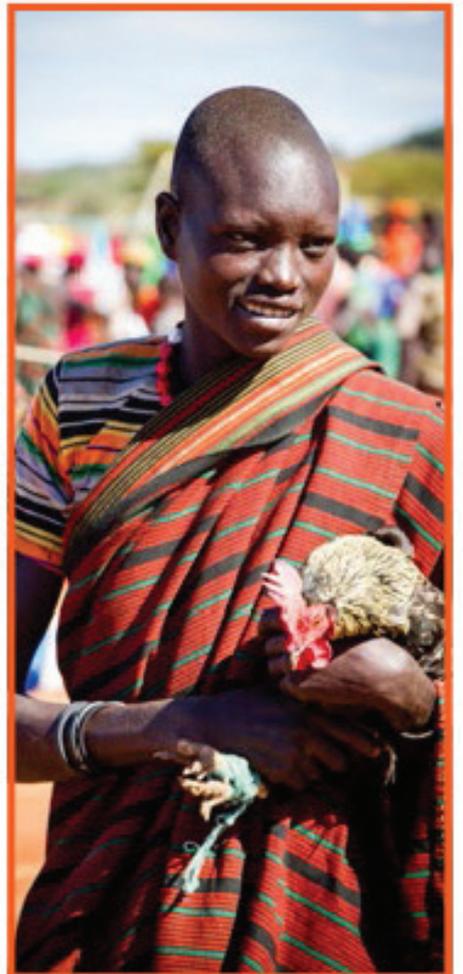
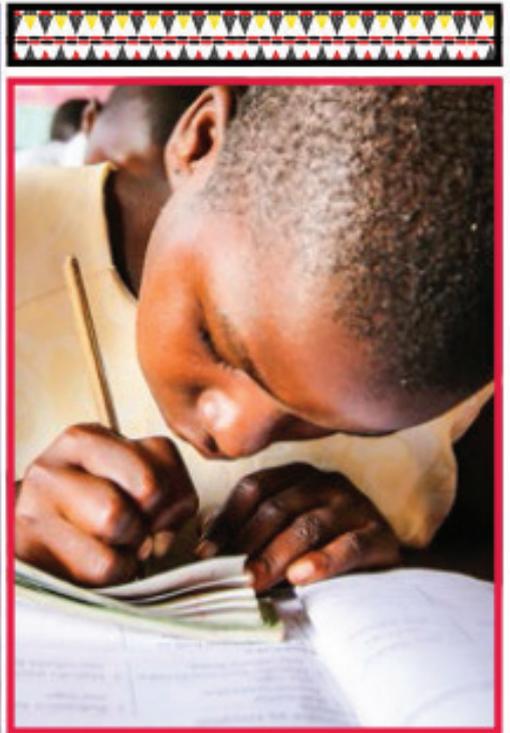


Fiscal Year 2018

Report to the Ugandan People







“Our mission
is to partner
with Uganda
to advance
security,
prosperity,
democracy,
health, and
education.”

– U.S. Ambassador

Deborah R. Malac



FOREWORD

U.S. Ambassador Deborah R. Malac



I am excited to present to you our third annual Report to the Ugandan People, which covers the work of U.S. Mission Uganda in U.S. Fiscal Year 2018*. We produce this report to explain what the U.S. government is doing to help Ugandans create a better future for themselves.

The U.S.-Uganda partnership is about investing in people, Uganda's single greatest resource. Our work is focused on creating a better and more prosperous future for all Ugandans. We do that by supporting programs and projects that empower citizens with the tools that will help them make a positive impact in their country, thus leading to sustainable development.

In FY2018, we provided \$896 million (UGX 3.3 trillion) in assistance to the Ugandan people. Our mission is to partner with Uganda to advance security, prosperity, democracy, health, and education. In each of these efforts, we focus on empowering people – specifically the country's youth and women.

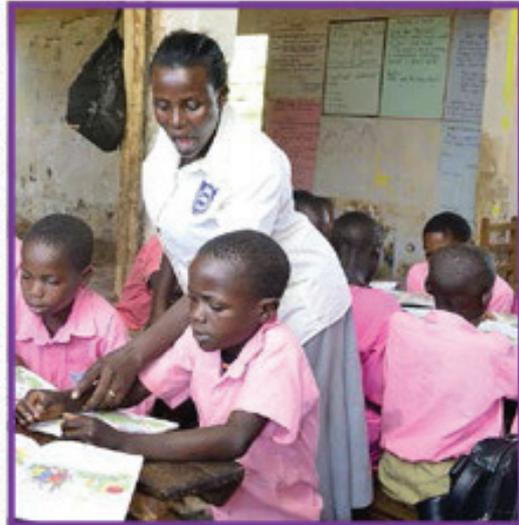
This report highlights a number of initiatives that we are supporting to empower youth. Nearly 80 percent of Uganda's population is under the age of 30 years, making the country one of the youngest in the world by population. This creates big challenges, but I view Uganda's youth as the country's biggest opportunity.

**From 1 October 2017 – 30 September 2018*



The Department of State's Young African Leaders Initiative is developing young Ugandan leaders through educational opportunities in the region as well as in the United States. The U.S. Agency for International Development's (USAID) Youth Leadership in Agriculture activity provided benefits to over 89,000 Ugandan youth last year through entrepreneurship opportunities, increased incomes, and workforce skills. The Nile Explorer, a colorful library and computer lab on wheels, is traveling around the country promoting literacy and teaching science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in underserved rural schools. The list goes on.

Similarly, the report highlights our efforts to support women. As I said recently at our annual U.S. Independence Day event, no nation can become a vibrant middle-income country if it leaves half of its population out of the development equation. We are partnering with Uganda to support girls' education, promote women's health, prevent gender-based violence, and provide greater employment opportunities for women, among other initiatives.



#HandInHandWithUganda

WA MAK CING KI UGANDA
TUKO PAMOJA NA UGANDA
TULIWAMU NE UGANDA
TURIHAMWE NA UGANDA
WALALA NI UGANDA



Empowering Uganda's youth and women depends on a strong health and education system. As such, this report has a significant focus on U.S. government efforts to support a healthy, educated population. We invest more money in the health sector than any other, and are working with Uganda to fight HIV, malaria, tuberculosis, and other diseases; improve maternal and child health; enhance food security and nutrition; and strengthen health systems. In the education sector, we support a wide range of programs and initiatives that expand access to education, train teachers, promote literacy, and help students stay in school. At the same time, we are strongly encouraging the Ugandan government to invest more money in the health and education sectors.

Job creation is pivotal to the future prosperity of Uganda's youth. Our assistance looks to realize a better economic future for the next generation by strengthening one of the largest sectors of the country's economy – agriculture. Our assistance programs improve productivity, create jobs, and increase revenues for farmers and agricultural companies. We are also working to increase U.S. private sector investment in Uganda, thereby creating jobs in key sectors such as technology, health, manufacturing, services, and agriculture. 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.

Ugandans themselves are best placed to explain the impact of our work, so this report shares specific success stories as well as quotes from Ugandans who have benefitted from our programs and projects. These stories and testimonies demonstrate the talent, passion, and commitment of Ugandans who are working to create a brighter future for themselves and their country.

We hope you enjoy this report, and we look forward to another great year of work ahead to empower the Ugandan people.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deborah R. Malac".

Ambassador Deborah R. Malac | U.S. Mission Uganda



CONTENTS



Healthy



Prosperous



Stable



Just and Democratic



Inclusive, Educated,
and Empowered





HEALTHY

Improving the health and well-being of Uganda's population is critical for the country's growth and prosperity.



A health worker in Eastern Uganda advises a young mother about the medication prescribed to her.

The majority of U.S. assistance to Uganda is dedicated to the health sector. This is because improving the health of Uganda's population enables more Ugandans to live long and prosperous lives, and it improves the country's economy and overall stability. Our assistance to the health sector is especially focused on controlling the HIV epidemic in Uganda and providing care and treatment for Ugandans living with the disease. We also support programs and initiatives that strengthen Uganda's resources and capacity to limit the spread of other communicable diseases, such as malaria and tuberculosis, and control outbreaks of infectious diseases. Our other health sector assistance prioritizes efforts to improve the health of mothers and children, promote adequate nutrition, and fortify Uganda's health system so that more citizens can access the medicine and care they need.



Assistance Focus Areas

- ▶ HIV
- ▶ Malaria, Tuberculosis, and Other Communicable Diseases
- ▶ Maternal and Child Health
- ▶ Nutrition
- ▶ Health System Strengthening



89%

OF UGANDANS diagnosed with HIV were receiving antiretroviral therapy (ART) by September 2018



2,000,000

INSECTICIDE-TREATED NETS were purchased with funding from the United States

\$511.2

MILLION U.S. DOLLARS

UGX: 1.9 TRILLION

Total U.S. government assistance to promote a healthy Uganda

HIV

U.S. support is enabling Uganda to close in on the UNAIDS 90-90-90 goals by 2020: 90 percent of people living with HIV identified, 90 percent of those identified receiving antiretroviral treatment, and 90 percent of those on treatment having no virus detected in their blood.

Controlling the spread of HIV by scaling up evidence-based prevention interventions and providing effective treatment for Ugandans living with the disease are major priorities of U.S. health assistance. Through the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), the United States provided \$402.4 million in FY2018 for HIV care, treatment, prevention, and support services.

89 percent of Ugandans living with HIV had been diagnosed and 89 percent of those diagnosed had received lifesaving antiretroviral therapy (ART).

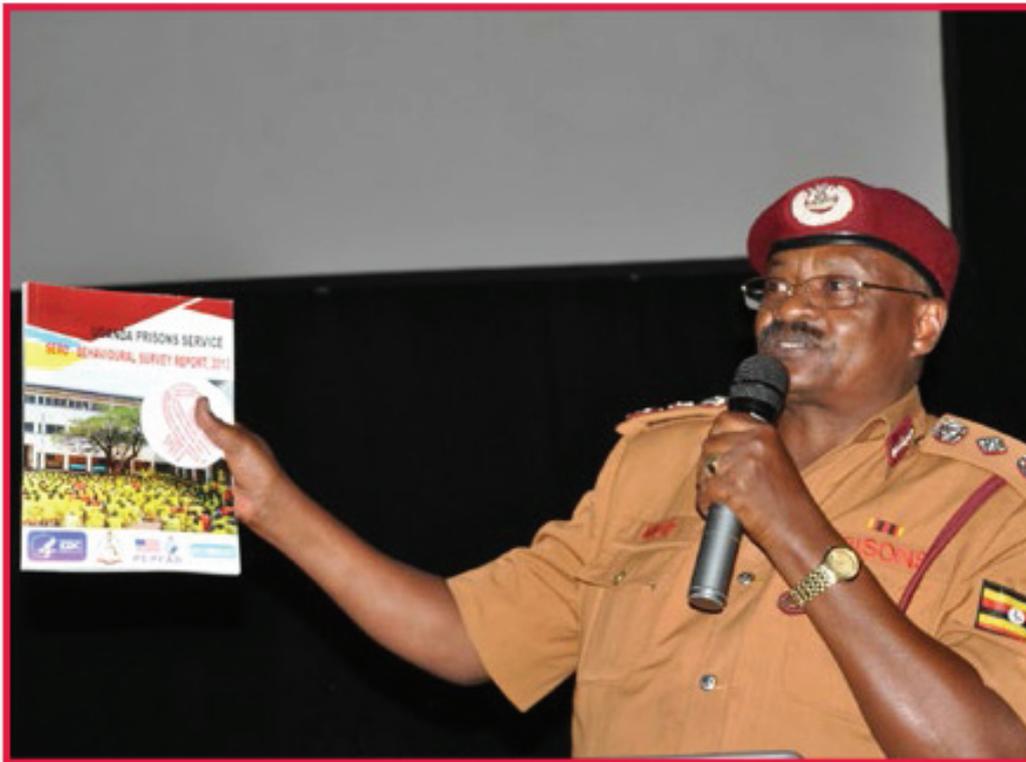


Last year, PEPFAR partnered with the Ugandan Ministry of Health and Ministry of Defense and Veterans Affairs to launch a surge initiative to improve program efficiencies in high-volume health facilities throughout the country. As a result, Uganda achieved its highest-ever treatment coverage for HIV, with 1,120,271 individuals receiving antiretroviral treatment by September 2018.

