



2020 REPORT TO THE **UGANDAN PEOPLE**

From the U.S. Mission to Uganda

The United States is Uganda's largest foreign assistance partner, investing almost \$1 billion annually in Ugandan communities to promote economic growth and employability, to improve health and education, to uphold democratic values, and to strengthen security.



Ambassador Natalie E. Brown

Hand-in-hand with the Ugandan People

of this vision, the United States invests almost \$1 billion annually in Ugandan communities to promote economic growth and employability, to improve health and education, to uphold democratic values, and to strengthen security. While the United States' financial investment in Uganda is significant, we measure success not in dollars spent but in lives impacted. This report introduces us to just a few of the millions of Ugandans who are living healthy, learning better, earning more, or participating more fully in their communities because of the partnership between our two countries.

I am mindful that this report is published against the backdrop of the COVID-19 global pandemic, which has impacted our communities, our economies, and our lives in unimaginable ways. My thoughts are with Ugandans across society whose lives have been affected by COVID-19. Hand-in-hand we have weathered challenges before, and the value of our

enduring partnership has never been more evident than it is today. Decades of U.S. investment to strengthen Uganda's health systems, help Uganda fight HIV/AIDs, malaria and other diseases, improve maternal and child health, and prevent, detect, and respond to disease outbreaks helped ready Uganda to take on COVID-19. The United States has provided more than \$41 million in 2020 to support the country's COVID-19 response, and we are committed to continuing our support to the Ugandan people until the COVID-19 pandemic is over.

I look forward to getting to know Uganda better and the work ahead, helping empower Ugandans to secure a brighter future for themselves and their country.

Ambassador Natalie E. Brown
December 2020

Reported figures cover 2019

\$936 MILLION

Total U.S. assistance to Uganda in 2019

\$539 MILLION
Health Sector Support in 2019. \$1.58 billion is spent on health annually in Uganda. Of that amount, \$539 million (34%) came from the people of the United States.

\$200 MILLION
Support to Uganda to host 1.4 million refugees.

\$15 MILLION
To promote justice and democracy in support of a more inclusive, empowered, and literate society.

\$56 MILLION
Support for economic growth, especially in agriculture.



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 U.S. government agencies provide foreign assistance to Uganda

www.state.gov



www.usaid.gov



www.cdc.gov



www.peacecorps.gov



www.pepfar.gov



www.doi.gov/



www.defense.gov/



www.nih.gov



www.wrair.army.mil/



www.hhs.gov/



www.dtra.mil/



www.usadf.gov/



www.usda.gov/



The U.S. government has invested in Uganda's health sector for more than five decades, through various agencies and programs. Our support and partnership with Uganda's Ministry of Health, other ministries, and civil society actors has only grown over the years. We remain committed to supporting a healthier and more prosperous Uganda.

U.S. assistance has built new laboratories, provided testing equipment to improve diagnoses, and offered technical assistance and advice to Uganda to help strengthen supply chain systems. The United States also works with health officials to improve the transparency of Uganda's health system to ensure that corruption and mismanagement do not endanger the health and well-being of its citizens.

U.S. GOVERNMENT HEALTH PROGRAM FOCUS AREAS

HIV	\$439.2M
Malaria	\$33M
Family Planning	\$27M
Child and Maternal Health	\$15.5M
Nutrition	\$8M
Tuberculosis	\$6M
Immunization	\$5.5M
Water Supply and Sanitation	\$5M



Through the U.S. President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), the United States implements both HIV and Tuberculosis (TB) programs with more than 60 implementing partners to deliver services like Antiretroviral Therapy (ART), HIV testing and counselling, pre- and post-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP/PEP), and safe male circumcision to Ugandans living with or at risk of contracting HIV. The United States supports Uganda’s efforts to continue to

identify those living with HIV, expand ART to all HIV-infected Ugandans immediately upon diagnosis, and scale up HIV viral load testing to achieve the 95-95-95 UNAIDS target and end AIDS as a public health threat by 2030. The UNAIDS goal is for 95% of people living with HIV to know their HIV status; 95% of people who know their status to be on ART; and 95% of those on treatment having suppressed viral loads.

