



KENYA

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

Kenya has the largest, most diversified economy in East Africa with agriculture being the backbone and central to the country's development strategy. More than 75 percent of Kenyans make some part of their living in agriculture, and the sector accounts for more than a fourth of Kenya's gross domestic product (GDP).

However, agriculture is largely subsistence and productivity has generally stagnated in recent years, despite continuous population growth. Moreover, only about 20 percent of Kenyan land is suitable for farming and in these areas maximum yields have not been achieved, leaving considerable potential for increases in productivity. In addition, agriculture is dominated by raw products, which limits job creation and does not capitalize higher value commodities and manufacturing.

Many farmers work without basic agricultural inputs or updated technology and lack adequate financial or extension services. Recurrent crises such as drought in Kenya's arid and semi-arid areas (ASALs) have exacerbated the vulnerability of basic livelihoods. This has posed critical challenges to food security and for over two million Kenyans who receive food aid annually. USAID is focused on improving the overall competitiveness of Kenya's agriculture sector through activities that increase productivity and incomes for smallholder farmers; improve access to clean water and energy; increase access to affordable financing; enhance agro-processing and inclusive off farm jobs; and build more resilient communities that can move out of humanitarian assistance and into development.

IMPROVING FOOD AVAILABILITY AND NUTRITION

Kenya is one of the twelve target countries globally under the U.S. Government's Global Food Security Strategy, which implements the Feed the Future initiative. The initiative works in 17 Kenyan counties to strengthen inclusive agricultural-led economic growth that help farmers embrace new technologies, increase their access to finance, and connect them to markets and private sector solutions.

Feed the Future also fosters key activities around nutrition-sensitive agriculture at the household level to increase the availability, access, and utilization of nutritious foods.

BUILDING RESILIENCE

Communities in Kenya's ASALs continue to experience recurrent drought, human conflict over natural resources, and underdevelopment due to a lack of public and private investment. USAID works with the national and county governments and local communities to accelerate development in nine ASAL counties. Our resilience investments strengthen the ability of individuals, communities, and governments to prepare for, withstand and recover from shocks such as drought.

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

USAID works with communities, businesses, and county governments to improve water security, increase access to water services, and improve household sanitation and hygiene practices. USAID partners with the government, the private sector, and civil society to strengthen the systems that ensure sufficient water and sanitation service delivery now and in the future. To maximize benefits and reach those in greatest need, we integrate these activities with agriculture, environment, governance, and maternal and child health activities.

BUDGET (FY 2021)

\$28.3 million

KEY PARTNERS

Government of Kenya

- Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Cooperatives
- Ministry of Devolution and ASALs
- Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization
- Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service
- Horticultural Crops Development Authority
- National Drought Management Authority
- Council of Governors
- County Governments

International Organizations

- Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa
- International Livestock Research Institute
- U.S. Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agricultural Service

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

- RTI International Kenya
- Palladium International LLC.
- Development Alternatives Inc.
- ACDI/VOCA
- Mercy Corps

ACHIEVEMENTS SNAPSHOT (2021)

- 453,092 individual Kenyans impacted by the USAID/Feed the Future support
- 213,102 agricultural value chain actors have applied improved technologies, increasing smallholder farmer productivity
- Over \$120 million worth of sales from USAID supported farms and firms
- USAID supported access to \$130 million in agricultural-related financing

MISSION CONTACT

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