

Report to the Ugandan People

FISCAL YEAR 2017

From U.S. Mission Uganda



The United States is proud to continue our longstanding strong partnership with Uganda to create a better and brighter future for all Ugandans.



U.S. Ambassador Deborah R. Malac



Prosperity, health, security, democracy, and education: These are the hopes of Ugandans throughout the country, and they are the focus of our work at U.S. Mission Uganda. The United States is proud to continue our longstanding strong partnership with Uganda to create a brighter future for all Ugandans, and for both of our countries.



I am honored to present to you this second annual Report to the Ugandan People. We produced this book to once again explain to Ugandans what the U.S. government does in Uganda, why we do it, and how it improves the lives of Ugandans.

In Fiscal Year 2017*, the United States provided more than \$971 million (UGX 3.6 trillion) in assistance to the Ugandan people, often in partnership with the Ugandan government, making Uganda one of the biggest recipients of U.S. bilateral aid in the world. This assistance helps ensure all Ugandans can access education and economic opportunities, and take full part in the civic and political life of their country. We believe this is the future that all Ugandans – regardless of age, gender, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or political beliefs – deserve.

* From 1 October 2016 – 30 September 2017



Over the last year, the work of our Mission has led me to all corners of Uganda. I traveled to Karamoja, Iganga, Tororo, Kasese, Mbarara, Kalangala, West Nile, and other spots, which gave me the chance to meet many Ugandans. I was impressed by their creativity, passion, and commitment to making a positive difference. Most of all, I was inspired by the talent and energy of the country's youth. I believe that Uganda will have tremendous success in the future if we can work together to empower its youth and provide them with opportunities.

Creating opportunity starts with ensuring Ugandans are healthy. Last year we spent over \$500 million (UGX 1.9 trillion) on improving Uganda's health sector. U.S. programs are training health professionals; helping Uganda fight HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases; reducing maternal and child mortality; and strengthening health systems to better handle drug purchasing, storage, and distribution.

We are also focused on building prosperity in Uganda. We are working to improve agricultural production, protect the environment and wildlife, and provide young Ugandan entrepreneurs with the skills they need to succeed. Our Mission encourages U.S. companies to invest in Uganda and helps Ugandan companies access American markets. When our commercial ties expand, we get stronger together.

We continue to partner with Uganda to promote peace and stability in the country and the region. We are training Ugandan soldiers to contribute to peacekeeping operations in the region, and we are helping the country build its capacity to detect and control infectious disease outbreaks, as this is also essential for ensuring security. Additionally, Uganda has experienced a huge influx of refugees, and we are working with Uganda and international partners to provide them with food assistance, healthcare, shelter, water infrastructure, sanitation, access to education and livelihoods, as well as support for the local communities who are hosting them.

Prosperity and stability depend on effective, democratic governance that provides citizens a say in how they are governed. U.S. programs in Uganda promote the rule of law and respect for human rights, support the media, and empower Ugandan civil society to fight corruption and hold elected officials accountable.

Finally, to support Uganda's development, we are working to build an inclusive, educated, and empowered society. Our programs – with a special emphasis on girls and youth – are promoting literacy, working to keep children in school, providing leadership training, and training teachers.

As this report illustrates, we have made great progress, through partnership with Ugandans, in our efforts to create a brighter future for all Ugandans. Much work remains, however, and Uganda faces some major challenges that will continue for the foreseeable future. Ultimately, Uganda's people and government will chart their own destiny. We are here to support their dreams and their efforts for a better future.

The best people to explain the impact of our work are Ugandans themselves, so this report shares stories from the people whose lives have benefitted from U.S. programs. Yet the stories do not just focus on the U.S. government. They also highlight the accomplishments of Ugandans who are driving the country forward. They highlight the dreams, skills, and commitment of the country's youth.

U.S. Mission Uganda remains dedicated to partnering with Uganda to create the future that its youth deserve – a future of health, prosperity, security, democracy, and strong education. I look forward to another great year ahead making progress toward achieving these goals. Together, we will succeed.

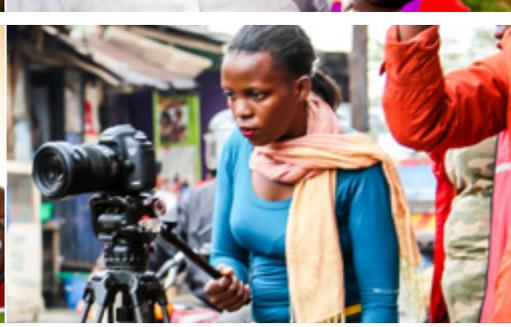
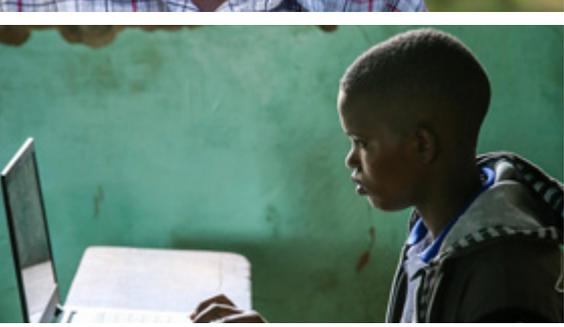
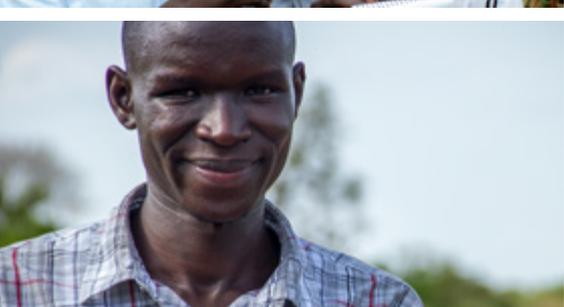
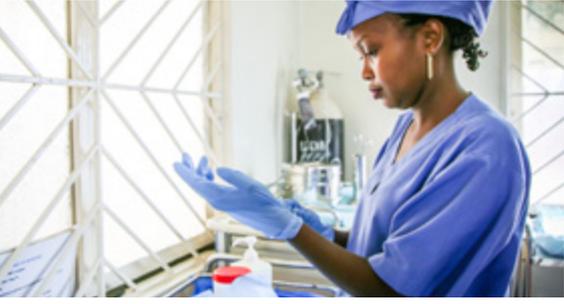


Ambassador Deborah R. Malac | U.S. Mission Uganda









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and Empowered





Healthy

Every Ugandan
deserves the
opportunity to
live a long, healthy,
and prosperous life.



Recognizing that a healthy population is the foundation for a country's economic success, the majority of U.S. assistance to Uganda is dedicated to the health sector. We are committed to improving the health of Ugandans so that they can live longer, more productive, and more prosperous lives. Most U.S. government health assistance goes towards controlling Uganda's HIV/AIDS epidemic. Our programs also build the country's capacity to respond to malaria, tuberculosis, and infectious disease outbreaks. We assess health threats, train health workers, and strengthen supply chains, laboratory systems, and other components of the health sector so that medicines and services can get to those who need them most. The United States funds programs that provide Ugandans with adequate nutrition and educate the public on family planning and healthy behaviors. We also support maternal, newborn, and child health initiatives to build a healthy future for all Ugandans.

**ASSISTANCE
FOCUS AREAS**

HIV/AIDS

Malaria, Tuberculosis, and Other Communicable Diseases

Maternal and Child Health

Family Planning and Reproductive Health

Nutrition

Health System Strengthening



**8.75 million
Ugandans**

were tested for HIV/AIDS in 2017

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

\$506.1 million
UGX 1.8 trillion



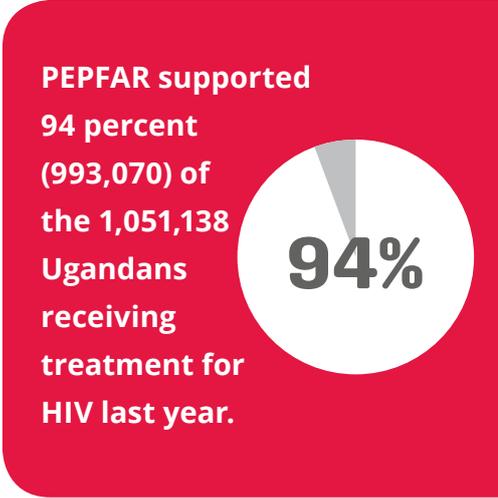
**A health scientist at work in the lab at the
U.S.-funded Uganda National Health Laboratory
Services building in Butabika, Kampala.**

HIV/AIDS

Uganda is making progress toward the goal of achieving an AIDS-free generation by 2030.

The number of new infections continues to decrease – although certain populations remain at high risk – and more of the 1.29 million Ugandans already living with HIV are seeking and receiving life-saving treatment. Assistance from the United States is vital to Uganda’s ongoing efforts to control HIV/AIDS. As part of the U.S. President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), we fund and deliver programs that provide care, treatment, prevention, and support services. In 2017, PEPFAR provided life-saving antiretroviral treatment services and support to more than 993,000 Ugandans. Nearly 60 percent of Ugandans living with HIV achieved viral load suppression, which has been shown to reduce onward transmission by 96 percent and is a marker of important progress in controlling the HIV epidemic.