NEW HIV INVESTMENTS REACHING MORE UGANDANS IN GREATEST NEED

REDUCING HIV DRUG RESISTANCE



To reduce HIV drug resistance in Uganda, the Ministry of Health changed to a newer drug regimen following WHO guidelines. **PEPFAR has supported the roll-out of the drug, dolutegravir in combination with tenofovir and lamivudine (TLD), to more than 500,000 patients.**

REDUCING ARV STOCK-OUTS



To avoid periodic stock-outs of antiretroviral medications (ARVs), CDC and USAID worked closely with the Ministry of Health to introduce the Real-time ARV Stock Status (RASS) monitoring system. **This system allows health managers to monitor facility-level supplies needed for ARVs and HIV testing kits.**

MEDICAL RECORDS FOR HIV PATIENTS



To keep track of over 1.4 million HIV/AIDS patients, PEPFAR is supporting the rollout of an Electronic Medical Record System in health centers in Uganda. **Over 1,100 health centers (65% of ART sites) have installed the record system and more than 2,000 staff have been trained.**

ADOLESCENT GIRLS AND YOUNG WOMEN



Adolescent girls and young women account for 71% of new HIV infections in sub-Saharan Africa and are twice as likely to be living with HIV as boys and men of the same age. By the end of 2019, **PEPFAR’s Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS-free, Mentored, and Safe (DREAMS) program reached 197,902 Ugandan girls and young women** to reduce HIV risk by empowering them with life skills and ensuring access to HIV and reproductive health services.

ONE PILL A DAY TO PREVENT HIV



PrEP (Pre-exposure prophylaxis) is a way for people who do not have HIV but who are at very high risk of getting HIV to prevent HIV infection by taking a daily pill. **In 2019, 17,825 Ugandans received PrEP through 73 PEPFAR-supported districts.**

KALANGALA WATER VESSEL



Kalangala district is one of the highest HIV prevalence districts in Uganda, with a large unmet need for ART coverage and many islands without health facilities. **Through Rakai Health Sciences Program, CDC funded a medical water vessel to provide much needed health transport services for all 84 islands in Kalangala district.**

MORE THAN \$439M INVESTED IN HIV ALONE IN 2019



U.S. assistance protects four million Ugandans against malaria every year.

With United States support through the U.S. President’s Malaria Initiative (PMI), more than four million people in Uganda are protected from malaria every year. Since 2006, the initiative has helped reduce child mortality by 53% and lower malaria prevalence among children under five from 42% to 9%, according to the 2019 Uganda Malaria Indicator Survey.

In 2019 over one million houses were sprayed to reduce malaria in 52 districts. Indoor residual spraying is associated with the significant decrease in malaria prevalence in children and lower malaria prevalence during pregnancy and at delivery, improving birth outcomes by lowering risk of low birth weight, pre-term birth, and fetal/neonatal deaths.

CDC trains disease detectives to reduce health threats to Ugandans.

CDC partners with the Ministry of Health and Makerere University School of Public Health to train disease detectives to prevent, detect, and respond to public health threats under the Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP called the Public Health Fellowship Program in Uganda). The FETP has increased Uganda’s ability to detect and respond to dangerous disease outbreaks like Ebola as well as manage and improve public health systems across the spectrum.

Since 2015, the fellowship has recruited six cohorts comprising 66 fellows, 40 of whom have graduated and 12 who will graduate in January 2021; a seventh cohort of 14 fellows will start in January. The program has become one of the world’s most successful epidemiology training programs. Through September 2019, fellows have investigated more than 110 outbreaks, conducted more than 100 HIV/TB projects and more than 60 applied epidemiologic studies, and published over 50 peer-reviewed manuscripts.

As a “hot zone” for infectious diseases, Uganda must detect, prevent, and respond to disease outbreaks.

U.S. Department of Defense Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (WRAIR) has strengthened the capacity of hospital laboratories in Uganda to detect and monitor the frequency and spread of germs with antimicrobial resistance (AMR) genes. This AMR surveillance collects samples from both humans and animals. Project reports have highlighted the public health significance of AMR, which has in turn informed Uganda’s public health policies on AMR intervention and prevention.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

PREVENTING CHILD AND MATERNAL DEATHS

69,986

PREGNANT WOMEN accessed maternal and newborn services through private facilities at no additional cost through **USAID’s Voucher Plus activity**

AFFORDABLE AND QUALITY FAMILY PLANNING

1,641,800

COUPLES gained access to affordable, quality voluntary family planning services

SUPPORTING IMMUNIZATION

77%

of **CHILDREN** under one year of age in targeted districts were fully immunized

IMPROVING NUTRITION FOR MOTHERS AND INFANTS

725,870

pregnant women and **2,217,271** children under five benefited from USAID-funded nutrition programs



A PROSPEROUS UGANDA



U.S. economic assistance strengthens Uganda's agricultural sector through initiatives that improve productivity, create jobs, and increase revenues for farmers and agricultural companies. The United States also works to increase investment in Uganda, expand access to commercial opportunities and new markets, and support Ugandan entrepreneurs.

