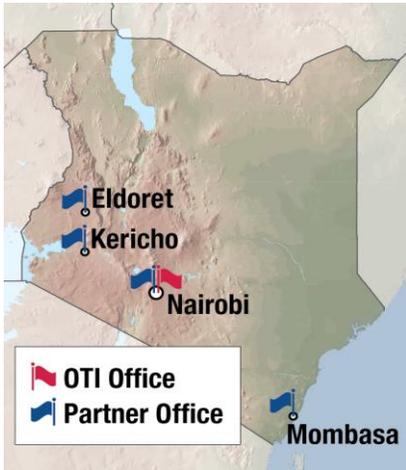




Office of Transition Initiatives

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
Budget: \$25.9M
TI: \$11.3M
ESF: \$3.4M
1207: \$325K
DRG: \$500K
PREACT: \$820K
PER: \$250K
CCF-Coast: \$3.93M
XEN: \$2.93M
ES- Coast: \$1.5M

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Kenya Transition Initiative (KTI) program, implemented through USAID's Office of Transition Initiatives (OTI), is part of the U.S. Government's broad based policy goals to contribute to a stable Kenyan polity that mobilizes citizen participation around a national identity and political party platforms rather than ethnic identities. The program was launched in June 2008, four months after Kenya's competing political parties adopted a peace accord and power-sharing agreement to stem devastating inter-ethnic violence that followed contested December 2007 national elections. Since then, KTI engagement in Kenya has supported both national and local-level stabilization and transition efforts targeted at recovery by mitigating political and social volatility and reducing vulnerability to violence. In pursuit of this goal, the program assists Kenyan state and non-state actors to more fully exercise their capacities and, thereby, support 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.
- Build moderation, foster identity and self confidence in at risk youth in Eastleigh in order to enable them to reject extremism.

KTI was implemented by Development Alternatives, Inc. (DAI) under a task order that closed in May 2011. Chemonics International Inc. has implemented KTI under a separate task order since January 2011, and will continue through mid-July 2013. This report covers the period between October 1, 2012 and December 31, 2012.

PROGRAM AREAS

Media: Kenyan media, both mainstream and unconventional, play a key role in informing the public about current events and are instrumental in setting the national agenda by giving prominence to particular issues. In the lead up to the 2007 elections, many media houses were notably partisan to particular candidates and parties, not only heightening, but subtly fueling the level of fighting during the PEV as individuals sought retribution for violence carried out against members of their communities. As the country begins the final countdown to the March 2013 general elections, the media is in the spotlight for how it will cover the election in an effort to avoid a repeat of the events of 2007 and 2008. Despite the importance of ensuring that the media is able to play its role of forming public opinion and informing the public of accurate news, media houses are yet to substantially invest in equipping and facilitating journalists to carry out their duties to ensure that their reporting leads to credible change in the society while being impartial to political parties and candidates. Additionally, regional media houses are largely owned by politicians who manipulate the editorial content to suit their political agenda, exacerbating these already large challenges.

Additional factors in the media coverage of the next elections include reporting on Kenya's military engagement with Al-Shabaab in Somalia, which has resulted in increased xenophobic attitudes towards the Muslim and ethnic Somali residents and escalated attacks on Kenyan targets; and reporting on the Mombasa Republican Council (MRC) and its role in shaping coastal politics. With the multiplicity of issues that the media must address in such a short period, KTI has supported multifaceted activities intended to promote responsible journalism in both mainstream and alternative media. It is believed that with these efforts, journalists will be less susceptible to political manipulation which will result in a more informed electorate.

Along the Kenyan Coast, calls for secession and a boycott of the 2013 elections by the MRC have left the region divided and tense. In an effort to mitigate the threats of low voter participation and to foster positive empowerment, awareness, and participation in legitimate political processes, KTI has begun identifying and developing messages targeting the priorities of the coastal population through a baseline survey in Kilifi, Kwale and Mombasa counties. The objective is to identify appropriate messages that resonate with the public and will help understand the factors limiting voter participation while addressing and conquering misconceptions held around key reforms, including constitutional reform and devolution. The data will be used in the design of a media campaign along the Coast.