PEPFAR has supported the Government of Uganda to adopt a new antiretroviral medicine in Uganda, Dolutegravir, in combination with Tenofovir and Lamivudine (TLD), as a priority first-line treatment. This new World Health Organization-recommended drug regimen is considered among the very best treatments globally for HIV, and, when taken as directed, has fewer side effects and low rates of resistance. When individuals with HIV stay on their treatment, the virus is undetectable in their system – and thus untransmissible (known as U = U). By the end of 2019, it is expected that over 50 percent of people on antiretroviral therapy (ART) will receive TLD through public and not-for-profit centers supported by PEPFAR.

229,585

new individuals enrolled to receive lifesaving antiretroviral treatment in 2018.



A Uganda Prisons Service official presents a new report on the prevalence of HIV in Uganda's prisons. The report recommends improvements to HIV prevention, care, and treatment for prisoners, as well as prison staff, because they have an elevated risk of HIV infection.

Improving Health in Uganda's Prison Population

For the last eight years, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has supported the Uganda Prisons Service in its efforts to provide comprehensive care and treatment services for HIV, sexually transmitted infections, and tuberculosis (TB) prevention, with total funding reaching more than \$3.1 million. The program supports capacity-building; scale-up and health systems strengthening efforts in HIV testing and TB screening; and HIV and TB care and support for prisoners and prison staff. Last year, 88,463 prisoners, staff, and members of neighboring communities received comprehensive HIV services.

CDC support has also strengthened linkage to care strategies including referral on release, engagement of released expert clients for home-based HIV testing, and counseling to partners of inmates. This has greatly improved the health of prisoners, prison staff, and surrounding communities.

SUCCESS STORY

PEPFAR HIV Prevention Programs and Initiatives

Preventing the spread of HIV is essential to controlling the epidemic in Uganda. PEPFAR invests in multiple combination approaches to prevention including strategic testing, Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision (VMMC), Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), and support services for key and vulnerable populations.

U.S. prevention efforts focus on reaching individuals living with HIV through efficient testing approaches that immediately link them to lifesaving antiretroviral (ARV) medicines if they are living with HIV. Those who test HIV-negative are provided with an array of effective prevention methods to reduce their risk for HIV infection.

Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) is a proven HIV prevention option for HIV-negative individuals who are at high risk of HIV infection. Last year,

8,527 UGANDANS

received PrEP in 10 PEPFAR-supported districts.

PEPFAR provided 586,167 VMMC services to eligible adolescents and young men in FY2018, with a focus on increasing the proportion of higher-risk individuals aged 15-29 who have received the procedure to 55 percent. VMMC is a critical prevention effort, as it reduces the risk of HIV infection in men by 60 percent.

Additionally, PEPFAR assistance provides vital services to vulnerable populations. The DREAMS (Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS-Free, Mentored, and Safe) initiative provides HIV prevention services for adolescent girls and young women aged 10-24 years in 15 districts. These services empower adolescent girls and young women to remain HIV-free, ensuring educated communities and engaging male partners. For those who are HIV-positive, efforts are geared toward ensuring that they receive appropriate care and treatment that enable them to maintain viral suppression.



After being diagnosed with HIV, Lazeri, a 20-year-old woman in Kasese District, benefitted from care and treatment she received through support from PEPFAR. She has recovered from being critically ill and is now virally suppressed, healthy, and raising her young son.



DREAMS participants receive vocational training.



MALARIA, TUBERCULOSIS, AND OTHER COMMUNICABLE DISEASES



Technicians protect homes and families from malaria through indoor residual spraying supported by USAID.

Controlling the transmission of malaria and providing access to effective treatment is essential to improving the health of Uganda's people.

Malaria is a major public health concern in Uganda. The country has one of the highest rates of malaria in the world. More than 95 percent of the Ugandan population is at risk of malaria transmission.

U.S. assistance, through the U.S. President's Malaria Initiative (PMI), provides access to proven methods for preventing malaria and controlling its spread. Last year, the initiative protected more than four million individuals through indoor residual spraying, helping to reduce malaria incidence by over 40 percent in targeted districts. PMI also contributed to a 52 percent reduction in malaria mortality through the distribution of bed nets, prevention of malaria in pregnancy, promotion of correct diagnosis, effective treatment, education, and promotion of healthy behaviors.



FIGHT THE BITE!

World Malaria Month is a Peace Corps Africa-wide competition that occurs between nations across the continent and among volunteers within each of the participating countries. The competition encourages Peace Corps Volunteers to participate in as many malaria-related activities with their communities as possible in the month of April to promote sustainable malaria prevention and treatment behaviors. During the competition, Volunteers in Uganda distributed 4,570 long-lasting insecticide-treated nets to pregnant mothers, orphans and vulnerable children, and children under five.



A health worker examines a TB patient at Mbale Referral Hospital.

End TB: U.S. assistance is helping to limit the threat of tuberculosis and provide effective treatments for patients in Uganda.

Uganda has a high burden of tuberculosis (TB) with an estimated 89,000 TB cases every year. Assistance from the U.S. government is helping Uganda to implement programs and strategies that reduce the threat of TB throughout the country. With support from PEPFAR, the National TB and Leprosy Program has intensified efforts to find individuals with TB and ensure they access effective treatment. PEPFAR also strengthened data by supporting the Ugandan government to transition reporting from a stand-alone TB database to the national health information system.

USAID has supported expansion of the multi-drug resistant (MDR) TB treatment program to the National Referral Hospital, all regional referral hospitals, and two district hospitals. Last year, 493 MDR TB cases were detected and 489 were initiated on second-line treatment.

Shamim Binsobede was diagnosed with MDR TB by health workers at Mbale Referral Hospital. After receiving treatment, her health has improved and she is helping other MDR TB patients at the hospital. She says:

“When I came here I was diagnosed with MDR TB. I weighed 20kgs and so they kept me here and started my treatment. Now I weigh 47 kgs. Now I feel great. I’m on month 15 now. But now my boyfriend has just been admitted with MDR TB. I am now supporting him; every day I come here and encourage him to take drugs, to not fear the many injections. But not only him, everyone here on the wards. I’m like a counselor here.”



ENVISION/Act to End Neglected Tropical Diseases–East

The United States supports Uganda's National Neglected Tropical Disease Control Program in an effort to control and eliminate the most prevalent neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) through proven, safe, and cost-effective health interventions.

Over 39 million people are at risk of contracting at least one NTD in Uganda. These diseases take a heavy human toll, causing chronic illness, blindness, physical disfigurements, and disability. They also lead to people being stigmatized, cause reduced productivity, and contribute to the cycle of poverty. Children are particularly vulnerable to these diseases, leading to malnutrition, absenteeism from school, and delayed cognitive development.

Since 2007, USAID and the Ugandan Ministry of Health have worked together to provide over

242,000,000 TREATMENTS

to Ugandans with neglected tropical diseases.



A health researcher conducts tests in a U.S.-funded laboratory.

USAID supports the Ministry of Health's efforts to reach World Health Organization NTD elimination goals, ensure sustainability of its treatment programs, and address key policy issues. USAID also supports the Ministry of Health in strengthening data management systems and other structures to improve the transparency, effectiveness, and efficiency of the national NTD control program.



MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

Increasing access to quality maternal and child health services reduces maternal mortality rates and improves the health of women, infants, and children throughout Uganda.

146,421 VOUCHERS

were sold through the Voucher Plus program, providing services ranging from antenatal care delivery to postnatal care. As a result, 63,453 clients delivered their babies in private accredited facilities as opposed to at home.

Many maternal and child deaths in Uganda are preventable. U.S. assistance supports programs and services that reduce mortality rates and improve the health and well-being of women, infants, and children by expanding access to quality maternity care. In 2018, the U.S. government, in partnership with the Ugandan government and private sector donors, completed the five-year Saving Mothers, Giving Life initiative, which focused on reducing maternal deaths by comprehensively addressing the three delays to safe delivery – delays in seeking care, delays in reaching a health care facility, and delays in receiving adequate care. The initiative resulted in a 44 percent reduction in maternal mortality in the participating districts.

Increasing the role of the private sector in providing health care services for women with limited financial resources is essential to enabling more mothers to access the care they need. USAID's Voucher Plus program helps to subsidize care and increase access to quality maternal and newborn health services and family planning in the private sector for women who cannot otherwise afford it. Through this activity, the capacity of the private sector is strengthened and quality of services are improved, keeping the private sector aligned with national health standards.



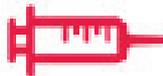
A health worker administers a shot to an infant.

USAID Regional Health Integration to Enhance Services (RHITES)

Last year, USAID focused on integrating services provided through maternal and child health, nutrition, family planning, TB, HIV, and malaria programs to maximize resources and expertise in the districts of operation. RHITES activities continued to support comprehensive and integrated health, HIV, and nutrition assistance in 70 districts, strengthening antenatal care and reducing mother-to-child malaria transmission among other outcomes. In these districts, 42 percent of pregnant women now have four or more antenatal care visits, and 64 percent of women delivered their babies with a skilled attendant.

73 PERCENT

of children aged 12-23 months are fully immunized in RHITES districts.



Expectant mother Harriet Esaete, from Mbale, has benefitted from antenatal care (ANC) that RHITES provided at the Nakokole Health Center IV. She says:

“I am expecting twins, so I come to this health center for my ANC visits. The quality of services has really improved very much. The staff are very friendly, the place is clean, and the service is good. All my friends and neighbors come here for ANC.”



NUTRITION

Improving food security and reducing malnutrition in Uganda helps more citizens live healthier, more productive lives and strengthens the health of the country as a whole.

Inadequate nutrition and food insecurity impact a large portion of Uganda's population, negatively affecting their health and their ability to prosper. This is especially true for children in Uganda, who experience high rates of stunting and vitamin deficiencies that compromise their health.

The United States provides nutrition-focused assistance that seeks to address the causes of inadequate nutrition, reduce food insecurity, and treat the health-related consequences of malnutrition. We partner with the Ugandan government to integrate nutrition services and education into the health system and increase the availability and diversity of quality, nutritious foods.

2,100,721

pregnant women received nutrition-specific support and care through USAID.

2,571,240

children under five benefitted from nutrition programs supported through U.S. assistance.



USAID supports the production of biofortified crops, such as iron-rich beans and orange sweet potatoes, as part of efforts to reduce deficiencies of Vitamin A and iron. This support included training of 62,607 farmers in 21 districts and dissemination of biofortified seeds. To date, 5,486 hectares are planted with biofortified crops, which helps address nutrient deficiencies among the population and increase farmers' incomes.

Other efforts include supporting nutrition assessments, maternal and child nutrition counseling, provision of iron and folic acid, treatment for acute malnutrition for children under five, and supplementation of vitamin A and zinc for babies. U.S. programs also provide education to caregivers on good sanitation and hygiene practices, and appropriate infant and young child feeding practices.

FAMILY PLANNING & REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

Services and support that lead to effective voluntary family planning and promote reproductive health contribute to the well-being of families and a healthier population overall.

Uganda has a very young and rapidly growing population. Approximately 55 percent of the 40 million people living in Uganda are under the age of 18; the median age of Uganda's population is 15.9 years. Teenagers contribute significantly to Uganda's high total fertility rate and rapid population growth, partly as a result of societal expectations that child birth should occur soon after marriage. One-quarter (24.8 percent) of women under 20 years had begun childbearing according to the most recent data from 2016.