Additionally, we support efforts to improve understanding of the HIV epidemic in Uganda. Last year, the Ugandan Ministry of Health – with support from PEPFAR and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) – conducted the Uganda Population-Based HIV Impact Assessment to determine the prevalence of HIV, who is at risk for the disease, and the national levels of antiretroviral therapy coverage and viral suppression. The data collected in the assessment will inform how prevention and treatment programs are targeted so that they can have the greatest impact.



SPOTLIGHT PROGRAM

DREAMS: Helping Young Women Take Control of Their Lives and Futures

Young women and girls are three to four times more likely to contract HIV than men and boys of the same age. PEPFAR’s DREAMS (Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS-Free, Mentored and Safe) initiative is helping young women and girls like Edith – a 24-year-old mother of three from Mukono District – reach their full potential by providing them with methods to prevent gender-based violence, information on educational and economic opportunities, and counseling on condom use and safe sex practices. In 2017, DREAMS reached more than 144,000 girls at over 170 schools in 10 districts across the country.

◀ **Edith participating in a DREAMS group craft making activity in Mukono District.**



**Team Leader
Claire
Murungi, a
public health
specialist
and VMMC
educator, at
Kisenyi Health
Center IV in
Kampala.**

Preventing the Spread of HIV

Voluntary medical male circumcision (VMMC) plays a key role in efforts to prevent the spread of HIV and can reduce the risk of infection by nearly 60 percent. More than 3.6 million Ugandan men – 753,198 last year alone – have received circumcisions through VMMC initiatives since 2010. This equates to 39,578 new HIV infections averted in 2017, and 191,637 averted since 2010.

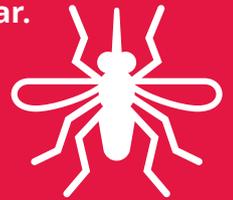
“Circumcision is a positive thing to do in reducing your risk of contracting HIV, preventing cancer, STIs, and for hygiene purposes,” says Claire Murungi, Team Leader with the Kisenyi Health Center IV, supported by the Infectious Diseases Institute. “We are seeing that people are beginning to embrace it thanks to our education efforts.”

Malaria, Tuberculosis, and Other Communicable Diseases

Malaria control efforts are helping more Ugandans stay safe from the disease.



Insecticide-treated nets kept more than 26 million Ugandans safe from malaria last year.



Insecticide-treated nets are distributed in Mbale District. 

Malaria is the leading cause of illness in Uganda. The disease places a heavy burden on Uganda's health system, leading to 27 to 34 percent of outpatient hospital visits and 19 to 30 percent of hospital admissions across the country. Additionally, malaria puts significant financial strain on Ugandans who need treatment for the disease.

Through the U.S. President's Malaria Initiative (PMI), we provide assistance that enables more Ugandans to access effective methods for controlling and preventing malaria. Last year, PMI distributed more than one million insecticide-treated nets to families, including 200,000 to protect pregnant women.



SUCCESS STORY

Protecting Families from Malaria

Indoor residual insecticide spraying is a proven method for controlling malaria. In 2017, PMI sprayed more than 892,000 homes in Uganda with long-lasting insecticide. More than 3.3 million Ugandans in nine districts were protected from malaria by PMI-supported indoor residual spraying efforts last year.

 PMI technicians prepare to spray homes in Apac District with long-lasting insecticide.

Viral Ecology Research and Sustainable Tourism at the Python Cave

The United States and Uganda are partnering to better detect and control animal-borne diseases that threaten the health of Ugandans and visitors to the country. At the Python Cave, in Queen Elizabeth National Park, U.S. support for viral ecology research has made a significant impact. The local bat population there is known to host the Marburg virus, which can cause outbreaks of severe, often fatal illness in humans. For this reason, the cave is an important research and surveillance site for scientists and wildlife officials. In collaboration with the Ugandan Wildlife Authority, CDC and the U.S. Defense Threat Reduction Agency have supported the construction of a modern laboratory to support these efforts. The laboratory represents an important advance in Uganda's capacity to strengthen public and global health security.

As the Python Cave is a popular tourist destination, CDC has also supported the construction of a viewing platform to help visitors to the cave stay safe from infection and prevent the spread of Marburg virus.



◀ **Ambassador Malac visits the research lab and viewing platform near the Python Cave, in Queen Elizabeth National Park.**

U.S. support is enabling Uganda to better address the threat of tuberculosis.

Tuberculosis (TB) is an ongoing problem in Uganda, which has one of the highest rates of TB cases in the world. TB is also a leading cause of illness for Ugandans who have HIV. U.S. assistance is helping reduce the threat of tuberculosis by funding strategies that improve TB detection and treatment.

In partnership with the Uganda Ministry of Health, our efforts are strengthening coordination, planning, and policy development at the national level. We work with partners in 113 districts to implement national strategies in support of improved TB case finding and more effective treatment at health facilities and in communities. U.S. support is also enabling Ugandan health facilities to access cutting-edge diagnostic technologies. GeneXpert machines, which help provide rapid, accurate testing for TB, were installed in 131 facilities throughout Uganda last year.

Additionally, our support for the Ministry of Health's National TB and Leprosy Program (NTLP) has led to stronger efforts to combat multi-drug resistant TB (MDR-TB). At 15 regional referral hospitals and two general hospitals, NTLP has established programs to provide treatment at sites that meet international standards for infection control and MDR-TB management. Last year, 375 MDR-TB patients were identified and treated through NTLP programs.

Maternal and Child Health

Ensuring women and children have access to health services is key to strengthening Uganda's future.

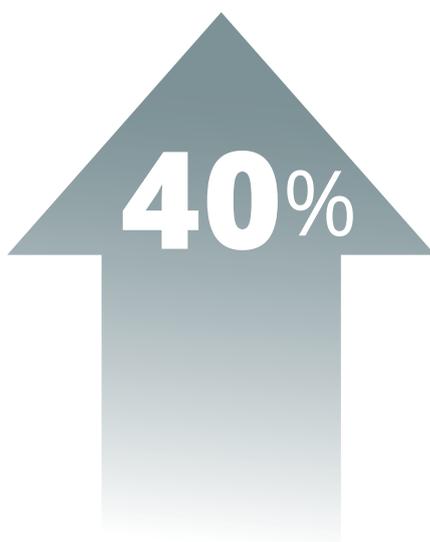
Improving the health and well-being of women and children, two of Uganda's most vulnerable populations, is essential for the country to reach its full potential. New mothers and babies who receive proper care face fewer health risks during and after childbirth.

U.S. assistance provides vital services that improve the quality of care for women and children, with a focus on reducing maternal, infant, and child mortality. These services include, among others, safe delivery facilities and care, financing to expanded access to quality healthcare for mothers and newborns, hygiene education, and immunizations for children. Last year, 1.53 million children were immunized against life-threatening infections like diphtheria, tetanus, hepatitis, meningitis, and pneumonia.

We are also expanding access to quality obstetric, newborn, and postpartum family planning services for women in eastern and northern Uganda who have limited financial resources. USAID's Voucher Plus program subsidizes care for these women at private for-profit and private not-for-profit facilities. Last year, 33,039 women gained access to safe maternity and delivery services in the private sector through the Voucher Plus program.

Additionally, the Saving Mothers, Giving Life (SMGL) initiative, implemented by USAID and CDC, is helping more mothers access lifesaving care for themselves and their children in 12 districts. The initiative achieves this through health education to encourage mothers to seek antenatal care early; provision of ambulatory services for maternal emergencies; health facility refurbishment; and training of health workers. In just five years, SMGL has contributed to a 44 percent decrease in the mortality rate for mothers in these districts and a nine percent reduction in the perinatal mortality rate.

More than 1.17 million mothers benefitted from their first antenatal support visit in 2017 through U.S.-funded programs.



The increase in the percentage of women who received family planning services from village health teams between 2015 and 2017.



SUCCESS STORY

Saving Mothers, Giving Life

Improving care for mothers and newborns

Immaculate Kakito and her daughter Judith Deborah Ahaisibwe, in Kagadi District, are a standout success story for the SMGL initiative. Judith was born prematurely, after just 5.5 months, and weighed only 800 grams. After she was born, her father took her to Kagadi Hospital, which houses one of the 13 SMGL-supported Neonatal Intensive Care Units. There, Judith spent one month in the NICU, where she benefitted from constant care from trained midwives and state of the art equipment. "Without the support of SMGL to build the newborn unit I would have lost my baby," says Immaculate. Judith has since celebrated her first birthday.

◀ **Judith Deborah Ahaisibwe and her mother Immaculate Kakito at Kagadi Hospital in Kagadi District.**

Family Planning and Reproductive Health

Family planning education and services are critical for achieving more sustainable population growth and improving the health of mothers and children.

Uganda's population is one of the youngest in the world and is growing rapidly. On average, women in Uganda have 5.4 children, and the median age for women to give birth to their first child is 19.2 years old. Among married women, 28 percent do not have sufficient access to family planning services. The same is true for 32 percent of unmarried women who are sexually active.

