



## Agriculture and Food Security



**Goal:**

Increased Access, Availability, and Utilization of African-grown staple foods in Regionally Integrated Markets on the Northern and Central Corridors

**2013 OYB Funding:** \$19.1 million

**USAID/East Africa Partners:**

- Alliance for Commodity Trade in Eastern and Southern Africa (ACTESA)
- Africa Leadership Training and Capacity Building Program (AFRICA LEAD)
- Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa (ASARECA)
- African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR)
- Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)
- Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)
- East Africa Trade Hub (EATH)
- East African Community (EAC)
- Eastern Africa Grain Council (EAGC)
- Eastern Africa Farmers Federation (EAFF)
- ADCI-VOCA
- Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (ReSAKSS)
- United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- Center for Disease Control (CDC)

**Overview**

USAID/East Africa's 2011-2015 strategy for Feed the Future (FTF) builds on eight years of results and experience with the Initiative to End Hunger in Africa, the Global Food Security Response, and the works closely with African regional organizations and other donors to achieve joint goals: to sustainably reduce chronic hunger, raise the incomes of the rural poor, and reduce the number of children suffering from under-nutrition. The regional results of activities supported by USAID/EA contribute to the objectives of the Africa-led Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Program (CAADP) and the living in extreme poverty and suffering from hunger by 2015.

USAID/EA programs address regional issues and build on the Mission's comparative advantage to identify challenges that can be tackled at the regional level and that will add value to the national CAADP investment plans and USAID country strategies. The regional FTF strategy is built around one transformational focus area and two support areas, which together will increase the access, availability, and utilization of African-grown staple foods in regionally integrated markets on the Northern and Central corridors.

**Transformational Focus Area: Increase Trade Flows of Staple Foods in the Region**

Regional investments support integrated national and regional markets; improve regional access to technologies and inputs; increase private sector investment in regional agriculture and nutrition-related activities; and promote resilience in regions prone to drought and other production risks. USAID/EA works simultaneously with regional trade associations, private sector partners, input alliances and intergovernmental organizations to improve the policy and regulatory environment for trade, including safe and nutritious foods, livestock and agricultural inputs. Policy investments focus on harmonizing: sanitary and phytosanitary standards, biosafety rules and standards, quality grades and standards, fortification and nutritional standards, financial regulations, and other reforms needed to facilitate the smooth movement of commodities within an integrated market.

USAID/EA programs support transparent, efficient trade for priority value chains, focusing on the facilities and services that aid the movement and storage of agricultural commodities, market information systems, warehouse receipt systems, trade finance, and disease. USAID further supports the reduction in the time and cost of transporting staple foods in the region through customs reform, simplification of border procedures, and improving the efficiency of transit and logistics providers.

USAID/EA expands regional access to technologies, knowledge, and inputs by promoting coordinated technology development on regional priorities, including disease and pest management, productivity enhancement, biotechnology, biosafety, natural resources management, and adaptation to climate change.



Through USAID/EA support, the Koptigei Women's Group received training on business skills, cleaning and drying of maize and weighing and measuring moisture to meet standards set by Kenya's National Cereal Produce Board.

### **Prioritized Value Chains:**

USAID/EA has prioritized four staple food value chains that offer the greatest synergies and potential for impacting regional food security.

- Staple grains, with a focus on maize
- Beans and other pulses
- Livestock (harmonized standards and rules for livestock health)
- Horticultural crops traded within the region

### **Selected Border Posts:**

Programs designed to reduce the time and cost of transporting staple foods in the region will focus on six border posts.

- Malaba (Kenya/Uganda)
- Busia (Kenya/Uganda)
- Gatuna (Uganda/Rwanda)
- Nimule (Uganda/South Sudan)
- Namanga (Kenya/Tanzania)
- Tunduma/Nakonde (Tanzania/Zambia)



USAID/EA programs are linking farmers groups to WFP's Purchase for Progress program. Purchases made by WFP are distributed among drought affected communities in the region.

### **USAID/East Africa Contacts:**

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## **Support Area: Support Strategic Partnerships with African Regional Institutions**

USAID/EA is building the capacity of African partners to impact the small-holder farmer through improved policies, influence on national level institutions, as well as availability of science and technology. Activities are implemented largely through African regional partners in both the public and private sectors. USAID/EA supports the African institutions and leaders responsible for implementation of CAADP, including development of the regional CAADP compact, coordination of the CAADP process, and strengthening of the monitoring and evaluation system. Institutional strengthening and capacity building are improving the governance structures of key partner institutions, increasing transparency and accountability, and building the long-term sustainability of the regional integration agenda.

## **Support Area: Provide Regional Services**

USAID/EA is providing strengthened regional services, resulting in increased coordination among FTF programs and greater cooperation around a shared regional agenda. The Mission will continue to convene regional meetings and consultations, bringing partners together to share best practices, lessons learned, and to coordinate actions. An expanded regional team will provide technical services to the USAID missions in the focus countries, and to both regional and bilateral partner organizations.

## **Resilience**

USAID/EA's resilience program aims to link up regional governance, cross border security, trade facilitation, knowledge management and innovation to improve social stability and economic growth in dryland areas. It works at three levels to build the capacity of the IGAD Secretariat; to support IGAD member states to design strategies for ending drought emergencies; and thirdly, to improve animal health control across the IGAD region.

## **Whole of Government**

The USAID/EA FTF strategy was developed in consultation with regional partner organizations and colleagues from across USAID and other USG agencies. USAID/EA works closely with the Bureau for Food Security, bilateral Missions in DRC, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda, the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), Food for Peace (FFP), the State Department, the US Department of Agriculture (USDA), Center for Disease Control (CDC), and other multilateral agencies.

## **Results**

The implementation of this strategy will improve regional food security, resilience and nutrition by building structured regional markets that will facilitate the movement of staple foods from surplus to deficit areas. Increased volume and value of intra-regional trade will have a direct impact on expanded access, availability, and utilization of the prioritized staple foods. USAID/EA investments in monitoring and evaluation will track progress toward these goals and strengthen the evidence base for food security interventions in the region, contributing to both the CAADP monitoring and evaluation framework and the FTF results framework.