardless of gender, age, tribe or religious affiliation, can contribute to community peace efforts. Recently, extremist organizations infiltrating border communities have promoted violence as a way for youth to gain respect or earn money. To counter this negative trend, local organizations have encouraged both

at-risk youth and youth leaders to join peace marches, forums, radio shows and athletic events to promote an understanding of the value of peace and governance, as opposed to extremist narratives of revenge and violence.

Working with USAID, civil society organizations have de-escalated violent conflicts along borders.



Graphic above: A sample map demonstrates how geographic information system (GIS) technology is used to map conflict hotspots based on reported incidents in cross-border areas.

SUPPORTING WOMEN PEACEBUILDERS

In many conflict-prone areas, traditional, conservative ideas limit women's contributions to their communities. However, attitudes have begun to shift.

Women leaders and women's organizations and networks are powerful change agents in breaking cycles of violence. To leverage their unique perspectives and abilities, USAID provides opportunities for women and girls to participate fully in the peace-building process.

USAID and Eastern Mennonite University sponsored eight women with community peace building experience to attend a graduate-level women's peacebuilding leadership program. The

course covers a 19-month period, with time spent in both the United States and in the women's home countries. The women learn about conflict analysis, prevention and transformation by analyzing real examples from across the world and practicing solutions in their local communities. With new skills and knowledge, these women are finding innovative ways of mitigating conflict and are part of a growing regional network of women leaders who are equipped to respond rapidly and holistically.

One of the 2015 graduates of the program now plans to run for elected office in 2017, and another has advanced her work on integrating ex-offenders back into the community.



Photo above: Roselyn Onunga graduates from the Women's Peacebuilding Leadership Program and will join the growing ranks of East African female leaders trained to respond to conflict and promote peace.



CONSERVING THE ENVIRONMENT

77,000
hectares

OF LAND HAVE INCREASED
GRASS AND VEGETATION COVER

23

CLIMATE ADAPTATION
TOOLS, TECHNOLOGIES AND
METHODOLOGIES DEVELOPED,
TESTED OR ADOPTED

18

INSTITUTIONS HAVE IMPROVED
CAPACITY TO ADDRESS CLIMATE
CHANGE ADAPTATION ISSUES

Elephants in Samburu County, Kenya.

ADAPTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Experts predict that increasing temperatures and changes in the timing and amount of rainfall will intensify the occurrence of droughts and floods in East Africa. These conditions threaten economic stability, especially for those who depend on natural resources for their livelihoods.

The Mt. Elgon ecosystem is shared between Kenya and Uganda. It includes the seventh highest mountain in Africa and incorporates a watershed that nourishes many rivers. While this watershed helps sustain a large human and livestock population, climate-related changes in water levels have forced local communities to adapt.

USAID supported ministers from five EAC member states to develop and endorse policy recommendations that led to the designation of the Mt. Elgon ecosystem as a Man and the Biosphere Transboundary Reserve by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). In 2015, the Kenyan and Ugandan governments signed a memorandum of understanding agreeing to jointly manage this globally significant ecosystem. This agreement will promote greater use of science in developing policies that contribute to sustainable development, and protect communities, natural resources and diverse natural habitats for generations to come.



Photo above: Workers restore a river bank in the Manafwa Catchment of Mt. Elgon, Uganda.

CLIMATE INFORMATION FOR DECISION-MAKING

USAID is strengthening the ability of regional organizations, including the EAC Climate Change Coordination Unit (CCCU), the EAC Lake Victoria Basin Commission and the IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Centre (ICPAC), to identify, plan for and respond to current and future climate change impacts.

Historical and credible data is critical to understand climatic trends. By introducing user-friendly software, USAID, ICPAC and five meteorological agencies from EAC member states have rebuilt national and regional climate data sets spanning 30 years through 2013. Decision-making tools, such as GeoCLIM, coupled with best practices in data rescue, are improving climate analysis and predictions. ICPAC, the regional hub for the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), maintains and uses this data for regional and national forecasts that guide planning and decision-making.

“The development of the GeoCLIM tool will go a long way in providing climate information for various social economic sectors. I look forward to the use and application of the tool in the region,” said WMO Representative for Eastern and Southern Africa Dr. Elijah Mukhala.