In an effort to complement existing KTI and other USAID-funded activities promoting youth involvement and voter registration, it was recognized that additional support was required to further promote positive engagement in the democratic process and expand dissemination of information regarding constitutional and electoral reforms to social media, capitalizing on the popularity of social media among Kenyan youth. Currently, a number of social media sites are known to spread misinformation and promote extremist and secessionist ideologies targeted at youth who are vulnerable to these messages, especially in areas around the Coast, northeastern Kenya, and Eastleigh. In response, during this reporting period KTI partnered with [REDACTED] to target users of social media sites in an effort to counter postings that promote extremist and secessionist messages through monitoring and the provision of accurate content on relevant issues, including constitutional and electoral reforms. KTI is also supporting the production and publication of fair, objective, and reform-minded reporting by local journalists to enhance their capacity to maintain editorial impartiality and develop increased capacity to investigate issues for greater accuracy.

Since the deployment of Kenyan troops to Somalia in October 2011, multiple small-scale terrorist attacks on Kenyan targets have occurred (often on churches), and have been attributed to retaliatory measures by Al-Shabaab and its sympathizers. This has resulted in increased xenophobia and xenophobic attacks against ethnic Somalis and Muslims within Kenya. A recent bombing of a public service vehicle that killed 10 people and injured dozens in the Eastleigh area was followed by days of violent clashes that only underscored the problem. One way KTI is countering such violence is through support to [REDACTED], an organization that has been at the forefront at the national level, to produce high quality short clips aimed at helping inculcate national values to the populace. The clips dwell primarily on xenophobic tendencies with an aim to discourage violence, while promoting the need for unity and shared values. The clips are intended to raise awareness on xenophobic tendencies in the country and will be disseminated through both mainstream and social media. It is hoped that public education on the dangers of xenophobia and the benefits of shared values will encourage peaceful co-existence amongst the communities.

Youth Engagement: The Ministry of State for Immigration and Registration of Persons has long experienced notorious technical hitches, leading to a lengthy backlog of issuing national identity cards. This has negatively impacted the number of youth voter registrants as they were not able to get ID cards. In the Coast region in particular, the problem has been exacerbated by the fact that many youth were pressured by the MRC not to get ID cards in an attempt to ensure that high numbers boycott the 2013 elections. To address this, KTI provided support to [REDACTED]¹ Coast chapter across Mombasa, Kilifi, Kwale, Lamu, and Taita Taveta counties to work with staff from the provincial registrar's office to implement the "My ID My life" campaign. [REDACTED] and key provincial government stakeholders established a one-stop ID registration process in which the registration process was completed in one day and individuals would be able to collect their IDs just 15 days later. This streamlined process led to 20,643 people registering in just over two months in the five counties. Although the registration process was a resounding success, thousands of ID cards remained uncollected by early December. In response, KTI and its partners developed a strategy to mobilize coastal residents to collect their ID cards and register to vote before the one month deadline line given by the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC). Determining that a radio campaign would be most effective, KTI supported advertisements

¹ [REDACTED] supports the empowerment of Kenyan youth as envisioned in the 2010 constitution.

that were broadcast five times a day over a period of more than 10 days. Additional support was given to [REDACTED] to print lists of the uncollected cards and have them posted by county and district level administrators. In less than 15 days, 15,000 ID cards were collected.

Recent grenade and other terror attacks have caused increased xenophobic violence towards the Somali community in Kenya. To counter this, KTI is supporting community youth group [REDACTED] to influence communities to develop positive attitude, unity, and cohesion between Somali and non-Somali youth through the use of theatre. The activity has encouraged harmonious existence for different communities through organized open air theatres that educate the participants to positively influence the lives of youth, dissuading them from crime, drugs, and extremism, while using interactive theatre to encourage them to make an informed decision in the next elections. With the success of this grant, it is hoped that educating and enlightening the youth through the performing arts – which they are likely to relate to – the dangers of xenophobia will be communicated and a sense of tolerance and peaceful coexistence will be inculcated in the youth. In addition, the grant activities helped network several theatre groups and resulted in the formation of the [REDACTED]. The newly formed network will ensure that lessons learned through the [REDACTED] activity will enable youth to share experiences and knowledge to tackle critical issues in the run up to the election.

