



USAID
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KENYA

DEMOCRACY, GOVERNANCE AND CONFLICT

Kenya has achieved many democratic milestones. Among them was the inclusive process that birthed the new constitution in 2010 and the creation of 47 new county governments, effectively establishing a new devolved system of political power.

USAID's development strategy is centered on the implementation of devolution, a long and challenging process at the core of Kenya's constitutional reform agenda. If done right, devolution can put the country on a path towards more inclusive, transparent and accountable governance.

DEVOLUTION AND SUPPORT TO COUNTY GOVERNMENTS

USAID supports county governments as they strive to operate with greater transparency, accountability and inclusivity, as well as provide better public services to residents. At the national level, USAID partners with ministries and Parliament to strengthen national policies and advance and guide the devolution process. We also work with three intergovernmental agencies and various sector working groups to enhance communication and coordination between the national and county governments.

The Agile and Harmonized Assistance for Devolved Institutions (AHADI) activity assists national and local government institutions and civil society to improve the execution of devolved functions. AHADI works closely with other USAID programs in other technical areas (agriculture, water, environment, and health) to advance the devolution agenda. We also partner with the Department for International Development (DFID), United Nations Development Program (UNDP), World Bank and other donors to support devolution, thereby ensuring that national and county governments have the technical, financial and functional capacity needed for an effective transition to devolved governance.

SAFEGUARDING DEMOCRATIC SPACE

The Safeguarding Democratic Space in Kenya (SADES-K) project aims to support government institutions and civil society organizations (CSOs) to strengthen Kenya's governance reform agenda and secure democratic gains enshrined in the 2010 Constitution. SADES-K program is grounded in a locally-driven co-creation process with Kenyan stakeholders to further the national dialogue process under the Building Bridges to Unity Initiative, promote social and ethnic cohesion, protect civic and democratic space, and monitor the implementation of the recommendations resulting from the national conversation.

EMPOWERING CITIZENS

USAID programs strengthen capacity for civil engagement, and increase the participation and representation of youth, women and marginalized groups in governance processes. This includes strengthening of conflict mitigation mechanisms at the county level and enhancing citizen access to government, information and services.

AHADI helps citizens to engage effectively in the county governance process by integrating citizen engagement throughout the public expenditure management process.

Yetu, a public-private partnership with the Aga Khan Foundation, promotes a more sustainable civil society through local philanthropy.

COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM

To support the Government of Kenya, USAID is expanding conflict mitigation and countering violent extremism (CVE) activities to address the increasing insecurity and growing influence of Al-Shabaab.

The Strengthening Community Resilience against Violent Extremism (SCORE) activity improves the ability of CSOs along the Kenyan coast to address the drivers of conflict and violent extremism in their communities. The Kenya NiWajibu Wetu (NIWETU) activity reduces violent extremism among at-risk individuals and communities in Kenya. NIWETU works in Garissa, Isiolo, Mandera, Nairobi and Wajir counties. These programs engage both civil society organizations, and national and local governments to coordinate the development of county-level CVE action plans which enable local and national government officials and non-governmental partners to map out locally relevant approaches to CVE in their communities.

BUDGET (FY 2018)

\$20 million

KEY GOVERNMENT OF KENYA PARTNERS

- Council of Governors
- County Assemblies Forum
- Devolution Sector Working Group
- Ministry of Devolution and Planning
- National Counter Terrorism Center
- Ministry of the Interior
- National Treasury
- Parliament (National Assembly and Senate)

ACHIEVEMENTS SNAPSHOT (FY 2018)

- Over 1.3 million people reached with increased citizen knowledge in overseeing delivery of services by county governments.
- Over 21,000 national and county government officials trained, mentored and provided hands on technical assistance on topics ranging from expenditure management to revenue generation.
- USAID assistance helped the Ministry of Devolution and Planning and the Kenya Law Reform Commission launch 52 county model laws.
- Seven county-level CVE action plans developed with USAID assistance.

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