With improved data, governments are developing climate-sensitive policies and programs. The information is also being used to identify climate hot spots, risks and hazards within the region, and has informed climate adaptation strategies by both the EAC Lake Victoria Basin Commission and IGAD. The Kenya Meteorological Department is using GeoCLIM to design a national crop insurance index that provides rainfall and temperature information to help insurance companies design products that protect farmers from weather-related risks.

The USAID Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWSNET) developed and tested tools to research the impact of climate change on the agriculture, water and health sectors. For example, the Geospatial Water Requirement Satisfaction Index tool uses climate data to identify areas of declining crop yields and viability of alternative crops. This helps smallholder farmers predict harvests and decide which seasonal crops are most likely to thrive in variable climates.



Photo above: Community members prepare their climate change adaptation action plan in a catchment area in Trans Nzoia County, Mt. Elgon, Kenya.

“The development of the GeoCLIM tool will go a long way in providing climate information for various social economic sectors. I look forward to the use and application of the tool in the region.”

– WMO Representative for Eastern and Southern Africa
Dr. Elijah Mukhala

COUNTERING WILDLIFE CRIME



SAVING WILDLIFE: East Africa is home to some of the most iconic landscapes, wildlife and plant species on the continent. Poaching threatens the survival of elephants and rhinos, as well as national security, the environment and economic development.

Photo above: Rhinoceros graze together in a Kenyan conservancy.



HUMAN-WILDLIFE CONFLICT: Human-wildlife conflict is a major threat to wildlife. As more humans encroach on protected areas, more elephants and lions loot farmers' crops or kill their livestock. Increased human-wildlife conflict can result in retaliation killings, which can reduce wildlife populations if not properly addressed and mitigated.

Photo above: Community members view livestock that was killed by a predator.

To reduce human-wildlife conflict in Kenya and Tanzania, USAID and four conservation organizations — Big Life Foundation, Escape Foundation, Tanzania People and Wildlife Fund and Honeyguide Foundation — piloted several interventions in the Amboseli, Masai Mara and West Kilimanjaro regions to identify the best approaches to reduce damage to crops and the killing of wildlife. These include building chili pepper fences to deter elephants, tracking collared elephants, creating living walls around livestock corrals and using high-intensity lights around fields at night. These pilots are showing impressive results. In Tanzania, efforts helped mitigate 970 cases of human-wildlife conflict in eight communities.



Photo above: In northern Tanzania, USAID supported the construction of 55 living walls that protect more than 12,000 head of livestock and improved livelihoods for 1,000 people. Living walls are unique, environmentally friendly corrals, constructed by attaching chain link fencing to living trees that serve as fence posts.

In addition, construction of 55 environmentally friendly and predator-proof fences around Masai traditional homes, or bomas, have dramatically reduced lion attacks on livestock.

USAID is improving monitoring and coordination of anti-poaching efforts through new tools and technologies. In 2015, the Wildlife Information and Landscape Data (WILD) mobile phone application was developed to help non-governmental organizations and community conservancies collect, analyze and share information on poaching and human wildlife conflict. The application is being piloted in five sites in Kenya and Tanzania, with efforts underway to expand its usage.

“The collaring will really help us in being able to understand the elephant population and its dynamics and help us work with communities in protecting elephants within the ecosystem.”

– Director of Mara North and Mara Triangle conservancies Brian Heath

COMBATting WILDLIFE TRAFFICKING

Wildlife crime threatens the security, economy and biodiversity of East Africa. International networks for the poaching, transit and sale of illegal wildlife products target wildlife populations across borders, creating a complex problem that requires regional coordination. In August 2015, USAID and the U.S. Department of Interior (DOI) International Technical Assistance Program signed an agreement — The Partnership to End Wildlife Trafficking in East Africa — that contributes DOI expertise to achieve shared priorities in wildlife trafficking, climate change adaptation and biodiversity conservation.

USAID and the U.S. National Academies of Science are supporting five new research programs to reduce wildlife poaching and trafficking. These efforts will build regional capacity on the use of DNA analysis for the enforcement and prosecution of wildlife crime.