Our assistance expands access to family planning services and contraceptives throughout the country. This is especially true in rural Uganda, where it can be difficult for women and couples to acquire the services they need. USAID's Advancing Partners & Communities project, for example, helps train volunteer community health workers to provide counseling on contraceptive use and to distribute modern contraceptives.

Nutrition

Reducing the number of Ugandans who experience malnutrition is essential for building a healthier, more productive population.

Even though Uganda’s economy has grown significantly in recent years, a large segment of the population experiences food insecurity or malnutrition that affects their health and the country’s overall well-being. Malnutrition is a major factor in Uganda’s high rates of stunting and child mortality. It makes adults and children more vulnerable to diseases by weakening their immune systems.

The causes of malnutrition and food insecurity range from lack of availability and economic inequality to insufficient food diversity. U.S. assistance provides services that treat the health consequences of malnutrition. We also address the causes of malnutrition by working with the Ugandan government to develop more effective nutrition policies and integrate nutrition initiatives into the broader health system.

Through the USAID RHITES-E activity, 88 percent of patients receiving treatment and care for HIV also accessed nutrition assessment services.



SPOTLIGHT PROGRAM

RHITES-E

The Regional Health Integration to Enhance Services in Eastern Uganda (RHITES-E) activity, funded by USAID, seeks to improve health services by addressing important health threats. Nutrition services are a key component of this effort and are successfully integrated into routine healthcare services at clinics in eastern Uganda. More than 10 districts have formed nutrition coordination committees that now spearhead nutrition planning efforts.

Thanks to these efforts, parents like Joseph Ikoko in Iganga District are benefitting from nutrition classes available through the hospital. “This is not my first time. I learned a lot the first time I came here, so I came back,” says Joseph. “Fathers are responsible, too. We grow and buy the food so we need to know more about what is good for our children.”

◀ **Joseph Ikoko attends a nutrition class at Jinja Referral Hospital, in Iganga District.**



IN THEIR OWN WORDS

“My hope is that we grow really strong midwives who can be mentors to other midwives. That’s my goal. Teach them really well, teach them practice, teach them to be leaders, and it will ripple out.”

Diana Garde, nurse midwife and Peace Corps Volunteer working at Lira University

◀ Diana Garde works with midwives at Lira University, in northern Uganda, through the Peace Corps Global Health Service Partnership.

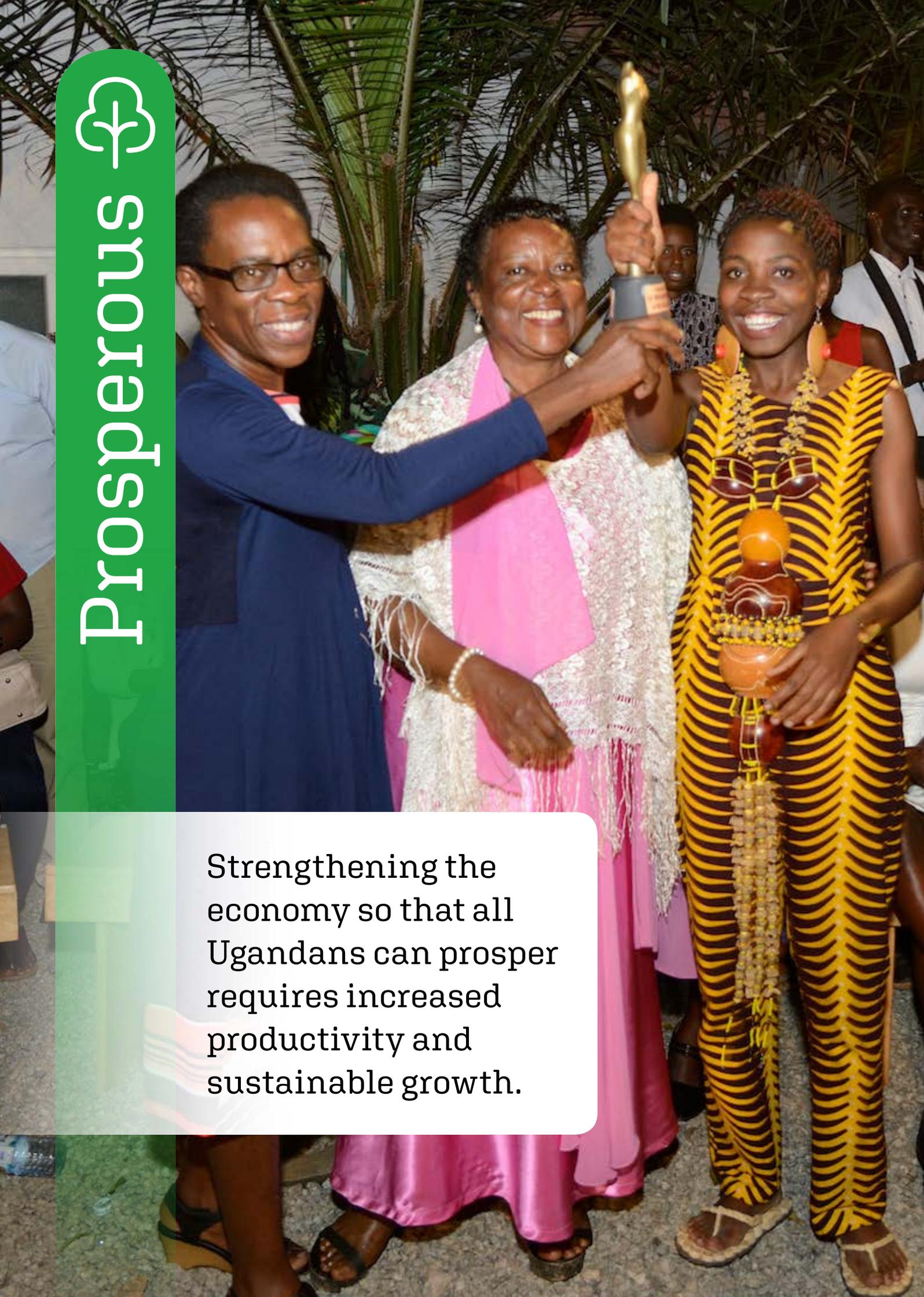
Health System Strengthening

U.S efforts are enabling Uganda’s health system to provide quality services that people need to live healthy and productive lives.

Ensuring that Uganda’s population has access to a quality healthcare system that delivers necessary services and medications to men, women, and children – wherever they live – is essential to the country’s future.

U.S. government assistance is helping Uganda to develop a more effective healthcare system. USAID, CDC, PEPFAR, Peace Corps, and the Department of Defense are working with Ugandan partners to build the infrastructure, supply chain systems, laboratories, data, and health worker expertise required to keep the country’s growing population healthy. U.S.-funded laboratories mean that more health professionals have cutting-edge equipment to support improved testing and diagnoses. Medications provided through our initiatives are helping more Ugandans – in urban and rural areas – get the treatment they need for life-threatening illnesses.

Our support also extends to providing improved technical assistance and training for healthcare providers. Through its Global Health Service Partnership (GHSP) initiative, Peace Corps is helping to address critical shortages of healthcare professionals in Uganda by placing physicians and nurses to work alongside local faculty to build institutional capacity and help strengthen the quality of medical education in the country. Currently, 14 GHSP volunteers are working at five partner sites throughout Uganda: Lira University, Mbarara University of Science and Technology, Gulu University, Muni University, and Busitema University.



Prosperous

Strengthening the economy so that all Ugandans can prosper requires increased productivity and sustainable growth.

The United States supports several initiatives that increase Uganda's prosperity. With agriculture making up a significant portion of Uganda's economy, the U.S. government is linking Ugandans with U.S. agricultural investors and innovators. We are also helping Uganda improve food security, which provides Ugandans with sustenance and sales opportunities. Additionally, we help connect U.S. and Ugandan companies, enabling up-and-coming Ugandan firms to access quality U.S.-made equipment that will help them develop Uganda's economy. Our commercial services, trade missions, training programs, entrepreneurial support, and microfinance projects provide Ugandans with valuable business skills and open the doors to new partnerships and markets. By preserving wildlife and promoting tourism, our conservation efforts contribute to Uganda's economic growth and resilience. Together, our trade promotion and development initiatives increase economic opportunities and reduce poverty.

**ASSISTANCE
FOCUS AREAS**

Agriculture

Trade

Entrepreneurship

Energy

Environment and Biodiversity



\$392,288,452

worth of coffee, maize, and beans was sold by farmers supported by U.S. programs

U.S. government assistance to promote a prosperous Uganda:

\$60.1 million
UGX **215.7** billion

◀ **Fashion designers and models at the Skilled Expressive Entrepreneurial (SEED) fashion show, which promotes entrepreneurship among youth in the Ugandan fashion industry.**

Agriculture

U.S. initiatives to increase agricultural productivity are strengthening Uganda’s economy, helping more farmers and their families prosper, and improving food security throughout the country.