U.S. assistance takes a multi-pronged approach to promote healthy reproductive behaviors including delaying sexual debut and the age at which a woman has her first pregnancy, and promoting the healthy timing and spacing of births with young mothers. USAID-supported activities increase access to and demand for voluntary family planning and reproductive health services. These initiatives focus on enhancing counselling, referrals, and service provision; increasing access to contraceptives; and improving service provider skills.

HEALTH SYSTEM STRENGTHENING

Increasing the capacity of Uganda's health system expands access to services that improve quality of life for the country's people.

Enabling Ugandans to benefit from an accessible, quality health care system is vital to the health and well-being of the country's population. Our assistance strengthens healthcare infrastructure, service delivery, human resources, laboratory quality, health information systems, surveillance, and supply chains to ensure that Ugandans can access health promotion, prevention, and treatment services. Through U.S. government support, the Ugandan government has put in place systems to improve accountability and transparency of health commodities. A national supply chain assessment was conducted to assess and improve functionality of the central medical stores and health facilities. Based on this assessment, plans are underway to start implementing key strategic recommendations. With a view towards sustainability, efforts also focus on increasing governmental and other financial resources dedicated to the health sector.



A health researcher tests blood samples in a U.S.-supported laboratory.



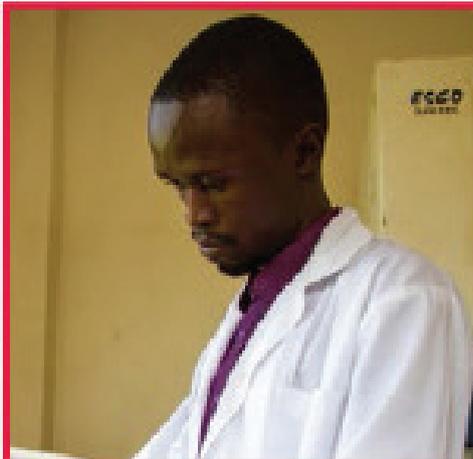
Dr. Engineer Bainomugisha (third from left) is one of the ten Ugandans who visited various U.S. cities through the U.S. Department of State's International Visitor Leadership Program to learn first-hand about air pollution mitigation measures. Bainomugisha's AirQo project won a \$1.3 million grant from Google to improve air pollution monitoring in Uganda.

Improving Air Quality in Uganda

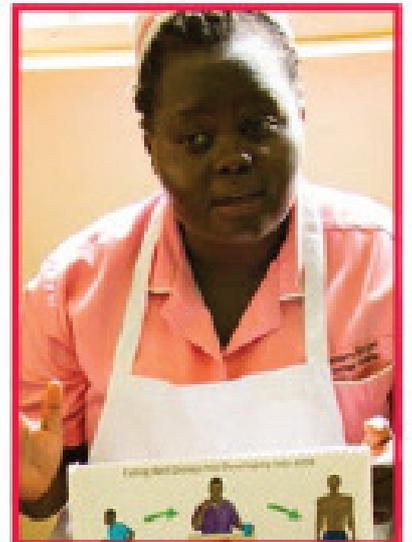
In Kampala, poor air quality is a significant threat to public health. According to World Health Organization estimates, over 31,000 Ugandans die annually due to air pollution-related illnesses. Air pollution places a heavy burden on Uganda's health system and increases healthcare costs.

U.S. air quality engagement and awareness efforts are helping Ugandan authorities to mitigate air pollution. The U.S. Mission provided air quality monitoring services and sponsored professional exchange programs oriented around technical assistance. This support enabled the Kampala Capital City Authority, Makerere University, and the National Environmental Management Authority to enact air monitoring initiatives to reduce air pollution.

SUCCESS STORY



Improving the health of Uganda's population enables more Ugandans to live long and prosperous lives, and it improves the country's economy and overall stability.





The Uganda Virus Institute's Viral Hemorrhagic Fever Laboratory

Previously, the U.S. government provided reference laboratory services for Uganda and the region from CDC labs in Atlanta. The U.S. government, through CDC, supported the Ministry of Health's Uganda Virus Research Institute (UVRI) in Entebbe to establish the Viral Hemorrhagic Fever laboratory in 2010, which helps diagnose disease outbreaks such as Ebola. Today, Uganda is able to detect and confirm several outbreaks in Uganda and across the region in its own facilities, with over 800 tests conducted since the declaration of the Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in August of 2018, including more than 525 from high-risk districts.

Earlier, in 2003, CDC renovated a UVRI regional lab in Arua to combat plague outbreaks – caused by rats and fleas – which were predominant in the West Nile region. These efforts have resulted in no human plague cases detected in the West Nile region since 2015. In 2018, CDC collaborated with the DoD's Defense Threat Reduction Agency to undertake cutting-edge upgrades and expand the lab's capacity to safely diagnose, report, and actively monitor other major pathogens in the region including anthrax and brucellosis.



United States and Ugandan officials convene to commemorate the latest upgrades and refurbishments to the Arua UVRI laboratory.



PROSPEROUS

Increased
productivity,
efficiency, and
conservation
drive
sustainable
growth and
prosperity for
Uganda.

A ranger with the Ugandan Wildlife Authority surveys wildlands in his jurisdiction.



The United States facilitates and supports efforts to increase Uganda's prosperity and promote sustainable growth. Our assistance focuses on strengthening 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.



Assistance Focus Areas

- ▶ **Agriculture**
- ▶ **Commercial Advocacy**
- ▶ **Entrepreneurship**
- ▶ **Energy**
- ▶ **Environment and Biodiversity**



AGRICULTURE

U.S. assistance increases food security in Uganda and enables more farmers and their families to prosper thanks to a stronger, more productive economy.

Much of Uganda's economy revolves around agriculture and farming. The agriculture sector generates 85 percent of the country's export earnings. It also employs the majority of the country's workforce. U.S. initiatives help to strengthen Ugandan agriculture and the national economy by expanding access to vital resources and infrastructure that can increase productivity, efficiency, and competitiveness.

The United States also provides training to enable Ugandans working in the agricultural sector to prosper. Last year, USAID helped 89,027 youth strengthen their workforce readiness skills and access key economic opportunities. In partnership with private sector agribusiness firms, these efforts created more than 5,676 full-time jobs for young people.



Anna Inwata participates in the APOLOU Seed Fair in Karenga.

Moses Lochoro

(above) is a farmer

in Karenga who has benefitted from U.S. assistance to Uganda's agriculture sector. Through USAID's APOLOU Seed Fair, Moses received seeds at a reduced price to improve his farm's productivity and the quality of life for his family. He says:

"The money I make from growing these seeds I use for medicine for my whole family. Also, I'm getting married soon so it is good to save some money."



Feed the Future

USAID's Feed the Future initiative is helping to reduce hunger and food insecurity. Through a wide range of programs and activities, Feed the Future increases agricultural productivity and quality and enables farmers to establish commercial operations that they can sustain and grow. The initiative has empowered 95,516 farmers and others in the agriculture sector to apply improved technologies and management practices to increase their productivity. Feed the Future has benefitted 251,499 households since the beginning of the initiative five years ago.



Feed the Future programs and activities are helping women like Jamawa Muteki prosper from new economic opportunities. She says of her work as product manager at Byeffa Foods Company Limited in Mbale:

“I have six children. With the money I make here, I pay for school fees for my kids and buy food to eat. Before I came here, I was a farmer. I planted pumpkins and sold them here, and that's how I earned my money. But now I work here, and the money is good.”



U.S. Ambassador to Uganda Deboreh Melac visits a U.S. tech company working in Uganda to deliver secure, high-quality training data for Artificial Intelligence technologies. The company has created more than 500 jobs for Ugandans.

COMMERCIAL ADVOCACY

Expanding private investment, access to markets, and removing barriers to trade increases Uganda's global competitiveness, strengthens the economy, and creates joint prosperity for both Ugandans and Americans.

The United States works with Ugandan producers and manufacturers to enable them to produce and efficiently deliver quality products to domestic, regional, and international markets. Through the U.S. government's African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) and the Generalized System of Preferences, Ugandan businesses export a wide variety of goods to the United States duty-free. In collaboration with the Parliament of Uganda, USAID supported a trade promotion event and expo that showcased Ugandan exporters and provided approximately 100 Ugandan businesses with information on AGOA trade benefits and access to international buyers.

Additionally, we assist U.S. companies trying to enter the Ugandan market. American entrepreneurs have a reputation worldwide for creating high-quality jobs and products, investing in people and local communities, promoting transparency, and using cutting-edge technology. The increased presence of U.S. companies benefits many Ugandans in a wide variety of fields, providing jobs in agriculture, technology, services, and manufacturing, among others.

To reduce the government's reliance on debt financing for infrastructure projects, USAID organized a two-day workshop that increased government officials' awareness of private sector financing options. USAID is also supporting the Uganda Revenue Authority to enable it to increase revenue collection, while also improving its transparency and efficiency.

The United States African Development Fund (USADF) supports Ugandan-owned enterprises to improve livelihoods in poor and vulnerable communities. In 2018, USADF invested over \$7 million in agribusiness, offgrid energy, and entrepreneurship projects in Uganda.



The Growing Profile and Increased Productivity of Uganda's Coffee Industry

Coffee is one of Uganda's most lucrative export crops. The U.S. Mission, through USAID, provides significant support to Uganda's coffee sector, including the provision of matching grants to expand the operations of enterprises working in coffee growing, drying, processing, and quality improvement. In addition, we provide technical assistance to smallholder coffee farmers on good agronomic practices, and expand access to quality, affordable fertilizer and seedlings.

In 2017, USAID's Ahur Highlands Coffee Alliance engaged

MORE THAN 16,000

previously "unreached" farmers, most of whom are micro-entrepreneurs in the West Nile Region of Uganda, improving their access to markets, technology, and finance.



We are also working with policymakers to enhance the policy and regulatory frameworks in place for coffee, and to expand the market for Ugandan coffee. U.S.

Ambassador to Uganda Deborah Malac led a trade mission to the 2018 Specialty Coffee

Expo in Seattle, Washington. She was accompanied by the Ugandan Ambassador to the United States, Mull Katende, the Uganda Coffee Development Authority (UCDA), USAID, and more than 20 Ugandan coffee entrepreneurs. The trade mission boosted the profile of Uganda's coffee industry, focused UCDA leadership on areas for improvement, and introduced Ugandan coffee companies to coffee importers and U.S. equipment manufacturers.

After the mission, several Ugandan coffee entrepreneurs noted that they made useful contacts in Seattle and that the mission generated discernible interest in Ugandan coffee among U.S. coffee traders.

International coffee buyers sample Ugandan coffee during the 2018 Specialty Coffee Expo.



ENTREPRENEURSHIP

More small enterprises and businesses can grow sustainably when entrepreneurs have the skills and the support they need to thrive.

89,027

vulnerable and poor youth benefitted from improved entrepreneurship opportunities, increased incomes, and expanded workforce skills through the YLA project.

U.S. assistance is helping Ugandan entrepreneurs, start-ups, and small businesses access the resources they need to compete and prosper. By helping business owners and other producers access the funds and materials required to grow their enterprises, and by providing trainings that build key business and leadership skills, U.S. programs support sustainable growth and create new opportunities.

Youth Leadership for Agriculture (YLA), a project supported through USAID's Feed the Future initiative, is one example of how our assistance increases opportunity for young people in Uganda's agriculture sector. YLA provides wider access to financing, workforce skills training, and greater employment options. In turn, young people benefit when they realize greater profitability from their businesses or work.





Justine Mukazungu, the entrepreneurial founder of Stina Foods Limited, has used the support YLA provides to source materials and machinery to help expand her business.