IMPROVING TRANSBOUNDARY NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



The Mara River Basin is an important transboundary watershed of Lake Victoria shared between Kenya (65 percent) and Tanzania (35 percent). USAID supports conservation outreach efforts in the Mara wetlands, including the development of an integrated management plan for the landscape.

The Mara River originates from Kenya's highlands of Mau Forest and flows through the Masai Mara National Reserve in Kenya and the Serengeti National Park in Tanzania before draining into Lake Victoria. As it meanders through communities and landscapes, the 395-kilometer river provides water for irrigation and supplies water to households and businesses. During the dry season, the river is a life-saving resource for the habitat and wildlife of both national parks. In recent years, the basin has experienced rapid, unplanned growth and extreme competition for water along with dramatic fluctuation of rainfall due to climate change.

Renewable natural resources, such as productive landscapes and watersheds, provide livelihoods to millions of people and boost the tourism, agriculture and fishery sectors that are vital to economic growth and stability. USAID supports the

EAC Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC) to monitor, research and coordinate the equitable use of the basin's water resources for the benefit of humans and wildlife.

To increase regional cooperation, the LVBC brought together officials from Tanzania and Kenya to establish the Transboundary Mara River Basin Joint Steering Committee in 2015. The committee is comprised of senior technical staff from ministries responsible for water and environment in both countries. A memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the two governments was established for joint management of the Mara River Basin. This MOU demonstrates a rare commitment between two countries in East Africa to manage shared water resources and provides the framework for the first transboundary river basin organization in the region.

Photo right: The former Tanzania Permanent Secretary for Water and Irrigation Mr. Mbogo Futakamba (left), and Kenya's Cabinet Secretary for Water and Irrigation Hon. Eugene L. Wamalwa (center), sign a memorandum of understanding for joint water management of the transboundary Mara River basin. Witnessing the ceremony is Tanzania's former Vice President Dr. Mohamed Gharib Bilal.



Photo left: The handover of water meters to the Uganda National Water and Sewerage Corporation's General Manager for Jinja (right), to support the reduction of non-revenue water.

USAID supports the LVBC, national and local governments and utilities in their efforts to improve water supply and services. In 2015, the Uganda National Water and Sewerage Corporation rolled out a customer relationship management database for its office in Jinja. The database allows customers and employees to access information in real time related to their water and sanitation services, such as billing, complaints and notices. It also facilitates faster responses to customer

complaints such as pipe bursts and leakages. As a result of this new management tool, non-revenue water — water that is processed and supplied by a water utility provider, but is then lost due to leaks, theft or metering errors — has been reduced by 16 percent. USAID is also working with the LVBC to promote the database as a best practice among regional and national clients, water service providers, municipalities and commercial enterprises.



A woman walks home with her monthly rations in Bambasi Refugee Camp, Ethiopia.

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

OFFICE OF FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Through its East and Central Africa Office in Nairobi, the USAID Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) responds to humanitarian needs in countries across the region experiencing complex emergencies — characterized by widespread violence and internal displacement — and chronic or recurrent humanitarian challenges, including acute food insecurity, cyclical drought, floods and disease outbreaks.



Photo above: Child residents in an internally displaced persons camp in South Sudan make the best of tough conditions.

RESPONDING TO COMPLEX EMERGENCIES

To assist communities affected by conflict and disaster, OFDA supports the provision of relief supplies, basic services and housing, among other activities. After large-scale fighting erupted in South Sudan in late 2013, USAID set up emergency response teams in Juba, South Sudan, through which more than \$110 million in emergency assistance was provided in 2015.

Similarly, violence has resulted in increased humanitarian needs in South Sudan's northern neighbor — Sudan — in recent years. OFDA provided nearly \$57 million for health, nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) programs. OFDA also worked with partners to respond to conflict-related displacement and humanitarian needs in the Central African Republic and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

In Somalia, conflict, poor harvests and limited access to humanitarian assistance left more than 3.1 million in need of life-saving food assistance in 2015. This includes some 1.1 million internally displaced persons, who were forced to leave their homes in other areas of the country. OFDA responded with more than \$52 million to meet acute needs in health, nutrition, food and WASH, and helped those affected by conflict to start leading more self-sustaining lives.