We also support initiatives to make new technologies and a stronger energy system more available throughout the country. At the same time, we continue to help Uganda develop sustainably through conservation and wildlife preservation efforts that protect the country's treasured biodiversity while also supporting its growing tourism sector.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY

The agriculture sector generates 85% of the country's export earnings and employs the majority of the country's workforce. U.S. initiatives strengthen Uganda's agriculture sector and the national economy by expanding access to vital resources and infrastructure that increase productivity, efficiency, and competitiveness.

COMMERCIAL ADVOCACY

The United States expands private investment, access to markets, and removes barriers to trade to increase Uganda's global competitiveness, strengthen the economy, and create joint prosperity for both Ugandans and Americans. The United States encourages greater U.S. investment in Uganda's growing economy and assists Ugandan companies in gaining access to American markets.



More small enterprises are gaining access to credit and inputs through U.S. initiatives.

When entrepreneurs have the skills and the resources they need to thrive, businesses can grow. By providing access to resources and training that builds key business and leadership skills, U.S. programs are helping start-ups and small businesses to compete and prosper.

Youth Leadership for Agriculture (YLA), a program supported through USAID's Feed the Future initiative, is one example of how our assistance increases opportunity for young Ugandans. Through 12 private sector entities, the program enabled a total of 67,525 youth to access agricultural inputs worth \$1,554,709. Overall, a total of 41,475 youth benefited by accessing new employment opportunities.

Producer Organizations (POs) accessed \$325,022 in loans as a result of financial literacy support. USAID providers helped POs streamline their processes and professionalize operations to make them more attractive to financial institutions. This support positioned POs to access much-needed capital for investments in agricultural inputs such as seeds, fertilizers and chemicals, and agro-processing equipment.

New, low-cost electricity connections helping farmers to irrigate their farms, increase yields.

The United States' Power Africa initiative expands access to electricity across the country while supporting innovations that promote increased energy efficiency and productivity. With only 26% of the population connected to the national electricity network, many Ugandans employ off-grid technologies such as solar home systems to meet their energy needs. As a result of Power Africa programming, 281,758 new electricity connections were added to the national grid, directly benefiting over 1.3 million Ugandans.

Power Africa also trained 300 farmers in operations, maintenance, and service of solar systems, and supported 11,900 farmers to acquire solar systems. The solar panels increased farm productivity and supported sustained production of agricultural products throughout Uganda.

U.S. programs are helping to protect Uganda's biodiversity, improve the economy, and increase tourism revenue.

Uganda's wildlife populations have declined over the past 50 years due to poaching, high human population growth, and human-driven alterations to natural habitats. U.S. assistance is helping Uganda to effectively manage its ecosystems, preserve wildlife, and conserve wildlands to contribute to the country's economic growth and stability. In 2019, the United States supported the National Forest Authority to complete surveying and demarcation of 199 kilometers of boundaries in priority Central Forest Reserves. The United States also works with Uganda's wildlife authorities on programs to protect and preserve Uganda's immense natural heritage from illegal trafficking and the effects of climate change.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

IMPROVING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY

224,625

FARMERS

participated in USAID-supported sustainable agribusiness trainings

EMPOWERING UGANDAN FARMERS

155 producer organizations associated with USAID's Feed the Future program made **SALES WORTH \$838,951** benefitting 1,131 farmers in 12 districts

INCREASING ACCESS TO FINANCE

91,000
ENTREPRENEURS

are participating in group-based savings, micro-finance, or lending programs

NEW, LOW-COST ELECTRICAL CONNECTIONS

Uganda's Rural Electrification Agency added

281,758

ELECTRICITY CONNECTIONS for households and businesses through USAID support



A SECURE UGANDA



The United States partners with Uganda to support regional security and funds conflict mitigation programs that reduce community-based violence and advance reconciliation and compliance with international human rights standards.

Through the African Peacekeeping Rapid Response Partnership program, the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) provided the Uganda Peoples' Defence Forces (UPDF) with training and equipment to rapidly deploy personnel in response to emerging conflicts and humanitarian disasters.

More than 500 UPDF soldiers in the past year have engaged in comprehensive

trainings on maintenance, motor transport operations, communications, health services, heavy equipment management, and civil engineering. Last year saw the culmination of the Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC) program. Through years of cooperative training between U.S. Army-Africa and the Chieftaincy of Medical Services, the UPDF are now capable of providing TCCC training to their own forces or other regional forces prior to deploying in support of regional peacekeeping. UPDF TCCC instructors also traveled to the United States to provide instruction to a U.S. military training audience.