“It all started because my baby wasn’t putting on as much weight as I wanted her to. So, as a first-time mother, I remembered what it was that my mother used to do: she would collect several cereals like maize, soy bean, rice, millet, fish and grind it into flour and make a porridge. And, when I did that, my daughter really liked it. So, I decided to make it for other mothers and then it became a business.



YLA has connected me to mostly female youth farmers that grow my raw materials and I buy directly from them. They have also helped me grow my business with a stainless grinding machine that helps me increase my production, as demand is high.”



Electrical technicians travel to a rural district. By 2020, the Government of Uganda aims to achieve a national electrification rate of 30 percent through new on- and off-grid connections, increasing per capita consumption from the current rate of 157 kilowatt hours (kWh) to 578 kWh.

ENERGY

Despite an average economic growth rate of five percent for each of the last ten years, Uganda has one of the lowest electrification rates in the world. This is especially true in rural areas, where only 10 percent of Ugandans have access to electricity, compared to 55 percent in urban areas. With only 17 percent of the population connected to the national grid, many Ugandans employ off-grid technologies such as distributed power and solar home systems in order to meet their energy needs.

Through Power Africa, the United States supported the Uganda Rural Electrification Agency to develop a free electricity connections policy and is working to expand electricity access in 13 rural service territories. These initiatives increased the number of Ugandans connected to electricity, improved distribution networks, reduced energy losses, and promoted more productive uses of energy. Additionally, USAID identified, tracked, and supported clean energy projects with 974 megawatt (MW) generation capacity in 2018.

214,914

new electricity connections were added in rural areas, providing clean and reliable electricity to 1,010,095 Ugandans with support from the United States.



Expanding Access to Solar Energy

USAID's Power Africa Initiative supported solar companies both individually and through their umbrella organization, the Uganda Solar Energy Association, to bring power to Ugandans who are not reached by the national electricity grid. This support focused on improving the regulatory environment, activating new markets, and helping solar companies meet the increasing demand for solar solutions. These efforts are expected to result in 500,000 new connections to solar solutions by 2020.

As part of this assistance, USAID supported over 16,000 farmers in the Alur Highlands Coffee Alliance in the West Nile region to get access to electricity. Jane Cwinyaal, a coffee farmer in Zombo District, bought her solar system in August 2016. She said, "I used the earnings from the coffee farm to buy my solar system. I wanted my grandchildren to be able to read at night and to charge my phone. The system also presented an opportunity to make some money. I charge other people's phones for a small fee. This has helped me to increase my income."

With more money at her disposal, Jane wants to take her daughters to university, after which she can buy a bigger solar home system.



Jane Cwinyaal poses with her solar panel in front of her house.

SUCCESS STORY

ENVIRONMENT AND BIODIVERSITY

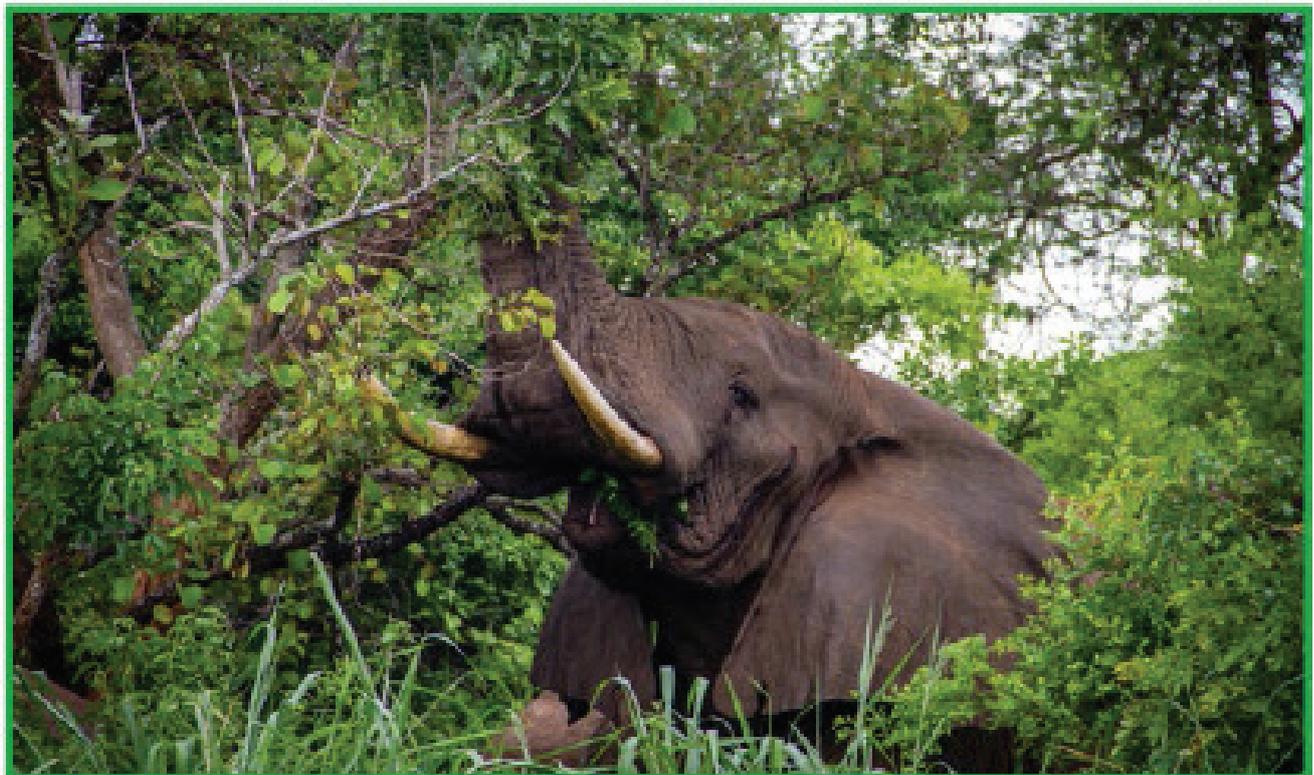
Uganda's incredible biological diversity is one of the world's great treasures and the rightful heritage of all Ugandans. Successfully managing wildlife conservation is fundamental to the realization of Uganda's sustainable development goals, and it is a collective responsibility to future generations. Uganda's wildlife populations have declined significantly over the past fifty years due to poaching, high human population growth, and human-driven alterations to natural habitats, particularly in the conversion to agricultural practices. U.S. assistance is helping Uganda effectively manage its extraordinary ecosystems, preserve wildlife, and conserve wildlands in ways that contribute to the country's economic stability and growth.

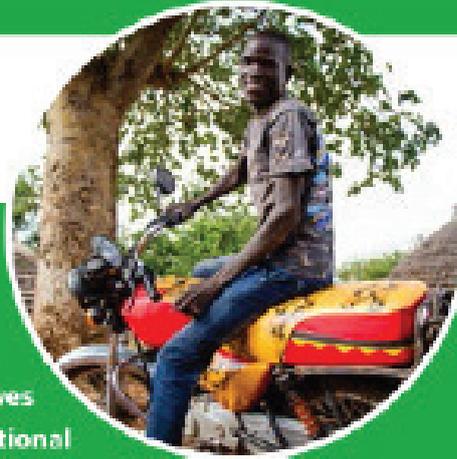
Elephants occupied **75** percent of Uganda in the 1920s. Today only **6.3** percent of the country, most of it within a few protected areas, is still considered to be elephant range.



U.S. assistance has provided Ugandan investigators with training in wildlife crime scene investigations; supplied equipment necessary to secure crime scenes and collect evidence; and strengthened the capacity of prosecutors and judges to prosecute, adjudicate, and set sentencing guidelines for wildlife crimes.

Through the African Wildlife Foundation, the United States also partnered with the Global Environment Fund, Uganda Wildlife Authority, and communities from 14 sub-counties to establish community wildlife associations that enabled the development of the Kidepo Community Conservancy.





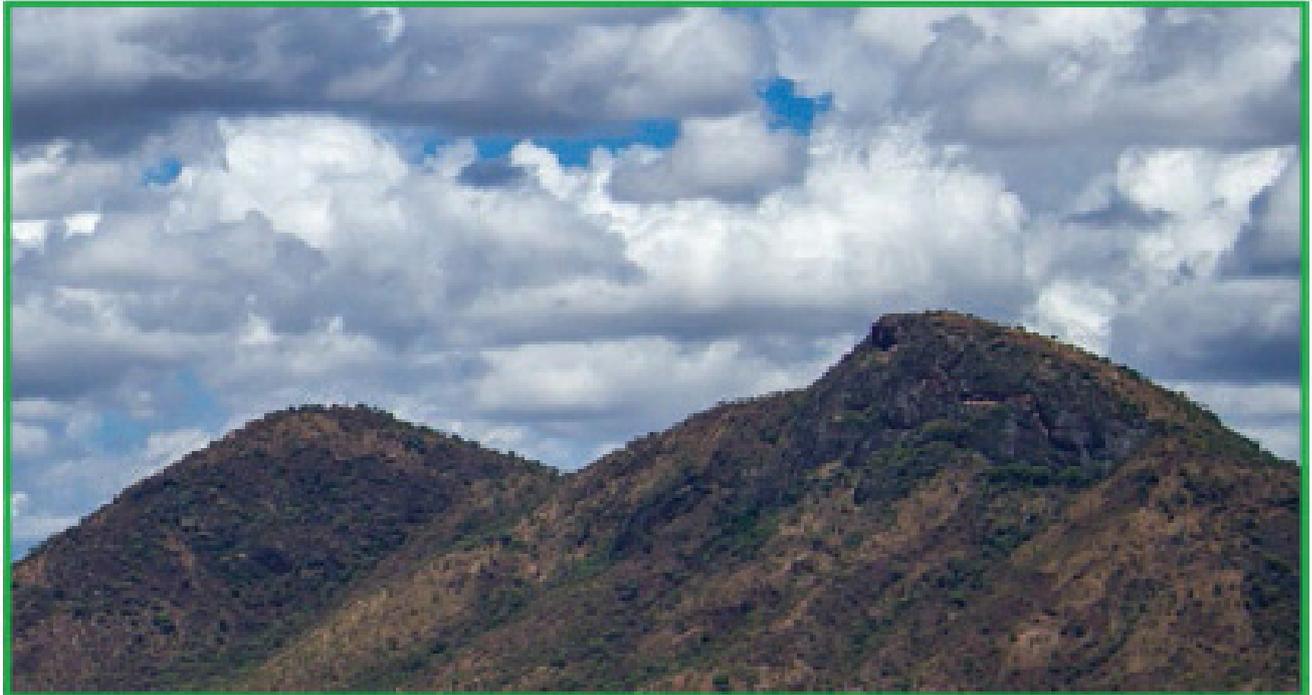
Michael Ikok, a community member who lives near Kidepo National Park, has benefitted from training he received from the African Wildlife Foundation, enabling him to better coexist with animals in the park. He says:

“Elephants and buffalo come from the park at night and eat our crops. Sometimes they can leave you with nothing. AWF trained us on how to grow chilies and burn some of it so that the elephants keep away and don’t destroy our crops. Chilies really keep the animals away. I was also able to sell some chilies, and, with the money I have made from this, I help my siblings to go to school and I have bought myself a boda-boda, which also helps me make some money.”