OFDA also responds to emergency needs following below-average harvests, droughts and floods. In Kenya and Ethiopia, consecutive below-average seasonal rains in 2015 left many without sufficient food, sometimes resulting in malnutrition. In response, OFDA provided life-saving relief, including nutritious food, health and WASH services and helped communities engage in agriculture to meet longer-term needs.

FOOD FOR PEACE

More than 20 million people in East and Central Africa remain food insecure, due to frequent droughts, floods, political instability and conflict. In 2015, the USAID Food for Peace (FFP) Office provided \$1.2 billion in life-saving food assistance — in the form of food and nutrition commodities, as well as mobile money transfers and food vouchers — to support these populations.

In 2015, FFP provided more than \$200 million to help meet the needs of an increasing refugee population in the region. More than three million refugees, many of whom fled ongoing conflict in South Sudan and political instability in Burundi, received cash, food and nutrition commodities. Given the number of refugees and tightening humanitarian assistance resources, FFP supports innovations such as biometric identification, which uses physical characteristics, such as fingerprints, to deliver cost-effective and targeted assistance to the most vulnerable. Increasing the use of cash transfers and food vouchers in refugee camps has also allowed refugees to purchase food locally, giving them greater choice and flexibility to meet their household food needs.

The El Niño weather phenomenon caused the worst drought in over a decade in parts of Ethiopia and increased flooding in Burundi, Kenya and Somalia. In Somalia, FFP cash-for-work programs enabled communities to repair river banks ahead of the rains, which saved valuable agricultural land from floods. In Kenya and Somalia, prepositioned food commodities ensured food was available in remote areas if floods impeded road access. In Ethiopia, FFP helped stave off the worst effects of the most serious drought in decades and likely prevented famine.

Besides life-saving food assistance, FFP provides food or cash assistance to communities in exchange for their working to rehabilitate lasting community assets such as irrigation schemes, water pans and feeder roads. This resilience-building approach assists vulnerable people in times of crisis, while creating valuable resources that increase a community's ability to handle future shocks such as droughts or floods. In 2015, FFP supported community asset creation in more than 1,000 communities across Djibouti, Kenya and Somalia.



Photo above: After a flood in Burundi, USAID provides vegetable oil to those in need of food assistance.



Photo above: A woman walks home with her monthly ration of Corn Soy Blend Plus, provided through a USAID-funded World Food Program project in Bambasi Refugee Camp, Ethiopia.



Photo above: A malnourished child receives Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food.

YOUNG AFRICAN LEADERS INITIATIVE

USAID



President Barack Obama visits the YALI Regional Leadership Center in Nairobi, Kenya.

The Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI) is President Barack Obama's signature effort to invest in the next generation of African leaders who will spur economic growth, enhance democratic governance and strengthen civil society to help the continent prosper.

The three components of YALI are: (1) the Mandela Washington Fellowship that brings young Africans to U.S. university campuses to network, train and gain global perspectives; (2) the four YALI Regional Leadership Centers, based in Ghana, Kenya, Senegal and South Africa; and (3) the YALI Network, which connects 220,000 young leaders through various online and in-person events.

Kenya is host to the YALI Regional Leadership Center East Africa at Kenyatta University. Launched in Nairobi

in July 2015 in close partnership with the private sector, the center graduated more than 150 youth from 14 countries in its first five months of operation. East Africans from 18 to 35 years of age receive innovative and experiential leadership training in public management, civic leadership, business and entrepreneurship.

In 2015, Mandela Washington Fellows from East Africa led the first YALI regional conference. At the conference, 130 Mandela Fellows showcased what they learned through the program with newfound focus, clarity and vision in their business and development ideas. The fellows led discussions on regional development and integration, peace and security, entrepreneurship, inclusive development and the importance of local solutions.



