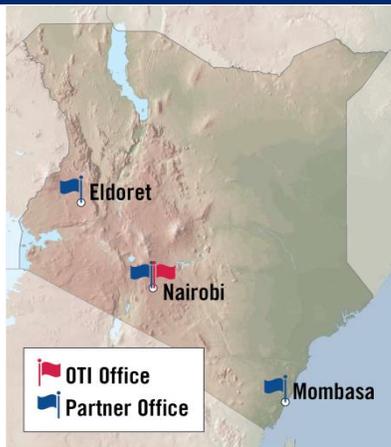




Office of Transition Initiatives

KENYA



OTI MISSION STATEMENT

To support U.S. foreign policy objectives by helping local partners advance peace and democracy in priority countries in crisis. Seizing critical windows of opportunity, OTI works on the ground to provide fast, flexible, short-term assistance targeted at key political transition and stabilization needs.

FAST FACTS

Start Date: January 2011
Total Budget: \$35.39 million
TI: \$14.17 million
EAS: \$4.69 million
CCF-Coast: \$3.93 million
XENO: \$2.93 million
DFID: \$2.03 million
Devolution \$1.90 million
CVE-Coast: \$1.75 million
PRACT: \$1.62 million
Youth: \$1.44 million
DRG: \$500,000
1207: \$325,000
PER: \$250,000
HRG: \$200,000
ES-SUP: \$148,719

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

USAID’s Office of Transition Initiatives launched the Kenya Transition Initiative (KTI) program in Kenya in June 2008 after Kenya’s competing political parties adopted a peace accord and power-sharing agreement that quelled the devastating inter-ethnic violence that followed the hotly contested December 2007 national elections. The goal of the program is primarily hinged on contributing to a stable Kenyan polity that mobilizes citizen participation around a national identity and political platforms rather than ethnic identities. From its beginning, KTI’s engagement in Kenya has supported national and local-level stabilization and transition efforts targeted at recovery by mitigating political and social volatility and reducing vulnerability to violence. KTI’s multi-pronged efforts contribute to institutional and grassroots reforms and assist Kenyan state and non-state actors in support of the following broad objectives:

- Enable public institutions to undertake fundamental reforms and to manage instability and uncertainty;
- Mobilize the public, especially the youth and key change agents, to demand accountability and reform;
- Mitigate instability due to the war in Somalia.

In March 2013, Kenya carried out its first General Election under the 2010 Constitution. The elections brought into effect a new devolved system of governance which transferred power from the central government to the newly created county governments. As a response to the newly devolved structure, and per the request of USAID/Kenya, KTI refocused its programming towards strengthening public institutions at the county level in order to advance a governmental structure that is more inclusive, transparent, and accountable.

In September 2013, USAID/Kenya and the Department for International Development (DFID) entered into a partnership agreement for the Bridge Devolution Program. DFID provided \$ 2.03 million to KTI to carry out devolution-related activities.

KTI was initially implemented by Development Alternatives Incorporated (DAI) under a task order that closed in May 2011. Chemonics International began implementing KTI activities under a separate task order in January 2011 and will continue through April 16, 2014. This report covers activities and events between January 1, 2014 and March 31, 2014.

PROGRAM AREAS

Advocacy – In October 2011, Kenyan troops were deployed to Somalia in response to an increasing threat to Kenya’s security emanating from violent attacks by Al-Shabaab¹ and associated terrorist groups. Since the intervention began, there have been several bomb attacks in Nairobi, many of which have been attributed to Al-Shabaab. In addition, Kenya has experienced a growing trend of youth radicalization and recruitment into terrorist groups, particularly among ethnic Somali and non-ethnic Somali Kenyan populations living along the Coast and in informal settlements in Nairobi.

In an effort to combat youth radicalization, KTI collaborated with [REDACTED] to enhance community leadership and equip staff members of community centers with the skills and knowledge to help youth reject extremism. KTI helped identify recreational centers that were convening places for youth and trained management of these centers to learn how to identify radical behaviors. Management were also trained on committee management, leadership and governance, planning and communication, youth engagement and representation, and sensitization and understanding of extremist recruitment strategies. Local youth were also encouraged to join community committees, which helped broaden their engagement and representation within their communities.

KTI also partnered with the [REDACTED] in Mombasa and Kwale in an effort to enhance [REDACTED] organizational system and structures and train youth groups in a variety of organizational development areas. Through KTI support, [REDACTED] trained 29 youth groups on topics such as advocacy and lobbying, project planning and management, conflict resolution, and facilitation skills. KTI also linked the youth groups with the wider Yes Youth Can Bunge Network Program² for Mombasa and Kwale. The networking of the diverse set of youth groups showed the youth that they can develop their skills and talents by giving back to their communities in initiatives that will be mutually beneficial to the community.