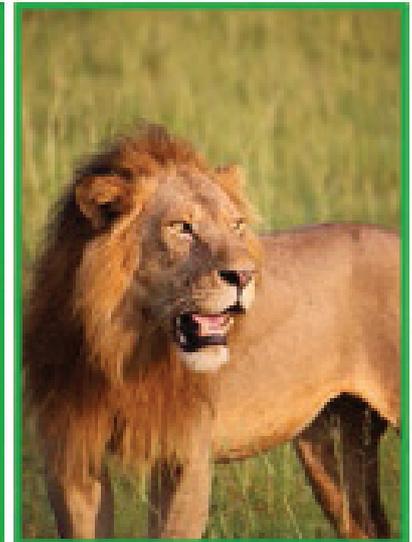
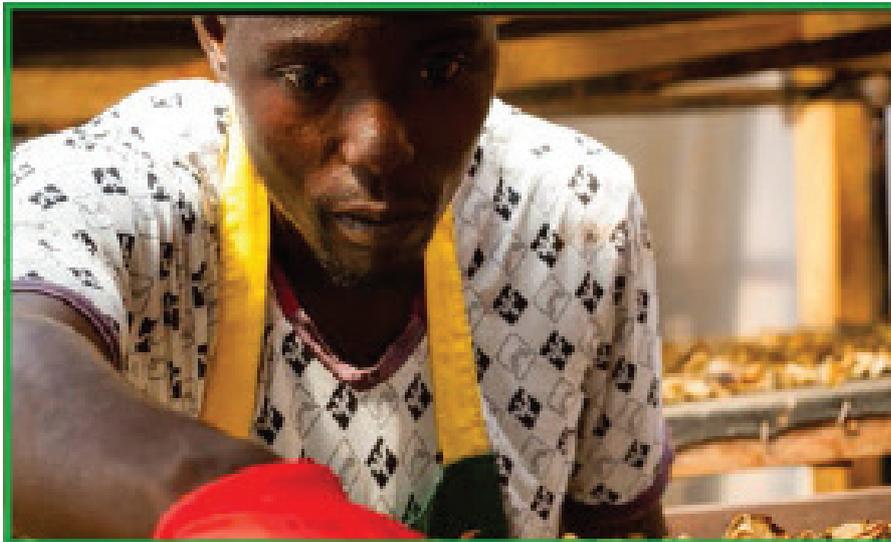


43,200

The number of environmentally and biologically important hectares under improved management thanks to U.S. assistance



U.S. assistance focuses on strengthening Uganda's agricultural sector through initiatives that improve productivity, create jobs, and increase revenues for farmers and agricultural companies.





Zoohackathon

The U.S. Mission and the Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Center hosted Zoohackathon, a local version of a global coding competition that challenged 100 participants to create innovative technological solutions in response to wildlife trafficking. The competition set the stage for teams of university students, software professionals, and wildlife enthusiasts to continuously code for 24 hours. Fifteen Ugandan teams submitted their solutions to an expert panel of judges. One of the Ugandan teams was selected as a runner-up in the global Zoohackathon competition.

Zoohackathon participants pose with a rhinoceros.



Zoohackathon participants code during the 24-hour competition.

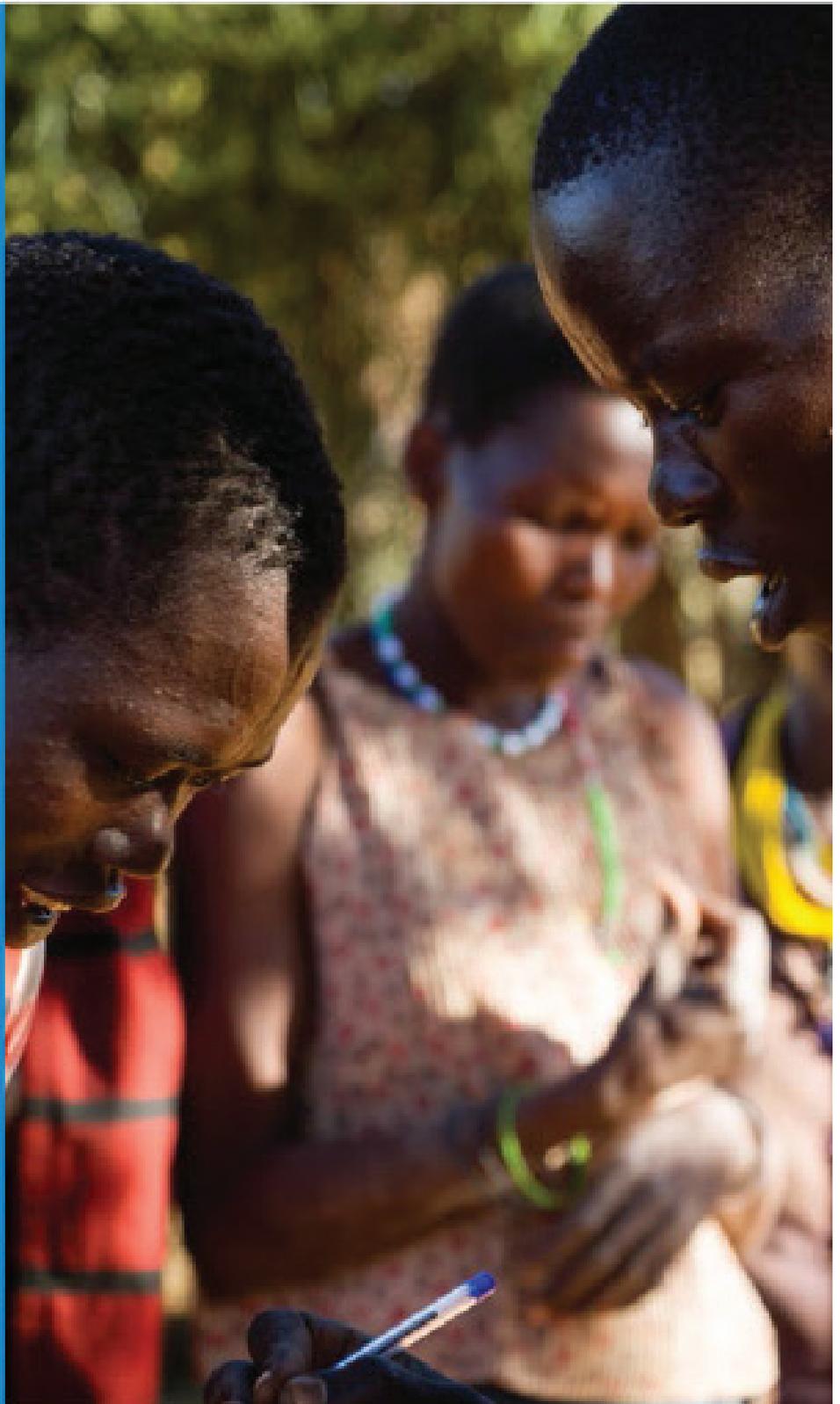




STABLE

Uganda's long-term stability hinges on its capacity to ensure widespread safety, take a lead in regional peacekeeping efforts, and protect the health of its people.

Ugandan citizens engage in an activity as part of the Securing Peace, Promoting Prosperity (SPP) project in Kibungo district.



Within Uganda's borders, U.S. assistance funds conflict mitigation programs that reduce community-based violence and advance reconciliation. The U.S. Department of Defense partners with Uganda to support regional security efforts and provide Ugandan soldiers with training in peacekeeping, security operations, and compliance with international human rights standards. The United States also assists Uganda's ongoing efforts to welcome and host refugees from neighboring countries, providing them with access to vital resources such as water and food, healthcare, sanitation, and education and employment opportunities. Additionally, U.S. assistance supports Uganda's regional leadership in detecting and controlling infectious disease outbreaks.



Assistance Focus Areas

- ▶ **Conflict Mitigation and Reconciliation**
- ▶ **Defense Institution Building and Peacekeeping**
- ▶ **Refugees**
- ▶ **Global Health Security**



Uganda has welcomed more than

1.2

MILLION REFUGEES from neighboring countries.

IN 20

DISTRICTS ACROSS UGANDA, USAID has led trainings that empower local citizens to peacefully resolve disputes and promote justice.

\$296.1

MILLION U.S. DOLLARS

UGX: 1.1 TRILLION

Total U.S. government assistance to promote a stable Uganda

CONFLICT MITIGATION AND RECONCILIATION

Peacebuilding efforts are critical to Uganda's social and economic stability, ensuring communities can mediate land disputes and increase access to justice.

Communities across Uganda are still rebuilding in the aftermath of the Lord's Resistance Army insurgency. Individuals have experienced threats to their safety and well-being, limiting their opportunities to realize a stable and prosperous future. Recurring crises have also limited Uganda's ability to devote resources to development and public works projects, central to a vibrant social and economic future.

USAID's conflict mitigation and reconciliation initiatives equip Ugandan citizens across 20 districts with the tools to mediate disputes, increase access to justice, and effectively administer land, a traditional driver of instability. As a result, 215 community mediators have gained the tools to resolve emerging conflicts. Additionally, individuals across Northern Uganda and Karamoja leverage both formal and informal strategies to register and protect their land rights, breaking generational cycles of conflict. As the region continues to become more arid and grazing land for cattle disappears, communities will increasingly be able to develop agreements to pool resources, ensuring a unified, prosperous Uganda.

More than

1,200

households have benefited from USAID-supported cognitive behavioral therapy interventions, contributing to increasingly healthy, stable, and productive communities.

Paul Miki, a participant in the Securing Peace, Promoting Prosperity (Ekisil) project in Kaabong District, has worked with fellow Ugandans to promote peacekeeping efforts across the region. He says:

"What has changed most since [joining Ekisil] is my personality. I am now a role model to other group members and I have also identified other people in the community who have found support from joining this group."





U.S. Marines engage in joint trainings with UPDF soldiers to maintain stability across the region.

DEFENSE INSTITUTION BUILDING AND PEACEKEEPING

A strong United States-Uganda military partnership is essential to maintaining national and regional stability.

The U.S. military has cultivated a close partnership with the Uganda Peoples' Defence Forces (UPDF), building its capacity and capabilities to participate in successful multinational peace support operations. Through the African Peacekeeping Rapid Response Partnership program, the United States has equipped the UPDF with the training and equipment to rapidly deploy personnel in response to emerging conflicts and other crises, including humanitarian disasters. As a result, 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, civil engineering, and utilities fundamentals; all of which are critical to successful military efforts.

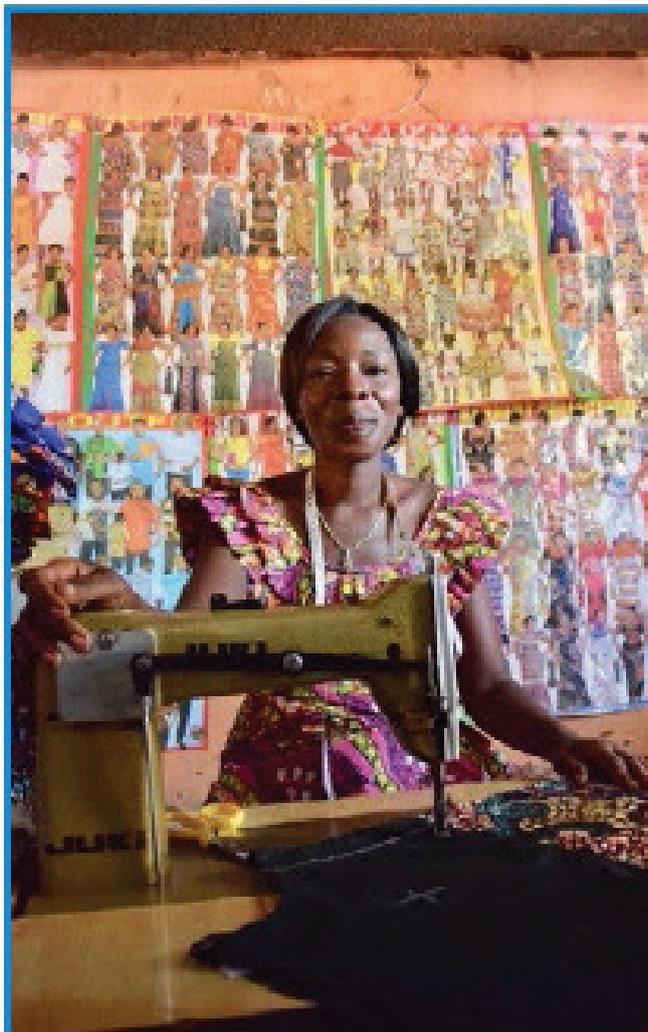
The United States has also focused on providing the UPDF with aviation-related expertise and resources to support fellow troops in the African Union Mission to Somalia (AMISOM) and other peacekeeping missions. With the addition of five Huey II helicopters, two Cessna-208 airplanes, assorted spare parts, and extensive training, UPDF troops are better equipped to mobilize for urgent missions and evacuate fellow soldiers who are injured in combat. Through U.S.-led trainings, UPDF soldiers also build their knowledge of human rights standards and international humanitarian law, essential to efforts to stave off conflict in the region.