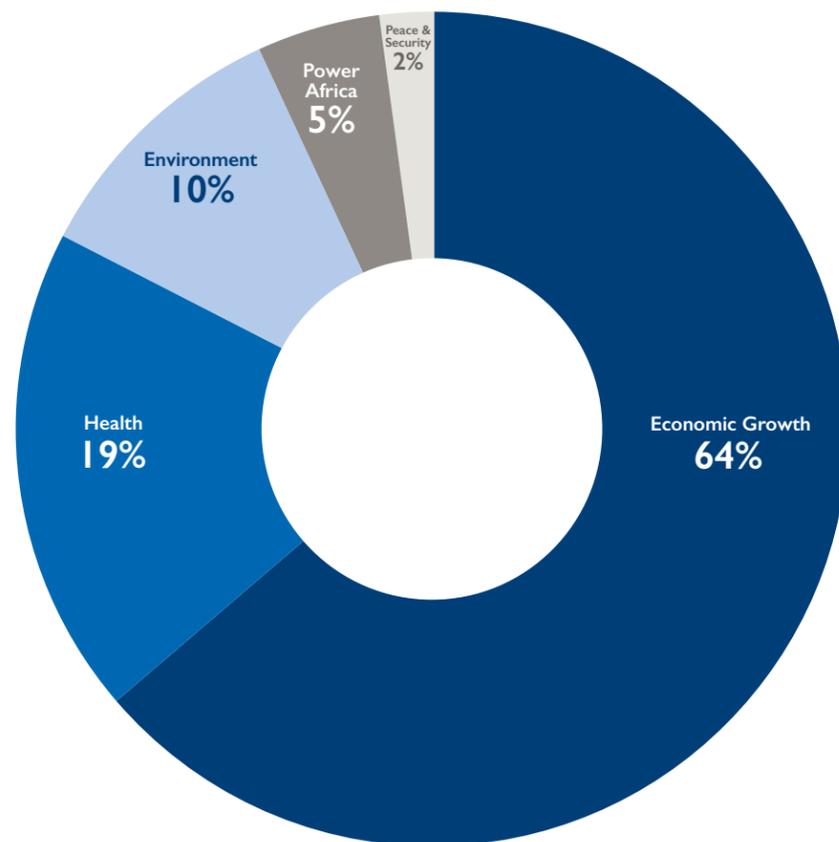
Photo above: YALI Mandela Fellows attend the regional conference in Kenya.

USAID EAST AFRICA BUDGET ALLOCATIONS* BY SECTOR – FISCAL YEAR 2015

Agriculture and Trade	\$39.5 million
Health	\$11.7 million
Environment	\$6.5 million
Power Africa	\$3 million
Peace and Security	\$1.3 million

Total
\$62 million

BUDGET ALLOCATION % BY SECTOR



*Funds represent allocations based on USAID FY 2015 Operational Plan for Kenya and the Country Operational Plan for the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief in Kenya

USAID ACTIVITIES

DEMOCRACY GOVERNANCE AND CONFLICT

IGAD/Conflict Early Warning and Response Mechanism
PEACE III
Women's Peace Building and Leadership Program (Eastern Mennonite University)

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI)

ENVIRONMENT

Implementing a Resilience Framework to Support Climate Change Adaptation in the Mt. Elgon Region of the Lake Victoria Basin
Partnerships for Enhanced Engagement in Research (PEER)
Planning for Resilience in East Africa through Policy Adaptation, Research and Economic Development (PREPARED): Tetra Tech ARD, East African Community, Lake Victoria Basin Commission, IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre, Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWSNET)
United States Department of the Interior Partnership to End Wildlife Trafficking in East Africa

HEALTH

Cross-Border Health Integrated Partnership Project
Higher Education Solutions Network
Knowledge for Health
Polio Eradication and Immunization Support Worldwide
Population Health and Environment and EAC Health Policy and Coordination
TB Challenge

POWER

Africa Legal Support Facility
African Union Commission
National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners
Power Africa Transaction and Reform Program
Sustainable Energy Fund for Africa
U.S. Energy Association Utility Facility

REGIONAL ECONOMIC INTEGRATION

Aflatoxin Policy and Program Activity for East Africa
African Institutions Innovation Mechanism (AIIM) Assist
Africa Leadership Training and Capacity Building Program
Agricultural Market Development Trust (AGMARK)
COMESA Integrated Partnership Assistance Agreement
Development Grant Program
East Africa Trade & Investment Hub
Financial Sector Deepening Program
IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI)
Invest East Africa - Impact Investment Fund
Maize Lethal Necrosis Disease
Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (ReSAKSS)
Resilience Learning Project
Standard Methods and Procedures in Animal Health (AUIBAR)
TradeMark East Africa - Trade Infrastructure Project





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