COUNTRY SITUATION

Voter Education and Registration: The March 2013 elections are critical, as they mark the first time that Kenyans will vote for their leaders under the devolved governance structure established in the 2010 constitution. During this quarter, the IEBC published the names of all constituencies and county assembly wards and agreed upon electoral boundaries that will enable voters to know where to register and vote. The IEBC launched its voter education in an effort to ensure that the Kenyan electorate is informed of the voting process, as well as the new positions that the constitution has provided. The program included a voter registration curriculum handbook on elective positions and a voter training manual to ensure that all information was standardized. Voter registration began in November after well-publicized delays, and was limited to a 30-day period with members of the public asking for additional time that the IEBC refused to add, as they insisted that they have to stick to the schedule in order to ensure credible elections. In the one month period, the IEBC hoped to register 18 million Kenyans, but the final registration number was 14.3 million, less than anticipated but more than the 12.6 million for the 2010 referendum. At the close of the voter registration period, the IEBC chairman stated that the Commission would compile regional data to assemble the voting register, and institute a counter check system to ensure individuals weren't registered more than once. Once this is completed, the IEBC promised to release the final figure for registered voters. Upon request from USAID's Democracy and Governance Office, KTI helped support IEBC outreach activities in an effort to counter threats by the MRC to residents asking them to boycott the general elections.

Political Alliances: The deadline for forming political pacts, the law-binding deals that spell out how politicians will share power if they win the March 4th general elections, was December 4, 2012. There are three major coalitions formed: The Jubilee Alliance, which constitutes The National Alliance and United Republican Party, both of which are headed by ICC suspects Deputy Prime Minister Uhuru Kenyatta and MP for Eldoret North William Ruto, respectively; the Coalition for Reforms and Democracy, made up of the Orange Democratic Movement, Wiper Party, and Forum for the Restoration of Democracy, and headed by Prime Minister Raila Odinga, Vice President Kalonzo Musyoka and Trade Minister Moses Wetangula; and the Eagle Alliance, which is comprised of the Kenya National Congress and Party of Action, and headed by the Assistant Minister for Planning, National Development and Vision 2030 Peter Kenneth and Former Minister for Foreign Affairs Raphael Tuju. These alliances have been formed on tribal basis, with a majority of leaders from the same community joining one party in an effort to ensure that citizens vote in tribal blocks. However not all of the candidates vying for presidential office have formed coalitions; opting to go at it alone, Martha Karua, Narc's presidential hopeful, has dismissed the coalitions, stating that they have been formed based on selfish interests .

Police Reforms: During the 2007/2008 PEV, police played a largely negative role, escalating rather than reducing the violence, and Kenya's police force has been widely viewed as being corrupt and highly susceptible to political alignment. It is important to rebuild trust in this key institution ahead of the next elections, and with the signing of the 2008 National Accord, police reform was identified as one of the key institutional reform priorities. To enhance police accountability and transparency, the Independent Police Oversight Authority (IPOA) was established with the primary aim of monitoring and investigating police conduct. IPOA was established under the constitution with clear-cut guidelines on its legislative powers, enabling it to execute its mandate while being protected from political, executive, and police interference. With IPOA's establishment, the public's confidence that complaints about police conduct will be investigated in an impartial manner and transgressors brought to account, coupled with the recent conviction of six administration police for murdering six taxi drivers, has begun to influence how police carry out

their duties. The National Police Commission of Kenya began to interview short listed candidates for the positions of Inspector General (IG), two Deputy Inspectors General (DIG) positions and for the position of the director of Criminal Investigations Department (CID) in an effort to kickstart much awaited police reforms. David Kimayo was approved by Parliament and was formally appointed as Kenya’s first Inspector General during the quarter.

Heighted Insecurity: Many parts of Coastal and Northeast Kenya continue to experience insecurity. Over 40 police officers and reservists were killed in Northeast Kenya during a cattle rustling attack, when the officers tried to intervene in clashes between two pastoralist groups. The attack led to criticism of senior officials over the officers’ lack of preparedness in early response mechanisms. There have also been multiple clashes and violent attacks between pastoral communities in the Coast, causing internal displacement of those who fled conflict areas.

New Judicial Division to Deal with PEV: The Judicial Service Commission approved the establishment of a special division within the High Court to deal with those responsible for the 2007/2008 PEV. The International Crimes Division unit will deal with the “middle and lower level” perpetrators of the international PEV crimes committed during the last election cycle. The National Council for Administration of Justice has endorsed the proposal to cover the 2007/2008 period, while recommending that the events surrounding 1992 and 1997 elections be included as well.