With the support of the United States, over

6,000

UPDF soldiers have engaged in individual and collective trainings in the last year to effectively support peacekeeping efforts for the African Union Mission to Somalia (AMISOM).

REFUGEES



A refugee in Uganda engages in a sewing project, one of many U.S.-supported efforts.

Uganda welcomes and assists refugees from across the region.

As other countries in the region experience violence and warfare, refugees have fled to Uganda. Despite the challenges of hosting refugees, Uganda represents a model of emerging growth, prosperity, and stability. Uganda is a haven for individuals from neighboring countries who seek safety and opportunity.

To support this effort, the U.S. Department of State and USAID together provided more than \$139 million in FY2018 to support programs that address both refugees' and Ugandans' basic needs and provide them with the tools to realize prosperous futures. Within the U.S. Department of State, the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM) strives to protect and ease the suffering of persecuted and uprooted people around the globe, closely partnering with the Ugandan government in this case to offer life-sustaining humanitarian aid.

With United States support,
Uganda has provided more than

1,200,000

refugees with life-saving access
to food, healthcare, shelter,
clean water, and education.



U.S. Refugee Admissions Program

The U.S. Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP) represents a longstanding effort to advance United States humanitarian principles, maintain regional stability, and relieve human suffering. In an effort to ensure nations like Uganda have the capacity to resettle particularly vulnerable refugees from crises in neighboring countries, USRAP increases the flow of life-saving resources, shares the burden of displacement, and provides a lifeline to displaced peoples. Along with these objectives, USRAP emphasizes efforts to address the public health needs of several thousand refugees, monitoring and offering vaccinations for infectious diseases such as varicella and measles that may also affect host communities.

.....

USRAP's Uganda operations are one of the largest in the world, resettling

4,300 REFUGEES

to the United States over the last two years and continuing our role as the largest third country resettlement partner in Uganda.

.....



.....

With PRM resources, the American Refugee Committee provides assistance to the Nakivule refugee settlement.





Children in a Ugandan refugee community receive support and services.

Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework

As part of an international effort to provide a more systemic, coordinated, and sustainable response that benefits refugees and their host communities, the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) seeks to ease economic pressures on refugee-hosting communities, enhance refugee self-reliance, promote third-country solutions, and improve conditions in countries of origin to enable voluntary repatriation. Uganda was the first of more than a dozen pilot countries worldwide that adopted the CRRF, which has helped it leverage significant support to address the needs of its 1.2 million refugees and the Ugandan communities that host them.

The CRRF embeds international refugee hosting principles and best practices into Uganda's progressive refugee policies and brings a whole-of-government approach to the refugee response. With the United States as a strong partner, Uganda will expand its capacity to include and elevate refugees in their communities, contributing to local and national economic growth.

GLOBAL HEALTH SECURITY AGENDA

Uganda leads regional efforts to increase global health security.

Uganda has increased its capabilities to identify, monitor, and combat public health threats including viral hemorrhagic fevers, such as Ebola and Marburg, and other disease outbreaks like cholera, meningitis, plague, and anthrax. As a member of the Global Health Security Agenda, a global partnership to help make the world safer and more secure from infectious disease threats, Uganda has expanded its infrastructural capacity and technical expertise to offset emerging crises and preserve stability in its communities. The U.S. government – through dedicated support of CDC, USAID, Department of Defense (DoD), and other entities – has supported Uganda to build its core public health capacities in disease surveillance, laboratory systems, workforce development, and emergency management. This has enabled Uganda to implement numerous initiatives designed to increase awareness of, and effective response to, infectious diseases.

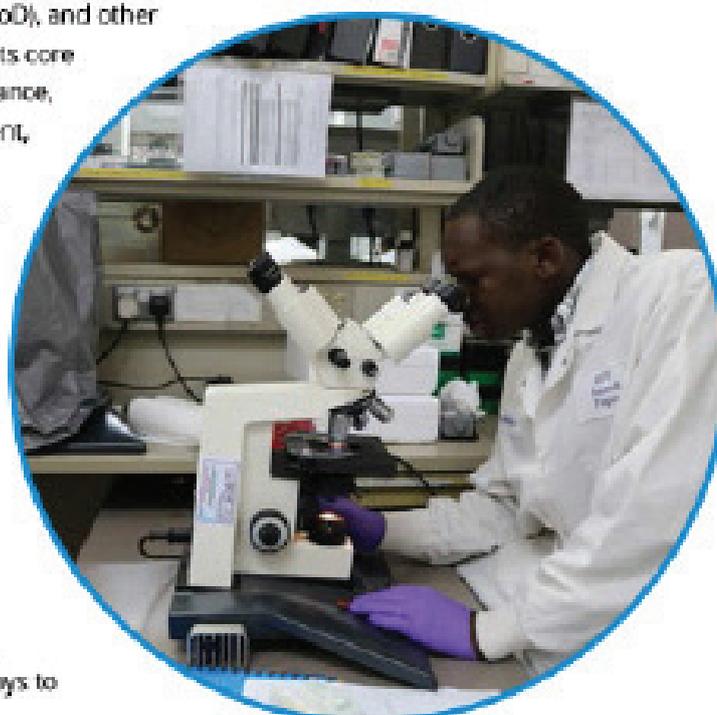
The Ugandan Ministry of Health has effectively coordinated and supported response efforts to more than 35 disease outbreaks thanks to a U.S. government-supported national Public Health Emergency Operations Center (PHEOC). The PHEOC has dramatically reduced the time it takes to detect and respond to outbreaks from a high of 30 days to less than 48 hours.

Additionally, Uganda is emerging as a leader in advancing global health security through its partnership with the DoD Joint Mobile Emerging Disease Intervention Clinical Capability (JMEDICC) initiative, which positions medical officials to test innovative treatments and simulate rapid responses to a potential Ebola Virus Disease outbreak. Fort Portal Regional Referral Hospital in Kabarole District demonstrates what is possible through JMEDICC – establishing capabilities to conduct clinical research anywhere in the country and training staff in advanced supportive care and scientific rigor. Through this partnership, Uganda is able to respond to potential public health threats such as Ebola and develop innovative treatments that will improve the global community's ability to respond to future outbreaks.

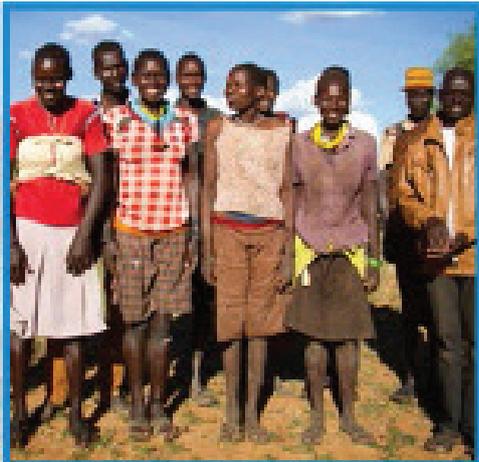
More than

4,000

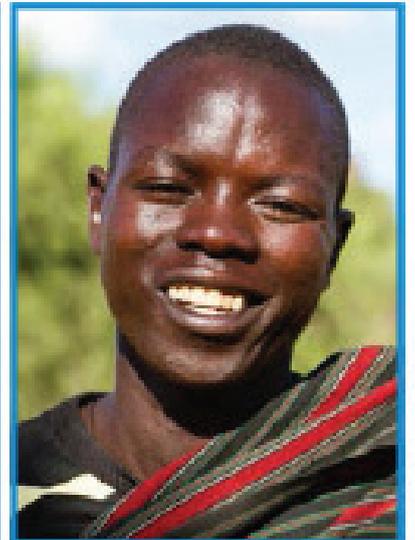
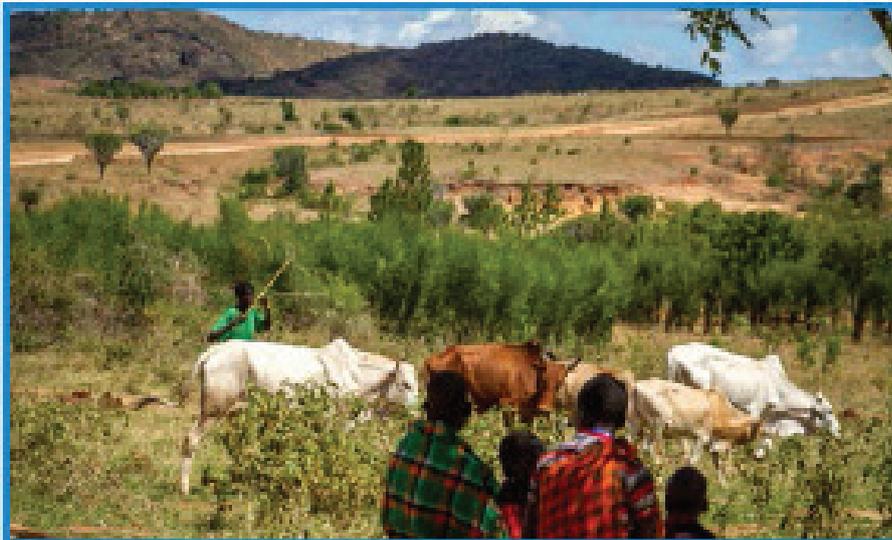
individuals were vaccinated in 2018 as part of increased Ebola preparedness efforts.



With U.S. government support, Ugandan researchers are able to rapidly identify and respond to outbreaks.



Uganda represents a model of emerging growth, prosperity, and stability, and is increasingly a leader in advancing global health security.

