



## EAST AFRICA GLOBAL HEALTH

East African countries continue to face health challenges including large numbers of maternal and child deaths and the adverse effects of infectious diseases. Each country faces challenges within its health system that hinder the government’s capacity to meet the needs of its most vulnerable people. African leaders and health experts recognize that with increased regional integration and movement of people across the continent, it is necessary to have effective regional approaches for controlling communicable diseases, harmonized policies and standards, and the sharing of best practices to address health risks that transcend borders. USAID helps strengthen the ability of regional institutions and systems to meet the health needs of mobile and cross-border populations in the region.

### COMBATting INFECTIOUS DISEASE THREATS

USAID supports capacity strengthening efforts that improve the diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis (TB). These focus on controlling TB infections, improving planning and referrals between countries, and enhancing the diagnosis and testing capacity of health providers in remote health facilities near borders. USAID and its regional partners work to strengthen cross-border coordination, to reach people such as pastoralists, traders, migrants, and refugees. Their movement across borders makes it difficult for one country to deal with their health issues. USAID tests innovative tools and trains health providers to identify, treat and refer mobile populations. This prevents them from dropping out of treatment programs and reduces drug resistance and the spread of diseases across borders.

## EMERGING PANDEMIC THREATS AND THE GLOBAL HEALTH SECURITY AGENDA

As witnessed during the West African Ebola outbreak, emerging pandemics threaten development and security throughout the world. USAID works with government ministries and key partners across East and Central Africa to prevent, detect and rapidly respond to emerging infectious diseases as part of the Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA). USAID helps Missions in the region to better plan, implement and report on activities funded by GHSA. It also helps coordinate governments and donors so that the right measures are in place to prevent, mitigate and respond to emerging pandemic diseases. This keeps the region and the world safe from pandemic threats.

## PREVENTING MATERNAL AND CHILD DEATHS

USAID and the East African Community's Lake Victoria Basin Commission combine family planning and reproductive health services with conservation and natural resource management to improve both human and environmental health. This is helping communities in highly biodiverse and environmentally fragile areas make healthy decisions about the number, timing and spacing of their children, while considering the preservation of the natural resources that will sustain their families. USAID is thus protecting the environment and helping prevent maternal and child deaths.

## CONTROLLING THE HIV/AIDS EPIDEMIC

USAID is implementing an innovative, cross-border health model at six land and water sites along the Kenya/Tanzania, Kenya/Uganda and Uganda/Rwanda borders. The Cross-Border Health Integrated Partnership Project (CB-HIPP) provides integrated health services for HIV/AIDS, TB and sexual and reproductive health. Patients who test positive for HIV are put on treatment and advised how to keep it up as they move across countries. Stronger health systems that properly record, refer and treat patients reduce the possibility of the disease spreading further. Helping health workers respond to the unique needs of mobile and other vulnerable cross-border populations is critical to ending the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

## DIGITAL HEALTH

The East Africa Health Research Commission has developed a 10-year roadmap and digital health strategy for the East African region informed by USAID's digital health policy. It plans to collectively transform health systems in the region by 2028 so they make coordinated use of standardized and integrated technology to achieve the region's health goals.

## KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

USAID acts as a convener of experts, decision makers and civil society organizations to drive policies, promote best practices and discover development solutions that address the region's unique health challenges. USAID's partners share results of studies and lessons from programming in various regional and international forums.

**2019 BUDGET:** \$5.5 million

### IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

- East African Community (EAC Secretariat, Lake Victoria Basin Commission, East Africa Health Research Commission), Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), Partner states of EAC and IGAD, FHI360, Johns Hopkins Center for Communication Program, Palladium Group, Management Sciences for Health, U.S. Pharmacopeia

### FY 2019 ACHIEVEMENT SNAPSHOTS

- 38,000 people reached with integrated package of Population, Health and Environment services
- 11,631 people tested and counseled for HIV, of whom 3,500 were new testers
- 35 health facilities linked to cross-border referral system
- Guidelines for common minimum standards for TB services in the EAC developed
- Experts working group on Medicines Regulation and Harmonization established for the IGAD region

### USAID KENYA AND EAST AFRICA

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