Gender Ruling: The Keyan Supreme Court ruled that the one third gender representation ruling provided in the constitution is not viable in the March 2013 elections, but will be progressively implemented to be realized in 2015.

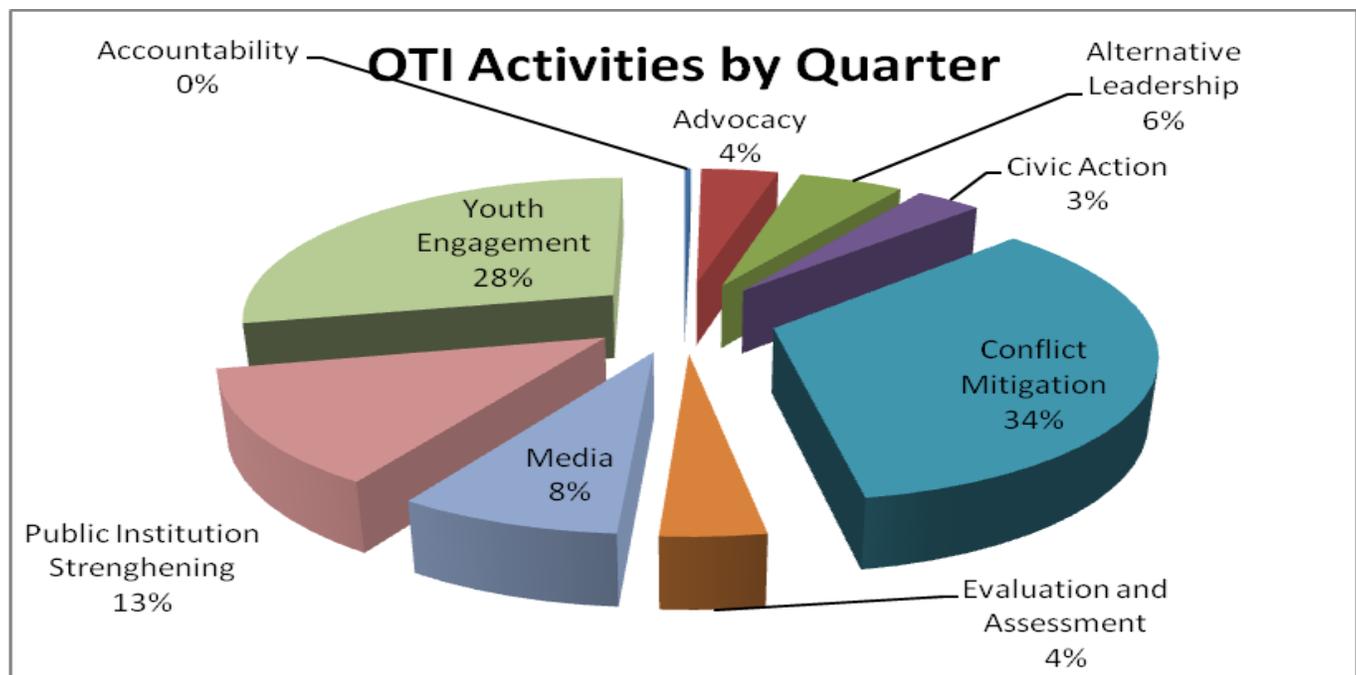
Presidential Farewell: President Kibaki will be retiring after 50 years of service as Member of Parliament, Minister, and Head of State. His final adress to the general assembly was during a special parliamentary session. The President praised the 10th Parliament for supporting the work of the Grand Coalition Government by passing most of the legislation presented by the Executive Office.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- January 2013 - Coast and Rift Valley rolling assessments
- February 2013 - Survey of all grantees to provide information for the final evaluation
- March 2013 - General Elections

GRANTS SUMMARY

Through December 31, 2012, OTI through its implementing partner Chemonics, has funded a total of **291** activities (including cleared, completed and closed grants, short-term technical assistance (STTA) and direct distribution of goods and services activities (DDGS)) totaling **\$9,662,116**. During this reporting period, **73** activities totaling **\$3,326,150** were cleared with **\$1,981,496.14** disbursed. The breakdown by sector is as follows:



ACTIVITIES

Conflict Mitigation for Peace and Stability: Kipkelion District, in Kericho County in South Rift, was tremendously affected by the 2007/2008 PEV. The region is home to a number of ethnic groups, and the recent review of electoral and administrative boundaries under the new constitution resulted in the constituency being split in two, increasing anxiety amongst the communities, as the delimitation was perceived to favor the minority tribe. As the general elections approach, it is imperative to mitigate the likelihood of repeated PEV. KTI has partnered with the [REDACTED] to enhance the capacity of community civic educators to identify divisive factors and timely interventions to mitigate potential conflict while creating platforms to sustainably address inter-ethnic mistrust and tensions through dialogue and community meetings. This activity builds on the success of CHXKER018, whereby local traders were trained on the ICC process. A workshop held at the beginning of the activity helped civic educators identify triggers of violence while discussing possible solutions. The workshop was designed in a manner that provided maximum interaction between civic educators and different community members for the purpose of providing amicable solutions and recognizing that they all had the same goal of peace in mind. The activity also drummed up support from local key opinion leaders in their commitment to promote ethnic harmony and respect for ethnic diversity. [REDACTED] intends to hold community forums in which they will screen “Heal the Nation,” a documentary highlighting events that took place during the PEV in an effort to remind the community of the effects of electoral violence and avoid a repeat in the next election cycle.

Mitigating Simmering Tensions in Likoni Constituency: Likoni constituency in Mombasa County has been plagued by political violence since Kenya became a multi-party state in 1992, and is well known for the 1997 Kayobombo clashes. The constituency is viewed as a major stronghold of the MRC, whose key leadership hails from the area. The MRC’s call to boycott the elections has experienced particular traction in this area, and presents a major challenge to the upcoming general elections. Through its support to the [REDACTED], KTI is supporting an activity that provides an opportunity for the indigenous and non-indigenous communities to interact non-violently, despite rising tensions, through conflict management training of “peace builders” drawn from the five wards in the constituency. The 30 peace builders will each be tasked with mobilizing 10 people to attend conflict management training at the grassroots level. By informing local citizens on conflict management skills, it is hoped they will solve conflict in a non-violent manner in their communities. The activity also intends to create platforms where local citizens attending the scheduled community forums will have peace messages spread to them in an effort to reinforce the legitimacy of the constitution in addressing their concerns. During the community forums, a documentary of the PEV will be screened to remind the local community of what happened in 2007/2008 and to urge them to avoid and prevent violence as the election and possible run-off approaches.

Advocacy for Reforms and Alternative Leadership Through Graffiti: Kenyans have experienced ethnic-based politics with tribal kingpins being elected repeatedly over the years. In an attempt to change this, a group of artisans began using graffiti in Nairobi public spaces to expose poor governance and corruption. The art catalyzed conversation among Kenyans on how best to change the norm and use the constitution to ensure that the next crop of leaders has integrity. KTI soon began supporting [REDACTED] to amplify its message of Kenyans vs. the vultures, where the vulture has been used to satirize Kenyan corrupt politicians. Where previously the graffiti that they had painted in public spaces was quickly painted over, with the support of KTI, the message will now be shared with the public, in legitimate public spaces with the hope that it will spark critical discussion on citizen responsibility in selecting leaders in the upcoming general elections.



One of the billboards on display in Eldoret

PROGRAM EVALUATION

KTI hosted an OTI-Washington Lessons Learned Team (LLT) during December 2012, focused on identifying key lessons learned from KTI between 2008 and 2012. The three-member team spent two weeks in-country interviewing key program personnel and grantees, and visiting select legacy grants. The LLT looked into KTI’s programmatic focus, relevance, and operational procedures in an attempt to learn KTI best practices that can be replicated in other OTI programs.

During this reporting period, KTI also welcomed a new Regional Program Manger (RPM) for the Coast and two new grants assistants. A number of staff transitioned to new roles on KTI, including the Kericho grants manager’s relocation to the Mombasa office, and the transition of the Eldoret regional accountant to the Nairobi office to replace the finance manager.

The KTI team improved efficiency in clearing grants and meeting targets with more than \$3,000,000 cleared in grant activities this quarter, and maintaining a strong pace even during the typically slow holiday period.

KTI also hosted multiple visits from senior US Government officials to the Rift Valley and Coast offices and received overwhelmingly positive feedback.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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key word "OTI"