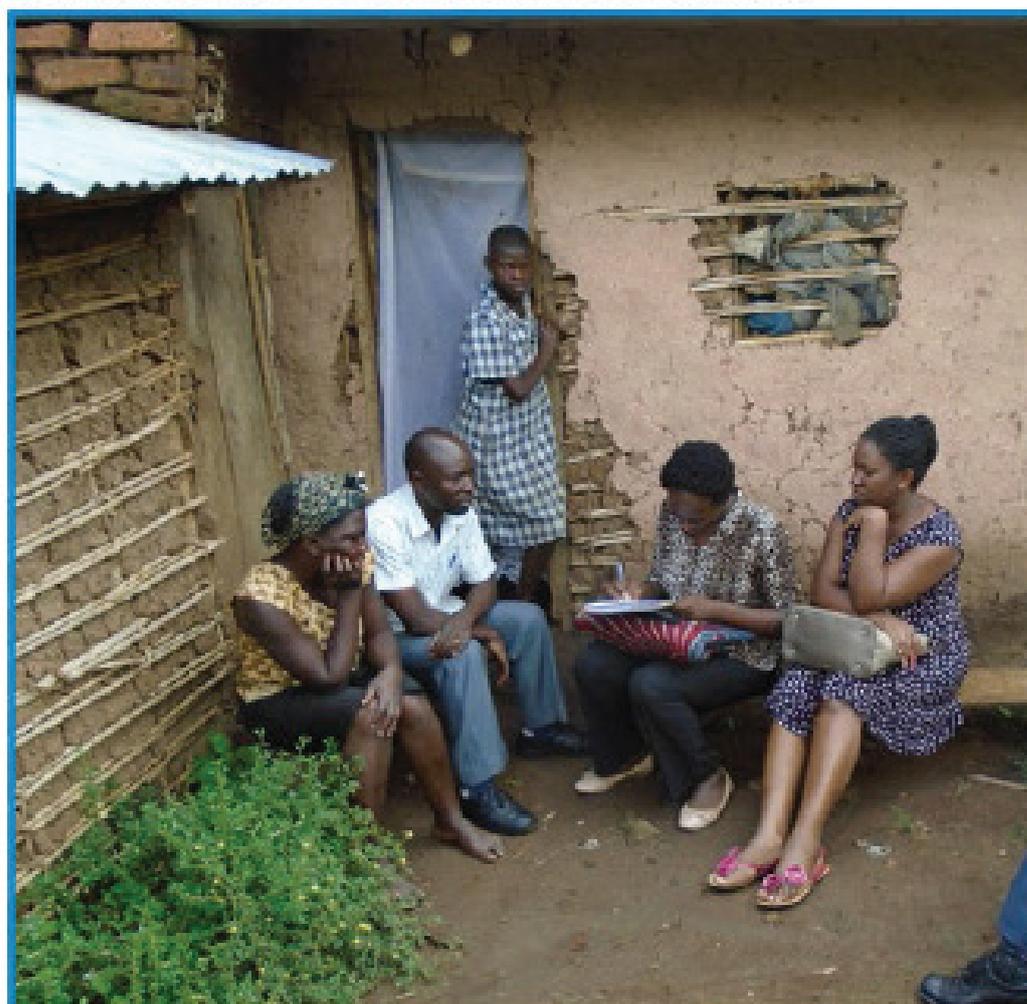


Public Health Fellowship Program

With support from CDC, the Ugandan Ministry of Health implements a training-through-service program that produces disease detectives and rapid response teams ready to tackle public health emergencies. The Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP), also known as the Public Health Fellowship Program (PHFP), prepares scientists and researchers to investigate outbreaks, and builds capacity of local healthcare workers and communities to respond to public health emergencies.

Present in over 70 countries, the FETP has quickly emerged as one of the most successful outbreak response models in the world. Uganda's FETP fellows have investigated over 90 outbreaks, conducted 12 emergency assessments, completed 52 public health surveillance projects, and finished 21 other projects since 2015 when the program started. In 2018 alone, PHFP fellows conducted 31 outbreak investigations. This work has prevented major losses of life and has ensured the continued stability and economic growth of Uganda's communities.

A FETP fellow conducts household interviews as part of an outbreak investigation.





JUST AND DEMOCRATIC

The health of Uganda's democracy depends on its dedication to protecting human rights for all citizens and prioritizing good governance.

U.S. assistance is helping more Ugandans advocate for their rights and participate in civic life.



Democratic governance that welcomes all citizens to participate fully in political and civic life strengthens security and economic growth. U.S. assistance programs and initiatives help empower Ugandans to advocate for their rights, shape their local and national government institutions, reduce corruption, hold leaders accountable, and support media freedom. We are committed to supporting efforts to increase participation in government processes for all Ugandans. This is particularly true for those in groups that may experience discrimination, such as women, the LGBTI community, individuals with disabilities, and religious and ethnic minorities.



Assistance Focus Areas

- ▶ **Rule of Law and Human Rights**
- ▶ **Good Governance and Anti-Corruption**
- ▶ **Media Training**

279



HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS received training from USAID in an effort to strengthen monitoring, documentation, and reporting on human rights violations.

20

INVESTIGATIVE PIECES on human rights were written by local journalists who received training through U.S. programs.

\$12.9

MILLION U.S. DOLLARS
UGX: 47.7 BILLION

Total U.S. government assistance to promote a just and democratic Uganda

RULE OF LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS

All Ugandans stand to benefit from a concerted effort to protect human rights and preserve the rule of law.

U.S. assistance equips Ugandan citizens with the tools they need to confront human rights abuses and shape policies that protect the fundamental liberties and freedoms of all Ugandan citizens.

USAID's Rights and Rule of Law program provides direct trainings to 279 human rights activists. These trainings support activists in their efforts to monitor and advocate for policies that advance democratic reforms and ensure that they have the tools to document and report human rights violations. Additionally, USAID provides specialized training to preserve an independent judiciary in Uganda, a key component of a vibrant and stable democracy.

Alongside these efforts, USAID has provided assistance to 3,986 citizens who have suffered from human rights abuses, ensuring they have the resources to safeguard their rights.

U.S. assistance provides Ugandan citizens with training to ensure they can advocate for their human rights.

USAID trained
79 JUDICIAL OFFICERS

to contribute to the independence of the judiciary and protect human rights and the rule of law.





U.S. assistance empowers Ugandan citizens to advocate for greater responsiveness and high-quality services from the Ugandan government.

GOOD GOVERNANCE AND ANTI-CORRUPTION

Empowering local leaders to promote good governance and increase accountability represents an important step toward a more just and democratic Uganda.

Corruption and a lack of transparency are key barriers to Uganda's continued growth. In 2018, Uganda remained below the regional average in the Global Corruption Perceptions Index, ranking 149th out of 176 countries. U.S. efforts to help Ugandans reduce corruption have provided local reformers and champions from across the public and private sectors with the tools and capacity to engage in development and strengthen governance.

USAID has trained

1,998

civil and business leaders in an effort to fight corruption and ensure greater levels of transparency.



Ugandan journalists gather for a U.S. Mission-led media training designed to help them build the skills they need to produce better-informed stories that shed light on important national topics.

MEDIA TRAINING

Uganda's democracy benefits from the ability of all media to exercise press freedoms and produce powerful stories that hold institutions accountable.

The U.S. government recognizes the imperative to support Ugandan journalists as they promote transparency, report on human rights violations, and inform the public on issues critical to the country's future. Journalists should be able to perform their responsibilities without fear of retribution or imprisonment. Efforts by both the Department of State and USAID provide members of the Ugandan press with the resources and expertise to write well-informed, responsible, and impactful articles.

In FY2018, Ugandan journalists produced more than 20 human rights investigative news stories, underscoring the power of a free press. USAID provided over 20 journalists with experienced lawyers and legal assistance to help them protect their fundamental rights.

More than **300** journalists participated in U.S.-led trainings last year that focused on safety management, media laws, human rights, governance, accountability, and transparency.





INCLUSIVE, EDUCATED, & EMPOWERED

A well-educated society in which all Ugandans have a voice will enable the country to thrive and individuals to flourish.

Participants celebrate at **CAMP Grow**, an anti-poverty activity implemented by the Peace Corps.



Building an inclusive, educated, and empowered society is fundamental to the future of Uganda and its young population. The United States supports a wide range of programs and initiatives that expand access to education, train teachers, promote literacy, and help young people stay in school. The U.S. government also provides resources for efforts that seek to reduce child vulnerability and gender-based violence throughout Uganda. Other U.S. programs provide educational advising, cultural exchanges, training and skills development, and grant funding for projects that strengthen Ugandan individuals and communities.



Assistance Focus Areas

- ▶ **Basic Education and Literacy**
- ▶ **Gender-Based Violence**
- ▶ **Children in Adversity**
- ▶ **Young African Leaders Initiative**
- ▶ **Education Advising and Study in the U.S.A.**
- ▶ **Cultural Programs**
- ▶ **Self-Help and Small Grant Programs**

10,369

TEACHERS WERE TRAINED in methods designed to reduce school-related gender-based violence.



273,402

NUMBER OF VULNERABLE PEOPLE benefiting from U.S.-supported social services

\$20.1

MILLION U.S. DOLLARS

UGX: 74.4 BILLION

Total U.S. government assistance to promote an inclusive, educated, and empowered Uganda

BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY

Ensuring that children in Uganda have access to a quality education is fundamental in their journey to becoming productive and prosperous citizens.

U.S. assistance programs and initiatives are helping Ugandan schools develop into safer spaces where children can learn and thrive. In FY2018, the U.S. government provided basic education and literacy support that benefitted over two million Ugandan students. Activities funded by the United States are increasing access to primary and secondary textbooks and other teaching and learning materials, which are essential for teachers to perform in the classroom and for students to apply instruction both in and out of school. The Peace Corps is supporting whole child development with the inclusion of sports as part of its education and literacy efforts. Integrating sports and play as educational tools contributes to a welcoming and engaging learning environment for children of all ages and grades.

Number of primary or secondary textbooks and other teaching and learning materials provided with U.S. assistance:

1,697,155 





The Nile Explorer: Helping Children in Rural Uganda Discover Technology, Science, and Literacy

The Nile Explorer – a colorful library and computer lab on wheels – travels to rural schools to introduce innovative educational activities to young learners and their teachers in order to inspire children to stay in school. Equipped with dozens of laptop computers, engineering and coding tools, games, and books, the Nile Explorer brings information and technology for children to touch and explore. The Nile Explorer promotes literacy and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) in underserved, remote Ugandan communities. Since it launched in April 2017, the Nile Explorer has reached over 6,360 students from 53 schools in 25 Ugandan districts, opening children's minds to information and technology and the possibilities they can bring.



Girls work on a project during STEM class on the Nile Explorer bus.

“It was the first time I saw such a big bus with computers. It was exciting!”

- Julius Galiwango, a 7th grade student at Prince Musanje Memorial Primary School in Luwero.

Students participate in the launch of the Nile Explorer at Kisowera Primary School in Mukono District.





The Uganda School Health and Reading Program (SHRP), supported by USAID, provides early grade reading instruction in mother tongue languages and English. The program aims to improve reading outcomes and strengthen HIV interventions in schools. Susan Apuwae is a teacher at Komukuny Boys Primary School, which has implemented SHRP. She says:

“I can see a big increase in the performance of my students. They really pick up the lesson well and they enjoy. You can see how they now understand and enjoy learning.”



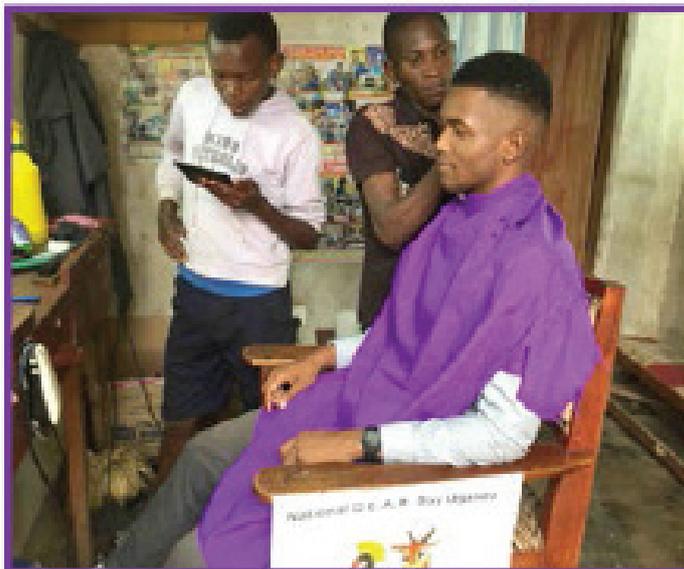


Drop Everything and Read (DEAR) Day Programming

On March 15, children and adults alike joined in celebrating the fifth National DEAR Day. Institutions, schools, organizations, and individuals dropped what they were doing – chores, tasks, errands – and read to commemorate the event.

While some schools did not have access to books for every person, many created their own books, organized readings, hosted guest readers from the community, and took turns reading books during the 30 minutes.

A Peace Corps Volunteer in Rubirizi organized a “Barber and Books” event in his community. Boys in the community received free haircuts in exchange for reading to the barber. The barber donated his time and the boys took turns reading aloud. In total, over 120,000 people from more than 290 different organizations reported that they participated in DEAR Day.