Public Institution Strengthening – Devolution in Kenya has been advocated as a political response to what many citizens felt was a systematized imbalance in regional development. Through devolution, Kenya sought to ensure more equitable development and curb corruption and the inefficient use of public resources by state officials. With the enactment of the new constitution, the devolution process came into full effect after the March 2013 national elections.

One of the challenges that new county governments faced was the need to enhance the capacity of its newly elected officials to effectively legislate. To support this, KTI partnered with several county governments in Kenya to provide Members of County Assemblies (MCAs) with hands-on training on legislature and business conduct. The MCAs were also provided training on basic information technology to ensure that they were able to access all the information they needed to legislate. By training the MCAs and their committees on the relevant skills necessary to improve their legislative capabilities, MCAs were able to provide better service delivery to their respective counties.

In Nyeri County, KTI helped the County’s Assembly Research Committee enhance the ability of its MCAs to propose draft legislation and policies. With KTI support, the Committee opened a research center that allows MCAs to access relevant legal materials that can inform draft legislation. KTI also helped refurbish and provide equipment for the center and assisted the Committee in hiring staff that can assist the MCAs with information gathering. MCAs can now quickly access information that is accurate and timely, which helped pave the way for Nyeri County to draft its first bill on public participation. The bill development process included public engagement, which helped create a collective sense of participation and ownership between MCAs and the public.

¹ Al-Shabaab is a terrorist organization that has carried out attacks in Somalia, Ethiopia, and Kenya:
http://www.nctc.gov/site/groups/al_shabaab.html

²The Yes Youth Can program is currently being implemented by CLUSA <http://clusakenya.org/index.php/projects/17-yes-youth-can-coast>

COUNTRY SITUATION

ICC Trials – The International Criminal Court (ICC) has adjourned the trial of Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta. In March 2011, Mr. Kenyatta was charged with five counts of crimes against humanity as an indirect co-perpetrator of the violence that followed Kenya's 2007 national elections. The trial chamber stated that the purpose of the adjournment is to give the Kenyan government additional time to comply with the prosecutors' request for records. The new commencement for Mr. Kenyatta's trial is set for October 7, 2014. The trial of Kenyan authorities continues to be controversial, especially with Kenya's Attorney General informing the ICC that Kenya would not release Kenyatta's financial records without a court order as required by Kenyan law. Mr. Kenyatta and his Deputy, William Ruto, are both on trial. Mr. Ruto's case is currently in progress.

Westgate Mall Terror Attack Report Released – In January 2014, the Kenya Defense Forces (KDF) released their final report on the Westgate terror attack that occurred in September 2013. According to the report, the attackers rebuffed attempts to negotiate by members of the taskforce. The report indicates that five soldiers and policemen were killed in the operation and that four bodies, suspected to be those of the terrorists, were recovered in the mall. The report also states that the state and police force had no prior knowledge of the attack.

First Governor Impeached – Embu Governor Martin Wambora made history as the first governor to be impeached due to allegations of corruption made against him by members of the Embu County Assembly. Recommendations to impeach Mr. Wambora were made by the Senate Special Committee that investigated and found him guilty of three of the five charges brought against him.

Terrorist Attacks – Kenya continues to experience sporadic terrorist attacks targeting religious and social gatherings as a result of the incursion of Kenyan troops into Somalia in October 2011. Attacks have been centered on the Northeastern region of the country, the Eastleigh suburb of Nairobi, and along the Coast. The Kenyan Government has responded to these attacks by implementing strict security measures on with police officers conducting impromptu searches in various estates that are known to be hubs to extremist sympathizers. The attacks and resulting security measures have led to an increase in tensions between ethnic Somalis and non-ethnic Somali residents.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- On April 16, 2014, the KTI program will close.
- On April 30 and May 1, 2014, KTI will hold its After Exit Review in Washington, DC.

GRANTS SUMMARY

KTI has cleared a total of 527 activities through March 31, 2014 totaling \$19,244,606. During this reporting period from January 1, 2014 through March 31, 2014, KTI funded a total of 11 activities, including grants under contract, short-term technical assistance (STTA) engagements, and direct distribution of goods and services (DDGS) activities, totaling \$407,058. The reduction in the number of activities cleared is due to the program winding down in preparation for project close out. The breakdown by sector for cleared grants is as follows:

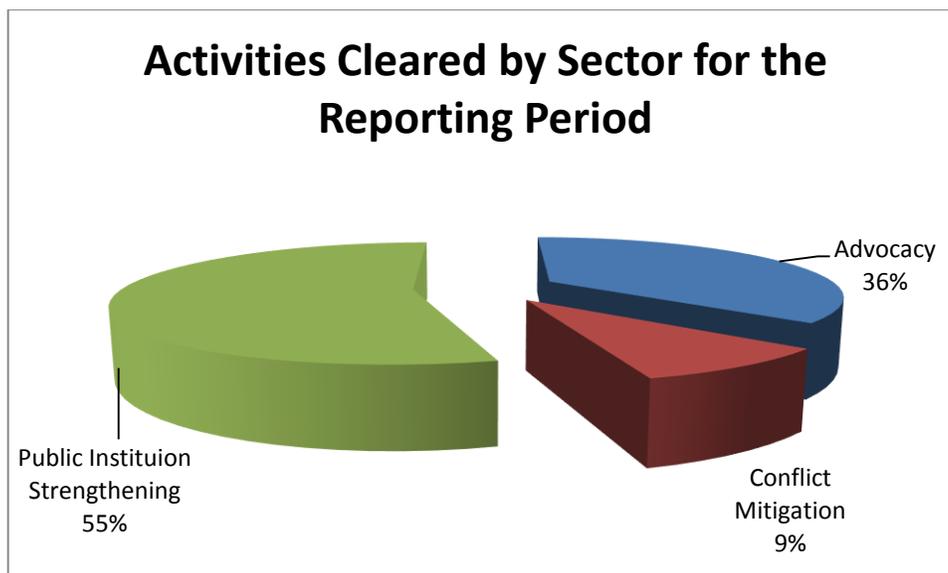


Figure 1: The percentages represented in the above diagram are indicative of amounts committed during this reporting period.

SELECTED ACTIVITIES

Enhancing the Capacity of Kisumu County Assembly Committees – With devolution in place, County Assemblies are not only conducting business but are also making legislative decisions that will affect the framework, functioning, and performance of devolution in Kenya. Building on a previous grant that provided training on the core functions of the assemblies, KTI provided the Kisumu County Assembly with operational support to enhance members’ abilities to perform their duties effectively. Through the provision of laptop computers and printers, assembly members could now fulfill a requirement to report to the Assembly on their activities and make recommendations to the House for debate and discussion.

Role Models and Attitude Change through Radio – Some of the biggest issues faced in the Coastal region of Kenya include poverty, landlessness, and poor educational opportunities for a majority of the resident youth. As a result of these issues, feelings of marginalization, frustration, and discontentment have continued to rise, allowing terrorist and extremist groups such as the Mombasa Republican Council (MRC) and Al-Shabaab to find willing recruits among youth on the Coast. In an effort to counteract these frustrations and the increased recruitment efforts by extremist groups, KTI partnered with ██████████ to work with academics, inter-religious scholars, and other KTI grantees to use radio discussion forums as a medium to discuss issues affecting youth in the community. ██████████ held discussions on three popular radio stations along the Coast, which helped promote dialogue and enhance communication among youth in target communities. The shows also allowed the public to discuss thematic and substantive topics such as the importance of tolerance, unity, and community activism.

Training for Kitui County Executives and Support for County Website – One of the principal challenges faced by county governments is the need for capacity building of newly appointed county officials to manage and coordinate the functions of the county administration. In Kitui County, the Governor noted the need to build the capacity of his county executives (CECs) with the skills necessary to deliver core services

effectively. To help achieve this goal, KTI provided support to Kitui County through the provision of trainings by the Kenya School of Government to CECs to increase their knowledge and understanding of the devolution process as well as their roles within the process as envisioned in the new constitution. Trainings helped CECs understand how to apply the various legal articles and how they could ensure accountability of their work to the public. The trainings included modules on governance and ethics, as well as governmental operations and procedures. KTI also helped support the creation of a website for Kitui County that has enhanced the county's visibility and helped share the current actions taken by the CEC to increase government accountability with the public. The website is being used as a tool to pass information to the county constituents and is helping them keep abreast of any new ventures that the county is engaged in. As a result, KTI is helping Kitui County build the confidence of the public in the devolution system and the leadership of the county.



Peninah Malonza, Deputy Governor of Kitui County, issues a training certificate to the Chief Officer for Culture, Youth, and Social Services in Kitui County.

PROGRAM EVALUATION

The program's field offices in Mombasa and Eldoret closed down with all their respective activities now completed and closed. The Eastleigh program (based out of the Nairobi office) was also closed. The program scaled back on the development of new grants and worked towards completing implementation of ongoing grants with the anticipation of full close out on April 16, 2014.

In February 2014, KTI hosted events in Eastleigh and Mombasa to thank grantee partners for their great work and to help them with networking amongst themselves. Additionally, the program hosted several visitors from both OTI/Washington and Chemonics' home office to celebrate the achievements of the program.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Chemonics Points of Contact
Washington DC: Project Management Unit (PMU)
KenyaOTIPMU@chemonics.com, 202.955.3300

[Redacted contact information]

Visit the OTI Website at www.usaid.gov, keyword "OTI" or visit www.kenyati.info for more information