Agriculture is the backbone of Uganda’s economy, employing nearly two-thirds of Uganda’s labor force and accounting for 85 percent of the country’s export earnings. Sustaining improvements in agriculture and addressing key challenges – such as inefficient farming techniques, high business costs, and limited distribution networks – is therefore essential to inclusive growth in Uganda.

The United States is committed to helping more Ugandan farmers and agricultural companies access the resources and infrastructure they need to be productive and competitive, and ensure greater food security for all Ugandans. Through USAID’s Feed the Future initiative, we help expand production and improve storage, increase the quality of agricultural inputs and decrease counterfeits, build national and international trade networks for Ugandan agricultural products, and help farmers establish sustainable commercial operations linking to U.S. markets.



SPOTLIGHT PROGRAM

Commodity Production and Marketing

A part of the Feed the Future initiative, the Commodity Production and Marketing (CPM) program focuses on increasing the production of quality coffee, maize, and beans by smallholder farmers. These three crops have the greatest marketing potential and the ability to improve the country’s food security.

Thanks to CPM, 434,979 farmers in 34 Feed the Future districts have benefitted from improved crop productivity and access to better markets. Between 2014 and 2017, incremental sales rose from \$7,547,941 to \$392,288,452, resulting in increased farmer income and improved food security.

◀ **Bean farmers supported by Feed the Future sorting their crops.**



Mark Fat Odong, founder of AgriQuery Solutions, at work in Nwoya District.

SUCCESS STORY

Empowering Youth Through Agricultural Skills

Youth Leadership for Agriculture (YLA), a project supported through Feed the Future, is working to expand economic opportunities for Ugandan female and male youth, ages 10 to 35, in agriculture-related fields. The goal is to increase their incomes and build entrepreneurship, leadership, and workforce readiness. YLA also strengthens the capacity of commercial operations to ensure sustainability of innovative youth engagement approaches.

“I wanted to inspire others and train and create jobs in my community,” says Mark Fat Odong, founder of AgriQuery Solutions, a consultancy business that advises young farmers. “I want people to be as passionate about farming as I am and realize that they can make a good living from it. The YLA program has helped me to scale up and reach more youth farmers. So far, we have trained about 200 youth in optimal cabbage and tomato growing. We encourage our farmers to be role models, so soon this will multiply 200-fold.”

Thanks to funding from the U.S. government, YLA has leveraged \$11.8 million in Ugandan private sector investments to improve business practices of youth entrepreneurs and provide full time jobs to over 7,000 youth.



Trade

Eliminating barriers to trade and increasing market access enables Ugandan producers to compete globally and helps modernize the national economy.

To be competitive in the region and beyond, Ugandan producers and manufacturers need to produce high-quality products and bring them to market efficiently. U.S. assistance is helping Uganda to develop trade-friendly policies and enabling producers to ensure consistent product quality.

The Enabling Environment for Agriculture (EEA) program, for example, has helped the Government of Uganda to develop seed and plant regulations that align with regulations for seed trade in Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA). This facilitates improved access to COMESA for Ugandan seed producers. EEA has also enabled local governments in Mubende and Kiboga Districts to formulate and implement maize quality ordinances that conform to the East African Community grain standards. As a result, farmers, agro-traders, and agribusinesses are producing quality Ugandan seed that benefits from improved competitive standing in international trade.

A worker storing packaged dried fruit. Dried fruit is a profitable product that is compliant with the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), which enables producers to export their products and access U.S. markets more easily.





SUCCESS STORY

Increasing Trade and Investment Between Uganda and the United States

Our trade missions link U.S. and Ugandan businesses, building and strengthening the ties that help Uganda's economy expand. Last year, U.S. Mission Uganda held a three-day Agriculture Trade Mission in Kampala to increase two-way trade and investment between the United States and Uganda.

As a result of the trade mission, U.S. firm Ag Vision is partnering with several U.S. firms to start distributing high-quality U.S.-manufactured goods to Ugandan farmers. Additionally, the Nebraska Department of Agriculture is working with Uganda's Makerere University to develop a training and exchange program to enhance the technical skillset of graduating Ugandan university students. Finally, New York-based bio-stimulant producer Ag-Biotech will develop a pricing strategy for distributors to sell their products to Ugandan commercial farmers.



Ambassador Malac speaks at the 2017 Agriculture Trade Mission in Kampala.



Entrepreneurship

Enabling more Ugandans to establish and sustain their own businesses expands economic opportunities.

Uganda is one of the most entrepreneurial countries in the world. However, the country's startup ecosystem is still young and lacks the support that entrepreneurs need to succeed. The U.S. Department of State's Global Innovation through Science and Technology (GIST) initiative is providing funding for Innovation Village Kampala to host monthly meet-ups to support the entrepreneurship ecosystem in Kampala. Innovation Village is building a network of entrepreneurs and creating programs and opportunities that help young entrepreneurs overcome challenges together.

We also sponsor initiatives that help Ugandan entrepreneurs and producers access financial and information resources that enable them to secure credit and build the business skills they need to compete and prosper. U.S. support helps farmers transform subsistence production into commercial operations, small business owners sustain and scale their enterprises, and young people take advantage of opportunities to participate in the growing economy.



SPOTLIGHT PROGRAM

StartUp Uganda

StartUp Uganda – an initiative of the Peace Corps and YouthAlive, a youth-focused Ugandan NGO – targets unemployed or underemployed youth to help the country's next generation of entrepreneurs develop business skills. Youth are matched with accomplished mentors who coach them to strengthen their business plans and accomplish their goals.

Last year, Start Up Uganda hosted four regional camps for more than 120 youth in the districts of Mbale, Bushenyi, Masaka, and Kitgum. Each youth identified a mentor from their district to work with, who then attended a Mentorship Training led by Youth Alive regional coordinators along with the Peace Corps. While at camp, youth prepared and pitched business plans to camp staff and their colleagues. The experience culminated in a regional conference where youth and mentors learn more about local resources, public and private businesses, educational opportunities, and community entrepreneurs.

◀ **StartUp Uganda participants in Kitgum District.**



Technicians install new electrical equipment in a rural district, an achievement made possible by the sustainable expansion of Uganda's power system.

Energy

Uganda is increasing its energy generation capacity in responsible and sustainable ways to meet the demand of its growing population.

To build Uganda's generation capacity, USAID's Power Africa initiative is working to increase access to both on-grid and off-grid electricity throughout the country. Over the past year, Power Africa advanced master plans for three rural electricity service territories, which resulted in the identification of over 130,000 possible new connections and 100 mini-grid sites. Power Africa also supported the development of a Ugandan connections policy, which will lead to 1.4 million additional connections to the national grid by 2020 and leverage \$60 million from other development partners. As part of these efforts, Power Africa is taking important steps to create a welcoming environment for private sector participation and investment.

Last year, USAID also launched a three-year \$11 million initiative that will support additional increases in generation capacity and access to electricity, and help cultivate a policy environment in the energy sector that facilitates these goals.

Last year Power Africa enabled 423,486 new clean energy connections, inclusive of solar lanterns, solar home systems, and on-grid electricity connections.



Environment and Biodiversity

Uganda's rich biodiversity is a national treasure and an important resource for the Ugandan people.

For Uganda, conservation efforts are also economic development efforts that help the country to prosper. Many of the benefits that come from Uganda's biodiversity – food security, raw materials, pollination, and watershed protection – contribute to Uganda's economic growth and resilience, particularly for Ugandans who live in rural areas. Revenue from tourism – more than \$1.3 billion in 2016, roughly 80 percent of which was generated from visits to national parks – is an important contributor to Uganda's economy.

U.S. assistance helps Uganda manage its ecosystems responsibly through programs that help preserve wildlife and wildlands, promote conservation, mitigate the impacts of oil and gas exploration, combat wildlife crime, and educate the public on issues like climate change.

111,000
 hectares
 of critical
 conservation
 lands benefitted
 from improved
 management
 thanks to U.S.
 assistance.



A Uganda kob calf grazes in Murchison Falls National Park.



A wildlife scout speaks with park rangers at Kidepo National Park.



Our assistance supports efforts to ensure that Ugandan’s biodiversity and environment receive the protection they deserve while also enabling responsible use. Last year, the United States supported sustainable natural resource management through chili production and beekeeping enterprises implemented by communities near target conservation areas. Beekeepers near Budongo Central Forest Reserve, for example, formed the KICODA Cooperative and are now packaging and marketing all their products – which include honey, propolis, beeswax, and wine – thereby expanding their economic opportunities.

Continued support from the United States for community and private conservancies near Murchison Falls and Lake Mburo National Parks has provided important safeguards for securing wildlife outside protected areas and reducing human-wildlife conflict. Last year, the constitution for the Murchison-Aswa Falls Conservancy was developed and approved, protecting 11,000 hectares held by more than 58 landowners.



U.S. assistance is helping preserve Uganda’s wildlands and enabling Ugandan farmers to adapt to a changing climate.