In addition, the United States provided the UPDF with Counter-Improvised Explosive Device expertise and resources to support fellow troops in the African Union Mission to Somalia (AMISOM) and other multi-national peace keeping missions. Through U.S.-led trainings, UPDF soldiers also improved their knowledge of human rights standards and international humanitarian law, essential to efforts to stave off conflict in the region.



Uganda is a model for its treatment and care of refugees. The United States helps Uganda to manage this responsibility.

Uganda hosts more than 1.4 million refugees, the largest refugee population in Africa and the third largest globally. Uganda is recognized worldwide for its model open door and open settlement policies. U.S. government funding to UN agencies and NGOs, as well as the U.S. refugee resettlement program, support these policies.

U.S. support ensured that basic, life-saving needs are met for both refugees and the Ugandan communities that host them in the areas of food, healthcare, shelter, clean water, livelihoods protection, and education.

USAID interventions enable Ugandans to engage in land reconciliation dialogues.

Disputes over land ownership remain the top driver of conflict in Uganda. USAID's conflict mitigation and peacebuilding interventions attempt to identify and address the root causes and residual effects of conflict and foster social cohesion and reconciliation at the community level.

In 2019, USAID assistance strengthened community systems for land dispute resolution, trained 3,633 persons on land rights and land laws, equipped youth with skills to mediate and resolve community conflict, and strengthened institutions for land administration. In northern Uganda, USAID assistance strengthened local land dispute resolution institutions, including district land boards and area land committees.

Through these interventions, 33% of reported land conflict cases in northern Uganda were resolved and 30 new groups dedicated to resolving conflict were created. USAID interventions enabled 1,485 people in northern Uganda to engage in reconciliation dialogues.

Uganda's experience in combating infectious diseases is setting an example in the region.

Uganda's security also depends on its ability to detect and respond to the threats posed by infectious diseases such as Ebola, Marburg, and COVID-19. Through CDC, USAID, DoD, and other partners, the United States is helping to improve Uganda's preparedness and emergency management capacity to detect diseases like Ebola and Marburg before they spread. U.S. funds support Uganda's Emergency Operations Center that has responded to more than 100 infectious disease threats since inception in 2019.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

CONFLICT MITIGATION AND RECONCILIATION

3,633 people from 20 districts received training from USAID-funded programs to **PREVENT LAND CONFLICTS**

SUPPORT FOR REFUGEES

The United States contributed **\$200M** to **ASSIST REFUGEES** in Uganda. In addition, the United States resettled 2,697 Congolese refugees from Uganda.

EQUIPPING, TRAINING THE UPDF

To support the AMISOM peacekeeping operation DoD provided **45 MAMBA ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS** and spare parts in Somalia for UPDF use

COMBATING INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Uganda's Emergency Operation Center responded to **100+ INFECTIOUS DISEASE** threats like Ebola and Marburg through U.S. support



AN INCLUSIVE, EDUCATED, AND EMPOWERED UGANDA



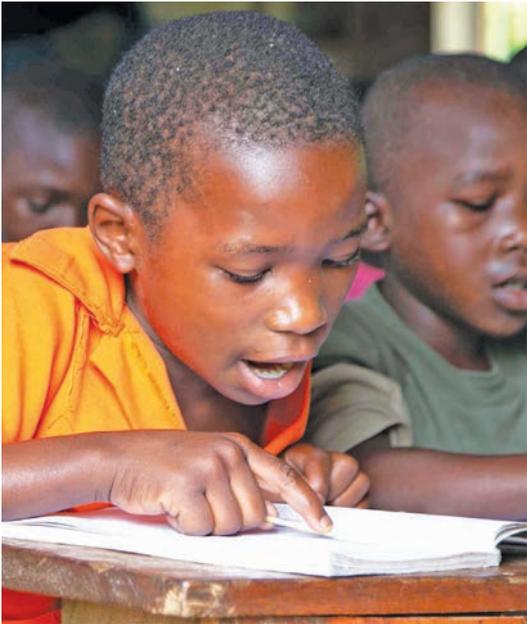
The United States supports initiatives to build an inclusive, educated, and empowered Uganda. U.S. assistance to Uganda’s education sector expands access to education, trains teachers, promotes literacy, and helps young people stay in school.

The programs increase the number of children who can read so they are equipped to become lifelong learners, support their families, and help their communities to thrive. The United States also provides resources to reduce child vulnerability and gender-based violence throughout Uganda.