Pupils of Kitante Primary School express that they are ready to DEAR!

A pupil reads to a Peace Corps Volunteer on DEAR Day as part of a “Barbers and Books” event.

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

Reducing gender-based violence is necessary to build a society in which all Ugandans, regardless of their gender, are safe and have opportunities to thrive.

Gender-based violence is a major challenge for Uganda. Fifty-six percent of women in Uganda aged 15-49 reported that they have experienced physical violence, while 22 percent had experienced sexual violence at least once since the age of 15. The results of the Uganda Violence Against Children Survey show that 25.4 percent of girls and 11.2 percent of boys aged between 13-17 years experienced sexual violence.

Last year, the USAID-funded Literacy Achievement and Retention Activity (LARA) trained more than 9,000 teachers and 2,633 school change agents using a curriculum designed to reduce gender-based violence in school settings.

Additionally, they were charged with setting up Uganda Kids Unite (UKU) clubs in 2,848 schools across the country. UKU clubs provide a safe and caring space for pupils to engage in a variety of activities that support their social and emotional development. Through the program and the Journeys curriculum, students learn about themselves and others, managing their emotions and behaviors, making responsible decisions, and building positive relationships.

In total, USAID has trained 10,369 teachers in methods designed to reduce school-related gender-based violence, a contributing factor to early school drop-out and increased vulnerability to abuse and risky health and sexual behavior. Additionally, USAID's support has led to the effective prosecution of sexual offences against minors in targeted districts where such sexual violence is widespread.

Currently, there are 1,055 Ugandan schools utilizing anti-school-related gender-based violence materials and methods. Over 220 national and district officials have also joined the training and dissemination efforts.

A young woman participates in LARA as part of ongoing efforts to reduce gender-based violence in Uganda.



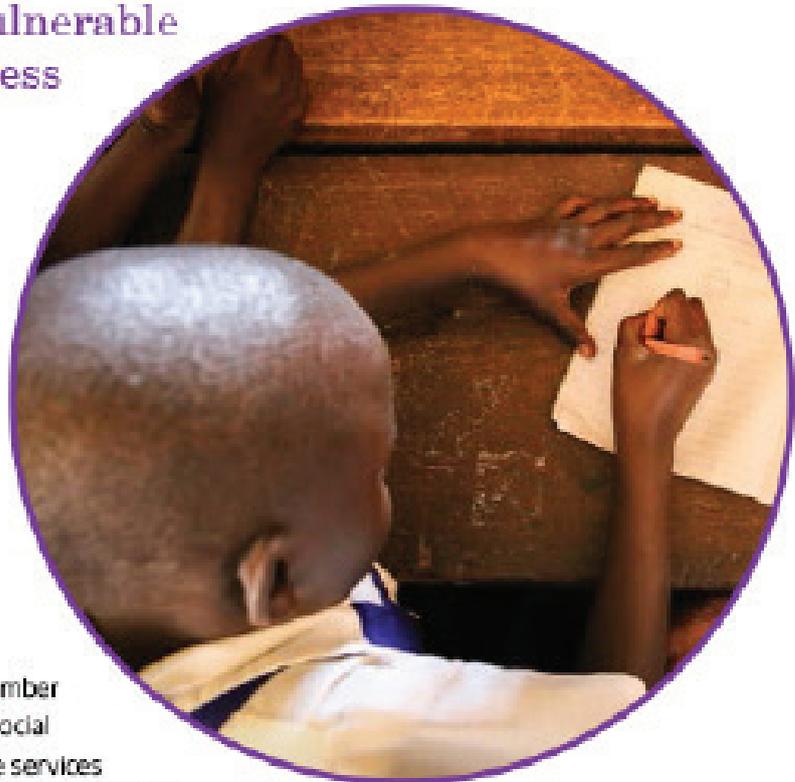


CHILDREN IN ADVERSITY

More children in vulnerable situations have access to the supports and services they need to improve their safety and well-being.

Many children in Uganda face adversity which means they will be more likely to engage in risky health practices, drop out of school, marry early, and have a weakened ability to advocate for their physical and social rights.

USAID is working to increase the number of children in Uganda who receive social and child protection services. These services include food and nutrition support; health services; educational access support, such as apprenticeships or vocational skill; psycho-social support; and toolkits and start-up materials for entrepreneurial activities.



U.S. assistance contributed to **339** separated children being reunited with their families and freed 225 children from child labor.



Combined, these efforts represent an important step toward a positive demographic change in the country, increasing the resiliency of vulnerable children and the likelihood that they will contribute to the positive development of the Ugandan economy.

YOUNG AFRICAN LEADERS INITIATIVE

Launched in 2010, the Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI) supports young African leaders as they spur growth and prosperity, strengthen democratic governance, and enhance peace and security across Africa. Through YALI, the United States is investing in an emerging generation of African leaders by committing significant resources to enhance leadership skills, bolster entrepreneurship, and connect young African leaders with one another, the United States, and innovative leaders in the private, civic, and public sectors.

YALI programs include the Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders, YALI Regional Leadership Centers, and the YALI Network. These programs provide interconnected avenues of opportunity for young Africans to grow their leadership skills.

A YALI alumna sells her business products.



**YOUNG AFRICAN
LEADERS INITIATIVE**



CULTURAL PROGRAMS

As part of our efforts to bring the United States and Uganda closer, the U.S. Mission opened a new American Center last year. The American Center is a research library that provides comprehensive, accurate, and timely information about the United States, its policies, its social and political processes, and other related topics. The American Center also regularly hosts a variety of programs in its location on the fifth floor of the Embassy Plaza building on Ggaba road. All services offered through the American Center are free of charge.



The U.S. Mission opened the American Center at Embassy Plaza this past year.



EDUCATION ADVISING AND STUDY IN THE U.S.A.

The U.S. government is committed to helping more Ugandan students study in the United States. The EducationUSA network promotes U.S. higher education to students around the world by offering accurate, comprehensive, and current information about opportunities to study at accredited postsecondary institutions in the United States. EducationUSA provides services to the U.S. higher education community to help institutional leaders meet their recruitment and campus internationalization goals.

For the first time, more Ugandan students are choosing the United States than any other study abroad destination. The U.S. Educational Advising Center in Kampala provides comprehensive information on educational opportunities in the United States.

Additionally, through the Fulbright Program – the U.S. government's flagship international educational and cultural exchange program – 11 Ugandans received a total of over \$280,000 of grant funding in FY2018 to pursue their masters and doctoral programs, teach, and conduct research in the United States.

EducationUSA is a network of over

425

international student advising centers in

178

countries supported by the U.S. Department of State.

SELF-HELP AND SMALL GRANT PROGRAMS

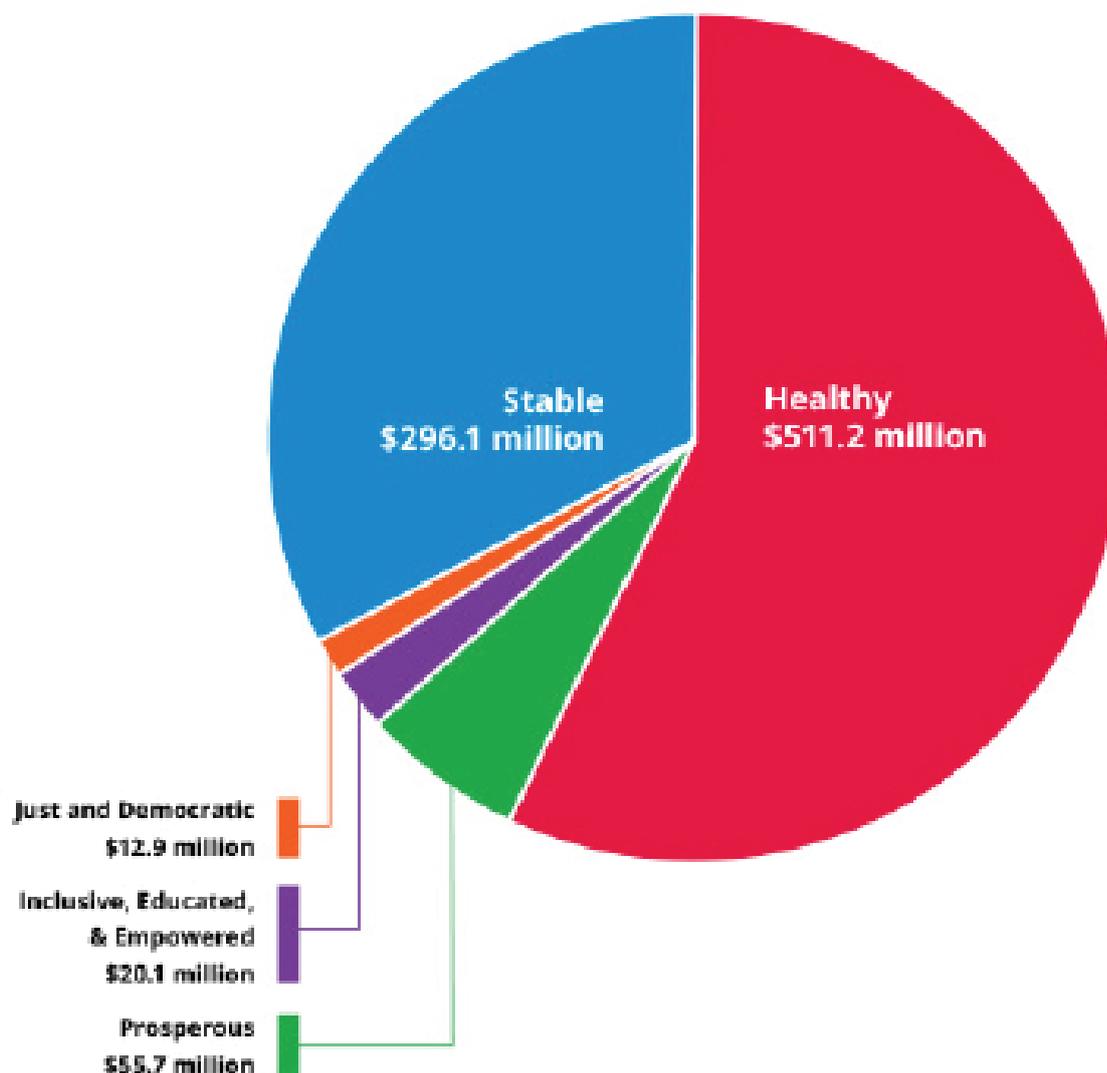
Launched internationally in 1964, the Ambassador's Special Self-Help Program allows U.S. embassies to support small-scale community-based initiatives that promote self-reliance, foster development, and promise an immediate and dramatic effect on local communities. Self-help grants have empowered communities to make improvements in health, sanitation, and education. We have also seen the impacts of this program in the form of increased access to potable water and economic growth.



Through a training activity supported by the Ambassador's Special Self-Help Program, women learn how to make long-burning charcoal briquettes from recycled garbage.

FUNDING BY ASSISTANCE AREA, FISCAL YEAR 2018

U.S. assistance impacts nearly every district in Uganda and touches the lives of millions of people throughout the country. We are investing in the future of Uganda through our efforts to help more Ugandans lead healthier lives, increase prosperity and grow the economy, promote stability, ensure justice and democracy, and build a more inclusive and literate society. The chart below shows U.S. funding invested in each priority assistance area in Fiscal Year 2018.





The U.S. government, in cooperation with its Ugandan partners, supports programs and activities that improve health, spur economic growth and development, ensure regional stability, and promote democracy and human rights throughout the country. U.S. Mission Uganda is composed of several U.S. agencies and offices that work under the auspices of the American Embassy in Kampala and at the direction of the U.S. Ambassador.



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