SPOTLIGHT PROGRAM

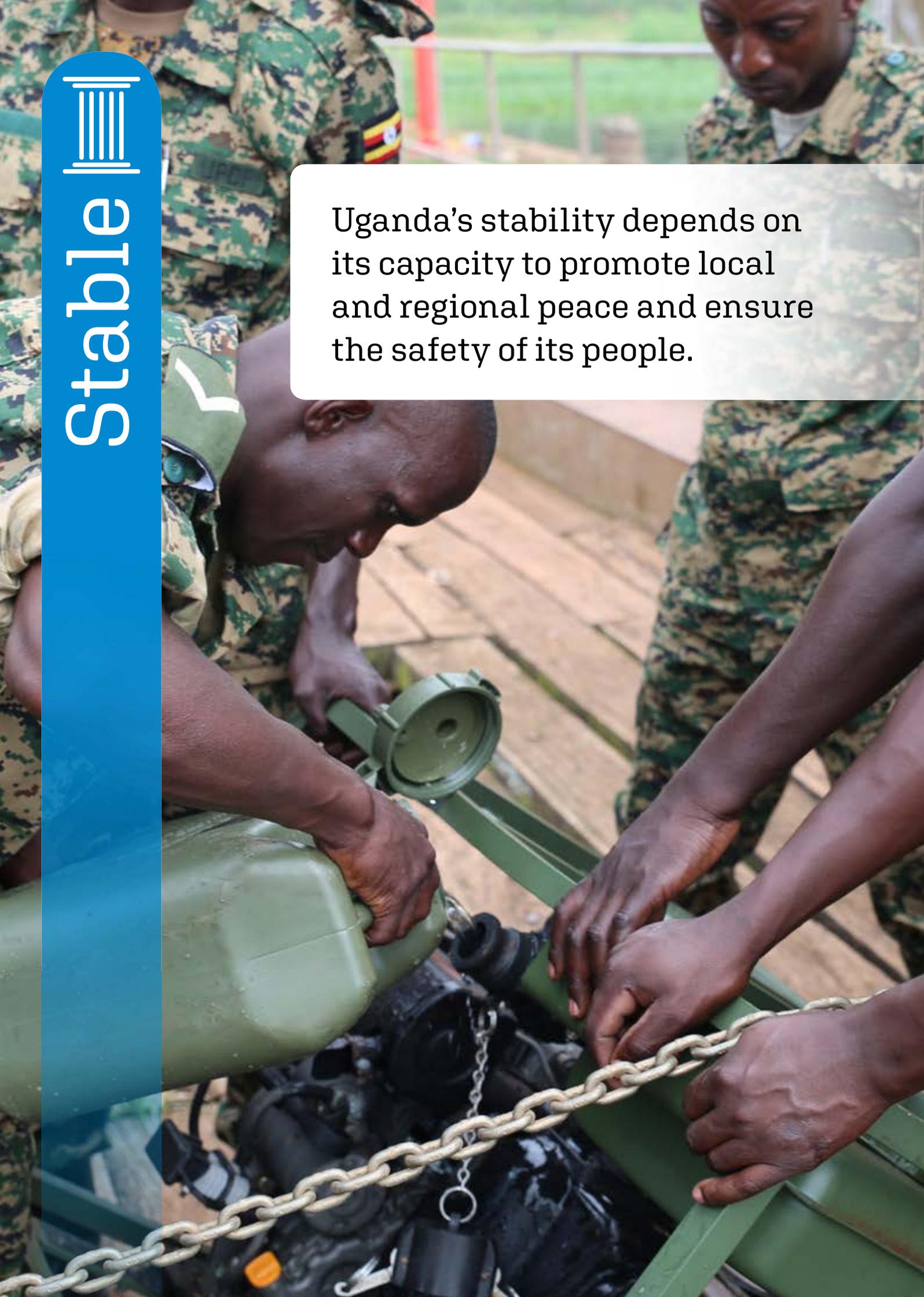
Adapting to Climate Change

U.S. assistance supports Uganda’s efforts to address weather-related impacts on agriculture through access to reliable climate and weather data, development of effective policy responses, and research and education. Our support increased the capacity of the Ugandan government and NGOs to interpret and use meteorological data to strengthen adaptation and enhance agricultural production in 19 districts.

Additionally, last year USAID’s Education and Research to Improve Climate Change Adaption program and the Makerere University Centre for Climate Change Research and Innovation co-hosted the 11th International Community-Based Adaptation Conference.



Stable



Uganda's stability depends on its capacity to promote local and regional peace and ensure the safety of its people.

The United States partners with Uganda to promote peace and stability in Uganda and throughout East Africa. To support regional security efforts, the U.S. Department of Defense trains Ugandan soldiers in peacekeeping methods, operations, and adherence to human rights standards. Within Uganda, USAID conflict mitigation programs reduce the threat of violence within communities. As a result of ongoing conflict in the region, Uganda has welcomed an influx of refugees from neighboring countries. To support these assistance efforts, the United States provides Uganda's refugee population with food assistance, healthcare, shelter, water infrastructure, sanitation, and access to education and livelihoods, as well as support for the local communities hosting refugees. Meanwhile, through CDC, USAID, and the Department of Defense, the United States supports Uganda's leading efforts to detect and control infectious disease outbreaks, a vital part of maintaining security within Uganda and the region.

ASSISTANCE
FOCUS AREAS

Conflict Mitigation and Reconciliation

Defense and Peacekeeping

Refugees

Global Health Security Agenda



2,680 refugees

were resettled from Uganda to
the United States through the
U.S. Refugee Admissions Program

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

\$371.3 million
UGX 1.3 trillion

◀ With support from the U.S. Marines, Ugandan soldiers execute a water purification exercise in Jinja District.

Conflict Mitigation and Reconciliation

Peacebuilding efforts are fostering cohesion within and among communities and improving access to justice.

Uganda continues to recover from a history of conflict that has affected different regions of the country, including the Lord's Resistance Army insurgency in northern Uganda. The legacy of this history has resulted in recurrent crises that threaten individual and family lives, livelihoods, dignity, and aspirations for the future. These crises also harm national and regional economies, while repeatedly necessitating costly humanitarian spending.

1,081

individuals in post-conflict northern Uganda received USAID-supported trauma healing, counseling, and support.



Area Land Committee members who received training through the SAFE program conduct a land inspection to help reduce land disputes and promote peace.

SUCCESS STORY

SAFE Program

Providing Training, Mediation, and Legal Aid Services to Promote Peace

USAID's Supporting Access to Justice and Fostering Peace (SAFE) program provides important interventions in regions affected by historical and ongoing conflict. Last year, the program trained 406 members of District Land Boards, Area Land Committees, and traditional leaders in 20 targeted districts of Uganda. SAFE also provided legal aid services – which empower low-income and other vulnerable members of the community – regarding land issues to approximately 209 beneficiaries through legal aid camps and mobile clinics, helping to effectively resolve 47 land dispute cases in courts of law.

Additionally, SAFE trained 479 people in conflict prevention and management, including women and youth leaders, senior members of political parties, community leaders in refugee settlements, and volunteer peace monitors.

USAID conflict mitigation and reconciliation activities are helping to address these negative effects and the underlying causes. The SAFE program focuses on resolving disputes that arise from the main drivers of conflict throughout the country: land ownership, ethnicity, elections and political processes, the rapidly-expanding youth population, and challenges related to post-conflict recovery in northern Uganda. The program trains land administration groups, including District Land Boards and traditional institutions. SAFE also provides legal aid services to vulnerable community members and promotes cost-effective and timely land dispute resolution.

Defense and Peacekeeping

The military partnership between Uganda and the United States is a cornerstone of national and regional security.

The U.S. military works closely with the Uganda People's Defence Force (UPDF) and the resulting partnership contributes to peace and security throughout the continent. The U.S. Department of Defense's African Peacekeeping Rapid Response Partnership Program (APRRP) has helped the UPDF increase its capacity to quickly send peacekeepers in response to emerging conflicts. Last year, through APRRP, more than 500 UPDF soldiers trained in key skills including health services, heavy equipment operation, and civil engineering. Additionally, the Africa Contingency Operations Training and Assistance (ACOTA) program focused on improving UPDF capabilities to perform multinational peace support operations through the provision of training and equipment. All U.S.-provided UPDF trainings included instruction on human rights and humanitarian law.

Over 6,000 UPDF soldiers received U.S.-provided training in preparation for peace support operations as part of the African Union Mission to Somalia.



U.S. Marines conduct training with UPDF soldiers.



Refugees

Uganda's treatment of refugees is a model for other nations.

In the last two years, refugees seeking to escape violence in neighboring countries have entered Uganda in record numbers. This has created challenges, but Uganda maintains tolerant policies for accepting and caring for refugees.

To help Uganda uphold its responsibilities for hosting refugees, the U.S. government supports programs that benefit host communities as well as refugees. We contribute more humanitarian assistance than any other donor to international relief organizations that provide food and shelter to refugee populations. This assistance lessens the impact on local communities and reduces conflicts. The United States also funds activities in 12 districts that protect refugees and provide clean water, healthcare, economic opportunities, and mental health services to address trauma from gender-based violence.

More than
1.3 million
refugees in Uganda received lifesaving assistance through support from the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM) at the U.S. Department of State.



Food aid provided through U.S. assistance efforts is distributed at a refugee settlement near the Uganda-Congo border.