U.S. support helps 3.7 million young learners to become proficient readers.

Through USAID’s education programs, 3,755,064 learners and 13,580 teachers from 7,636 schools benefited from U.S. basic education assistance through the Early Grade Reading (EGR) program. In 2019, the United States supported the Ministry of Education and Sports to replicate and expand the EGR program for primary one through four, in 12 local languages and in English.

To date, 104 unique EGR titles in 12 local languages have been developed and over one million EGR materials were distributed to targeted schools. The program, which targets critical learner achievement and school retention gaps, was implemented in 82 districts across Uganda.



There is nothing more fundamental than the ability to read.

In 2019, 146 Peace Corps Volunteers worked in communities throughout Uganda on projects in agriculture, community economic development, health, and education. Peace Corps Uganda collaborates with the Ministry of Education and Sports and other partners to promote a culture of reading. This is done by encouraging Ugandans of all walks of life to come together at the same time on the same day, to put down whatever they are doing, and to experience the joy of reading-- whether at the workplace, in school, or at home.

On Drop Everything and Read Day, celebrated in March each year, people across the country are encouraged to stop and read for at least 30 minutes, starting at 11:00 a.m. Getting communities to read together at the same time sends a powerful message about the importance and benefits of reading and literacy. Peace Corps Volunteers serving across the country worked with their Ugandan counterparts in schools, organizations, and communities to prepare for and participate in this initiative that is accompanied by much fun and laughter. Leading members of the community and parents also participated as guest readers to read to learners of all grades.

Reducing GBV is critical to building a safer, more resilient Uganda.

Nearly one half of women and men aged 15-49 in Uganda experience physical violence. A quarter of girls aged 13-17 experience sexual violence. Gender-based violence (GBV) is one of the underlying causes of inequality and poverty in communities. In 2019, U.S. programmatic interventions against gender-based violence enabled 49,846 individuals to receive clinical care. Additionally, the USAID-funded Literacy Achievement and Retention Activity (LARA) trained more than 510 school head teachers and 16 community change agents using a curriculum designed to reduce gender-based violence in school settings. These lead trainers trained another 3,334 teachers on GBV prevention activities for pupils in schools. Overall, 66,564 participants from 669 school communities engaged in dialogues against GBV.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

MOBILE COMPUTER LAB AND LIBRARY

The Nile Explorer bus – a library and computer lab on wheels – provided **COMPUTER AND OTHER INNOVATIVE EDUCATION LESSONS** to young learners and teachers at **79 SCHOOLS** in 45 districts

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

The Ambassador's Special Self-Help program provided **NINE GRANTS** in **12 DISTRICTS** to help underserved communities create opportunities to improve health, education, and economic growth

PROFESSIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

89 **PROFESSIONALS** visited the U.S. on exchange programs that share knowledge and promote mutual understanding in areas like civil society, agribusiness, technology, and the arts

STUDY OPPORTUNITIES IN THE U.S.

With EducationUSA support, Ugandan students identified **\$400,000** **IN SCHOLARSHIPS** to fund higher education in the United States and more than **10,000 STUDENTS** accessed free education advising



A JUST AND DEMOCRATIC UGANDA

A democratic system that welcomes all citizens to have a say in how they are governed strengthens security and economic growth.

U.S. assistance and initiatives empower Ugandans to advocate for their rights, shape their local and national government institutions, reduce corruption, hold leaders accountable, and support media freedom.



USAID assistance helped the Ministry of Health to recover over \$2.1 Million in unaccounted funds.

Corruption stifles economic growth and diverts desperately needed funds from education, healthcare, and other public services. The United States is committed to strengthening public institutions' capacity to improve performance, and accountability for government resources to benefit all Ugandans. In 2019, with the support of the USAID Governance, Accountability, Performance, and Participation (GAPP) program, the Ministry of Health identified and recovered over \$2.1 million in unaccounted funds. Overall, unaccounted for funds in the health sector decreased by 98%, from \$1,122,030 to \$24,502 between 2016 and 2018.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

JOURNALIST TRAINING

More than **120 JOURNALISTS** and 130 journalism students participated in U.S.-funded skill-building training to produce informed, impactful stories

HUMAN RIGHTS AND RULE OF LAW

28 LAWYERS from 21 districts in eastern Uganda received training in adjudication of sexual offenses against children with USAID assistance

FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS

31,000 domestic election observers and party agents trained

GOOD GOVERNANCE, ANTI-CORRUPTION

41 anti-corruption measures proposed, adopted, or implemented with USAID support to include laws, policies, or procedures