Refugees at the Bidibidi settlement in northern Uganda, one of the largest refugee settlements in the world.

SPOTLIGHT PROGRAM

U.S. Refugee Admissions Program

The U.S. Refugee Admissions Program, implemented by PRM, advances U.S. humanitarian principles, relieves suffering of vulnerable displaced populations, and helps to ensure regional stability. The program is committed to helping resettle especially vulnerable refugees, offering them hope and relieving some of the burden on host communities.

In 2017, the program resettled 2,680 refugees from Uganda to the United States. Through its Refugee Health Initiative, the program works with Ugandan healthcare professionals to detect and treat important public health conditions that affect refugees and surrounding communities.

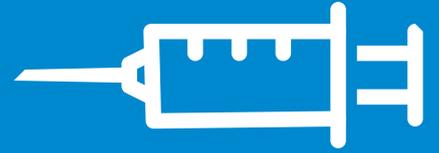
Global Health Security Agenda

Uganda is a leader in advancing global health security.

Ensuring that Uganda can quickly detect and control public health threats – especially threats posed by outbreaks of infectious diseases like Ebola and Marburg – is essential to the country's security. Uganda's participation in the Global Health Security Agenda – a partnership of more than 64 countries and international and non-governmental organizations – has increased the capacity of health officials and provided important tools and evaluations to strengthen the country's health system.

Through efforts by CDC, USAID, the Department of Defense, and other U.S. government partners, we support Uganda's efforts to increase its preparedness to respond to public health emergencies and improve its stability. Initiatives like the PREDICT-2 project, facilitated by USAID, are helping Uganda strengthen key areas of its public health system. PREDICT-2 developed an early warning system to detect, track, and predict the emergence of infectious disease carried by wildlife. CDC supports Uganda's Public Health Emergency Operations Centre, which was activated more than 30 times in 2017. The Centre launches and coordinates responses to Uganda's most urgent disease threats to prevent them from becoming national and international epidemics that result in major loss of life.

U.S. support is helping to strengthen Uganda's capacity to evaluate and respond to public health emergencies.



100 notifications regarding priority disease threats were received by Uganda's Public Health Emergency Operations Centre from communities and districts.



A member of CDC's Public Health Fellowship Program studies a sample as part of the program's efforts to investigate and control outbreaks of infectious diseases.

Public Health Fellowship Program

The Public Health Fellowship Program (PHFP), supported by CDC, plays a key role in helping to build Uganda's capacity by training public health officials to investigate and control disease outbreaks. Last year, PHFP investigated 27 outbreaks and responded to seven public health emergencies; the program also completed 14 projects to improve public health surveillance systems.

Thanks to its exemplary work, PHFP won the 2017 CDC Director's Award for Excellence in Epidemiology and Public Health Response.



Just & Democratic

Ensuring that human rights are protected and that all Ugandans can fully participate in Uganda's governance is essential to the country's future.



Security and economic growth depend on effective, democratic governance that provides all citizens a voice in politics and civic life. U.S. programs support Ugandans' efforts to advocate for their rights, influence their institutions, and hold their leaders accountable. Our initiatives strengthen local government institutions and civil society, empower Ugandans to fight corruption, and increase the participation of all citizens – especially those who may be discriminated against, such as women, ethnic and religious minorities, the LGBTI community, and those with disabilities – in government processes. Good governance also means respecting press freedom, and we support a free and strong media in Uganda by funding regular training programs for journalists on reporting and security.

ASSISTANCE
FOCUS AREAS

Rule of Law and Human Rights

Good Governance and Anti-Corruption

Media Training



372 Ugandans

in Lira received free legal services to resolve land disputes and bring justice in domestic violence cases

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

\$13.1 million

UGX 48.8 billion

◁ Janet Antime benefits from U.S. programs that promote rule of law in Lamwo District.



Rule of Law and Human Rights

Advancing the rule of law and protecting human rights benefits all Ugandans.

The health and stability of democracy in Uganda depends on ensuring that rule of law and human rights are protected and promoted. U.S. assistance supports Ugandans' important efforts throughout the country to increase access to justice, safeguard human rights, and preserve freedom of expression and the press.

Additionally, through the Rights and Rule of Law program implemented by USAID in Lira District, 90 Community Peace Promoters have been trained in human rights, rule of law, and alternative dispute resolution. Community Peace Promoters provide Ugandans free legal services, mediate conflicts, and resolve tensions in communities.



SUCCESS STORY

Facilitating Peace

Sandra Kasuja, an 18-year-old mother in Lira District, received mediation services from a Community Peace Promoter when disagreements arose with the father of her child. Sandra had met the father of now 7-month-old Sharif when she was 17 years old after dropping out of school. She was unable to afford school fees following the loss of her mother, and she was dependent on support to raise Sharif. The Community Peace Promoter connected Sandra with Sharif's father, and helped the two reach an agreement on support for Sharif – which now includes the provision of soap, food, and money.



Sandra Kasuja and her son Sharif in Lira District.

Good Governance and Anti-Corruption

U.S. efforts to reduce corruption seek to increase public confidence in Uganda's government.

Corruption is common in Uganda and is considered one of the greatest barriers to the country's economic development. In 2017, Uganda ranked 151 out of 176 countries in the Global Corruption Perceptions Index, with a score lower than the regional average. The U.S. government works in partnership with local authorities, the media, and civil society to help Ugandans fight corruption, improve government transparency, strengthen the quality of public services, and increase dialogue between government and the public.

Between 2012 and 2017, 24 local governments increased their locally-generated revenue by nearly 52 percent thanks to the **Governance, Accountability, Participation, and Performance** program.

52%

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

"People are not informed about their rights. We build people's capacity to participate in development processes in their communities, that they understand that they can demand for better services for health, infrastructure, and education."

Stephen Topaicho, Forum for Rights, Awareness, and Monitoring, Gulu District





SPOTLIGHT PROGRAM

Governance, Accountability, Participation, and Performance (GAPP)

USAID is committed to improving the accountability and responsiveness of Uganda's systems to ensure sustainable development. Through GAPP, in partnership with the U.K. Department for International Development, USAID works to strengthen fiscal management and decision-making by local governments while increasing public participation in governance.

Last year, GAPP supported publication of an investigative reporting series that exposed local government corruption and its effects on public healthcare and education services. The program also facilitated 28 local government procurement audits and supported eight districts to conduct public hearings involving Parliament's Local Government Public Accounts, Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets Authority, Office of the Attorney General and civil society to review local government audit recommendations. As a result, \$640,850 was recovered.

The program has also facilitated new construction projects – including a new road between Paicho and Tegot and a borehole for drinking water in Nenkityena – that have improved public services. Children have been less sick after a borehole was built through GAPP, according to Nenkityena Village Chief Woman Alur Filder. It is now a shorter distance to clean water, and instances of sharing water with animals have been reduced.



Village Chief Woman Alur Filder at the Nenkityena borehole.

Media Training

The Ugandan media has an important role to play in building a healthy democracy.

Journalists should be free to raise public awareness of important issues and to express their opinions without fear of prosecution or retaliation. Our work aims to support journalists in their efforts to educate Ugandan citizens about the latest social, political, and economic activities that are affecting the country.

Thanks to U.S. assistance, last year 100 journalists participated in trainings to promote ethical and responsible reporting that empowers the Ugandan people to understand their rights and hold those in power accountable. Training topics included health, accountability and governance, internet usage, and journalism safety and security.



Ugandan journalists film a news story. Trainings provided through U.S. assistance are contributing to improved reporting on key issues.



Inclusive, Educated, & Empowered

Promoting an inclusive society in which the Ugandan people are educated and empowered will help the country reach its full potential.



The United States has a range of initiatives to help Uganda build an inclusive, educated, and empowered population. Our educational programs train teachers, promote literacy, and aim to keep children – especially girls – in school by supporting improvements to the quality of education and ensuring that schools are positive, safe places for children to learn. Our efforts seek to unlock the potential of all Ugandans through educational advising services, cultural exchanges, leadership training, skills development, and small grants to make changes at the individual and community levels. Uganda has one of the youngest populations in the world, so U.S. government programs seek to educate and empower Uganda's youth – the country's future leaders – so they can guide Uganda towards a vibrant and prosperous future where everyone has an equal voice.

ASSISTANCE
FOCUS AREAS

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



In 2017, U.S. education assistance provided benefits to

2.7 million
Ugandan
students

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

\$20.2 million
UGX 72.5 billion

◀ Students practice reading in their local language using textbooks provided through support from USAID.



Basic Education and Literacy

More Ugandan children are benefitting from quality schools.

Ensuring that children in Uganda have access to a good education is fundamental to enabling them to become productive and prosperous citizens. Our assistance programs and initiatives are helping to strengthen teaching and learning in Uganda's schools, to provide learning materials that students need to thrive, and to make schools safe places for children and youth. Reading skills are particularly important for young learners. Early grade reading programs sponsored by the United States aim to improve the reading skills of young learners and ensure they and their teachers have quality textbooks.

Additionally, the annual international Literacy and Learning Laboratory (Lit Lab), hosted by Peace Corps Uganda, welcomed 52 Peace Corps staff and volunteers from 13 African countries to Uganda. The goal for the Lit Lab was to share best practices in improving classroom instruction and literacy for primary education. Participants of the week-long Lit Lab exchanged classroom techniques, discussed pro-social behaviors, and shared literacy improvement strategies.

Last year, USAID distributed 802,131 pupil textbooks and teacher guides in Mbarara District.



Peace Corps Volunteer Rassuchine Hayley works through an early grade reading assessment with a pupil at a school in Jinja District.

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

“Peace Corps is more than technical support to program implementation. A lot of what I do is interacting with community members, learning the language, going to the market, and integrating into the community. It’s beyond development work, it’s about cultural exchange as well.”

Derek Smith, Peace Corps
Volunteer in Jinja District

Peace Corps Volunteer Derek Smith
(front) embraces a member of his
host family in Jinja District. ▶



Empowering Young Learners with Reading and Health Support

USAID’s School Health and Reading Program and Learning Achievement and Retention Activity are helping strengthen education in 62 districts across Uganda. The program works to improve reading skills of primary school students and to measurably improve HIV/AIDS awareness and positive health behaviors among teachers and students, and reduce school-related gender-based violence. Since both programs began, at least 3.2 million learners have received reading support and almost the same number of reading materials have been put into the hands of young learners. More than 30,000 learners have also benefitted from positive health and support outreach.

▶ **Primary school students practicing their reading skills at a school supported by the School Health and Reading Program.**

SUCCESS STORY

Children in Adversity

More children in vulnerable situations have access to the support and services that contribute to improved safety and well-being.

Many children in Uganda face adversity that has damaging impacts on their health, safety, education, and prospects for a bright future. The programs we sponsor work to ensure that orphans and other vulnerable children receive the support and services they need to achieve stability.

Over the past year, the U.S. government's Orphans and Vulnerable Children programs served more than 500,000 children and their caregivers in Uganda. The Sustainable Comprehensive Responses for Vulnerable Children and their Families (SCORE) project – funded by USAID and implemented through AVSI Uganda and 66 local partners across the country – supports at-risk children by increasing the stability of households in 23 districts in five regions of Uganda. This support includes socio-economic strengthening, food security and nutrition, child protection and legal services, and strengthening families' access to critical health and social services. SCORE has supported more than 208,000 people in 37,700 households.

13,311

households benefited from increased stability that enabled them to graduate out of SCORE.

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

“It was my luck joining the Better Outcomes PEC club (Peer Education and Economic Empowerment). If it wasn't for them I wouldn't have trained and gotten this job. I can feed my family, my child, and my mother.”

Asiina Mutesi, 18-year-old tailor apprentice through the BOCY program in Gomba District

Asiina Mutesi at work at a tailor's shop in Gomba District. 





SPOTLIGHT PROGRAM

Better Outcomes for Children and Youth in Eastern and Northern Uganda (BOCY)

The BOCY activity improves the well-being of children and youth orphaned and made vulnerable by HIV and other adversities. Last year, the program provided support to 154,512 orphans and vulnerable children, as well as their caregivers, through a range of activities that empower them economically and provide access to vital services.

Additionally, 4,428 orphans and vulnerable children were supported through school subsidies – resulting in improved school retention and re-enrollment – and 828 youth, like Charles Ngobi, were enrolled to apprenticeship programs with local artisans.

Charles comes from an HIV-affected family. Through a BOCY-sponsored club, he trained with a local welder and has since joined on as an employee. Charles is now able to help his sister pay her child's school fees and save for the future. His dream is to have his own workshop one day and train more youth to become welders.

◀ **Charles Ngobi now works as a welder thanks to BOCY.**

Exchange Programs

Exchange programs help strengthen the relationship between the United States and Uganda.

Educational and cultural exchanges between the United States and Uganda create stronger ties and closer connections between the people of our two countries. The nearly three dozen U.S.-sponsored programs that operate in Uganda bring young and vibrant Ugandan leaders from a wide variety of professions to the United States to further their education and benefit from new learning opportunities.

The Fulbright Program, one of our best-known exchanges, offers a wide variety of competitively-awarded scholarships for students, scholars, teachers, and other professionals. For example, the Fulbright Student Program provides grants for U.S. graduate students, young professionals, and artists to conduct research and study in Uganda, as well as grants for Ugandan students to complete masters and doctoral studies in the United States. Ugandan institutions also participate in the program by hosting U.S. scholars to conduct research, lecture, and develop curricula. As part of the Fulbright program, the Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship brings mid-career professionals from Uganda to the United States for a year of non-degree graduate level study, leadership development, and professional enrichment. In 2017, 24 Ugandans and Americans participated in the Fulbright Program.

The International Visitor Leadership Program sends nearly 5,000 current and emerging foreign leaders worldwide to the United States for professional development. These leaders cultivate lasting relationships with their American counterparts. The short-term projects focus on a range of topics including rule of law, human rights, journalism, environmental protection, the judicial system, and good governance.

Last year, 24 Ugandans participated in Fulbright exchanges, while 26 participated in the International Visitor Leadership Program.



SUCCESS STORY

Empowering Young Learners with Reading and Health Support

The Fulbright Scholarship helped Dr. Ehledreda-Mpungu, Senior Lecturer and Psychiatric Epidemiologist with the Department of Psychiatry at Makerere University, receive her Ph.D. at Johns Hopkins University in the United States. She specializes in psychiatric epidemiology, with a specific focus on mental health patients who have HIV/AIDS.

Thanks to the Fulbright Scholarship, Dr. Ehledreda-Mpungu was able to do comprehensive research and secure funding for the mental health field. Her research won countless awards and was published in the American Psychiatric Association.



Fulbright Scholar Dr. Ehledreda-Mpungu, Senior Lecturer and Psychiatric Epidemiologist at Makerere University.

Young African Leaders Initiative

Building the skills of the next generation of leaders is an investment in Uganda's future.

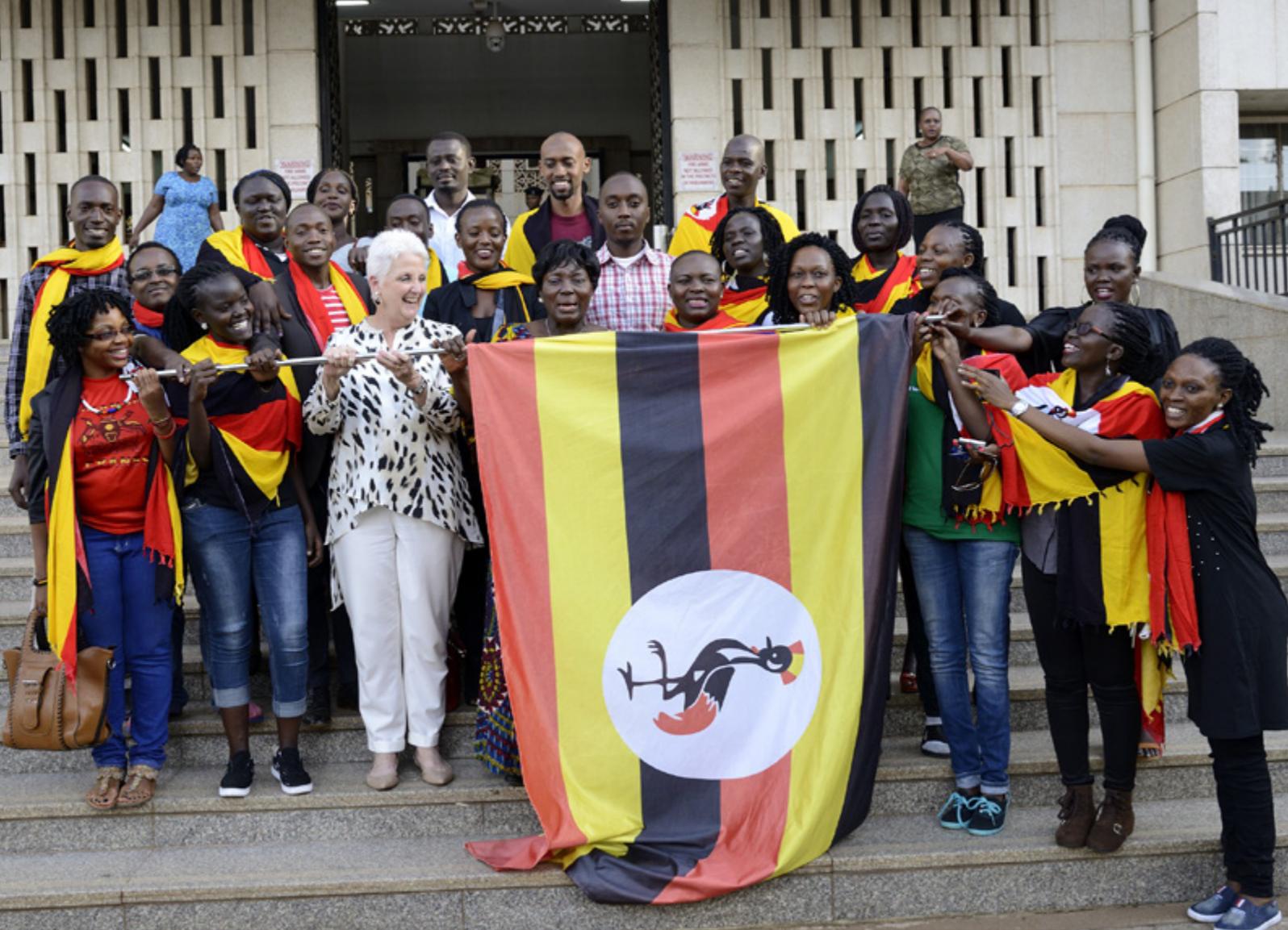
30 young leaders

from Uganda trained in the United States last year thanks to the Mandela Washington Fellowship.

The Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI) is our signature effort to support the development of young leaders. Through the YALI Network, the YALI Regional Leadership Center East Africa, and the Mandela Washington Fellowship, the YALI program empowers young people through academic coursework, leadership training, and networking opportunities.

The YALI Network is free to the public and provides members with invaluable opportunities to connect with other leaders in their communities and to learn from experts in their field. With over 22,000 members, the Network in Uganda provides free online training, professional development opportunities, online conversations, how-to guides, and the opportunity for dynamic young leaders across Uganda to connect with each other.

Since 2014, 123 Ugandans have benefitted from the Mandela Washington Fellowship, a six-week academic and leadership program held at various U.S. institutes that builds skills necessary to become leaders in business and entrepreneurship, civic leadership, or public management.



Ambassador Malac celebrates with Mandela Washington Fellowship recipients. 

SUCCESS STORY

Encouraging Transformational Learning

Through support from USAID – and in partnership with the MasterCard Foundation – YALI Regional Leadership Centers (RLC) empower young leaders across the continent to engage in transformational learning and enhance their individual leadership skills. The YALI RLC East Africa is located at Kenyatta University in Nairobi, Kenya and serves 14 countries in East and Central Africa, including Uganda. Since it was established in 2015, 247 Ugandans have benefitted from the leadership training and the three tracks of study – business and entrepreneurship, civic leadership, and public management – that the RLC provides.



**YOUNG AFRICAN
LEADERS INITIATIVE**



Education Advising and Study in the U.S.A.

Enabling Ugandan students to gain a world-class education in the United States helps to grow the next generation of leaders.

International students who study at one of the many institutions of higher education in the United States enrich the communities that host them and they, in turn, build knowledge and skills that they bring back to their home countries.

The U.S. government supports efforts to help more international students study in the United States. EducationUSA is a U.S. Department of State network of over 425 international student advising centers in more than 175 countries. The network promotes U.S. higher education to students around the world by offering accurate, comprehensive, and current information about applying to and attending U.S. colleges and universities.

Additionally, the Embassy's EducationUSA Adviser helps Ugandan students navigate the process of applying to study in the United States. Last year, we provided educational advising services to 1,440 Ugandans on a one-on-one or group basis and reached an additional 500 students through outreach and in-house workshops.

We also assist academically-promising students of modest means in Uganda with the up-front costs of applying to U.S. higher education institutions through the Opportunity Funds program. Since 2010, 32 Ugandan Opportunity Fund recipients have been accepted to U.S. colleges and universities with scholarship funding totaling more than \$1,079,000.



779 Ugandan students attended colleges and universities in the United States last year.



SUCCESS STORY

American Music Abroad Program

The State Department and U.S. Mission Uganda support a broad range of art exchanges, including the American Music Abroad program. This program is designed to communicate America's rich musical contributions to the global music scene and foster cross-cultural communication and people-to-people connections to global audiences.

Last year, the American Music Abroad program brought bluegrass band Crow and the Canyon to tour East Africa. While in Uganda, Crow and the Canyon collaborated with Ugandan folk artists, held masters classes for students at Makerere University and Kampala's National Theater, and held a series of free concerts at Makerere University, in Arua, and on national TV and radio programs.



American bluegrass band Crow and the Canyon perform in Arua.

Cultural Programs

Cultural exchange brings the United States and Uganda closer and creates new opportunities for Ugandan artists.

The United States sponsors programs that facilitate cultural exchange and mutual understanding. One such program is the American Film Showcase (AFS), our premier film diplomacy program, which selects the best recent independent documentaries, feature films, and animated shorts, and sends them to Uganda. In partnership with the University of Southern California’s School of Cinematic Arts, AFS sends film industry experts to travel with the films and work with local filmmakers to increase the viability and visibility of the film industry in East Africa while sharing information about the culture of the United States.



Ugandan filmmakers participate in the American Film Showcase as part of the Women in Film initiative.





U.S. support improves access to education for students throughout Uganda. 

Self-Help and Small Grant Programs

Supporting community-based initiatives enables communities to become more self-reliant and work toward a prosperous future.

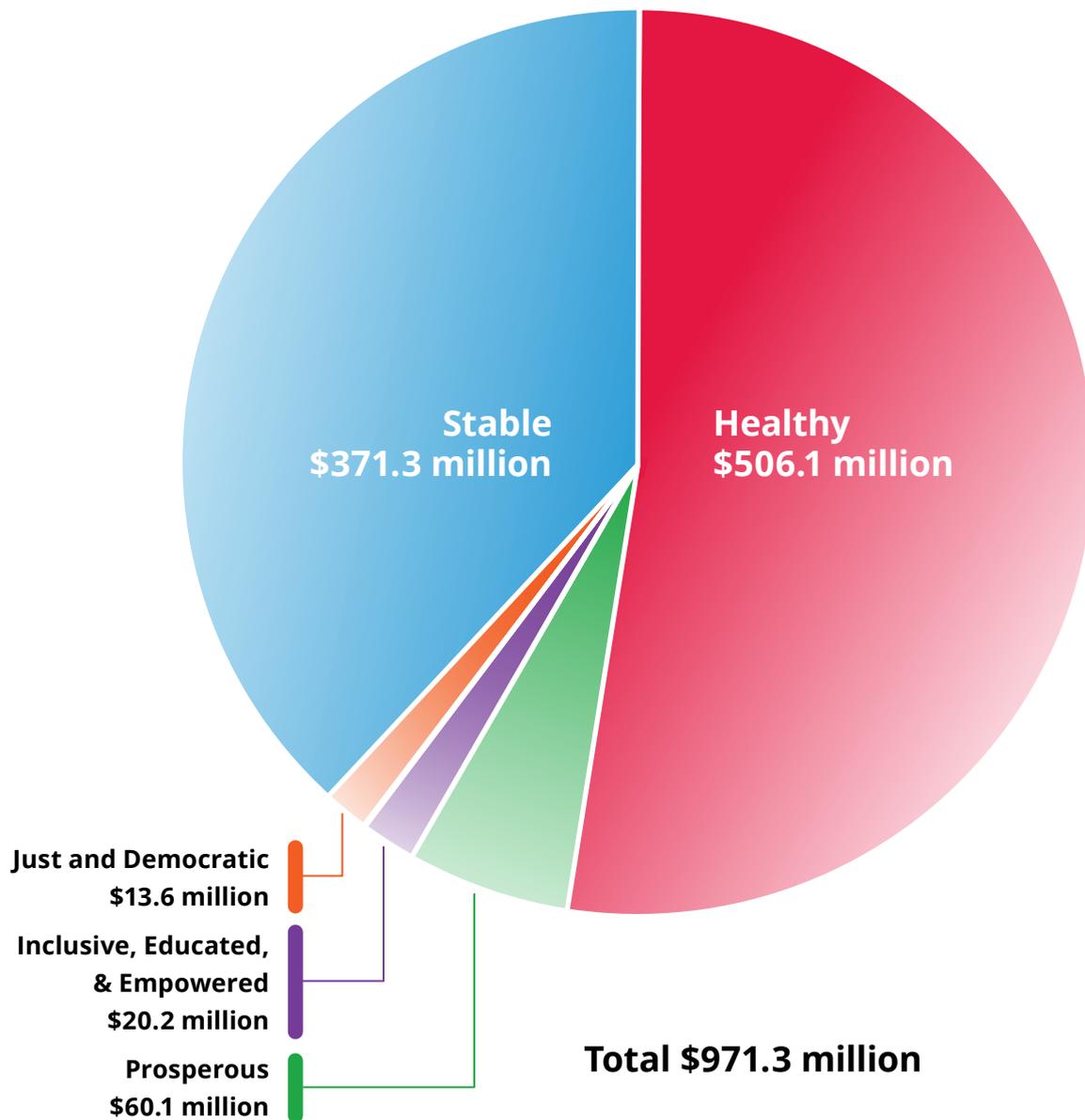
The United States funds numerous smaller projects that have a significant impact in local communities. For example, through the Ambassador's Special Self-Help (SSH) Program, we award small grants of up to \$10,000 to support community development projects that help communities address their most vital needs. Eight new SSH grants focus on improving access to education, health, and clean water, as well as improved sanitation and economic growth.





Funding by Assistance Area, Fiscal Year 2017

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 2017.





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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