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Knowledge Sharing and Analysis (KSA) Project Year One Accomplishments

In the first full year of the Knowledge Sharing and Analysis (KSA) contract, supporting the African Global Competitiveness Initiative (AGCI), the project has had a considerable impact on improving AGCI management and implementation. Overall in Year One, KSA staff conducted research, briefings, and presentations at events in **Botswana, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Senegal, South Africa, Tunisia, and Uganda**. The highlights of KSA's first year include:

January – June 2008

- Drafted the **first comprehensive AGCI Annual Report**, with expanded results reporting by component, to be translated into two languages and disseminated to 350 senior-level policymakers and stakeholders at the 2008 AGOA Forum.
- Conducted the **first AGCI-wide information request**, which has greatly clarified AGCI's expenditures, program activity, and reported results across the portfolio of regional mission, bilateral mission, U.S. Government, and USAID/Washington implementing partners. The data call is significant not only for enabling a comprehensive programmatic, budgetary, and results picture of AGCI, but will also support extensive future analysis of the program, including by component, implementing partner, and country.
- Supported USAID's contributions to the **7th Annual AGOA Forum**, including preparing remarks, talking points, Bureau Check Lists, and briefing books for USAID Administrator Fore and several other USAID senior staff, writing and producing USAID's major trade-related materials for dissemination at the event, and coordinating logistical arrangements for USAID panelists.
- Held the **first ever African Global Competitiveness Hub Forum** for Missions and implementers in Ghana, March 2008 that advanced several important KSA goals, including:
 - Sharing best practices and lessons learned among Hub and mission personnel across regions;
 - Exploring strategic themes for 2008, including public-private partnerships, supporting the African entrepreneur, "telling our story," and effective donor coordination;
 - Better defining best practices in trade competitiveness;
 - Improving common reporting and inputs for general, periodic reporting as well as for the AGCI Annual Report;
 - Enhancing networking and knowledge sharing among AGCI stakeholders, including creating thematic Communities of Practice among Hub and mission staff; and
 - Updating Hub and mission staff about the 2008 AGOA Forum and soliciting feedback.



- Analyzed current Hub reporting and indicators to create a draft of the **first comprehensive AGCI Performance Monitoring Plan (PMP)** that will enhance analysis of results achieved and better communicate results to senior USAID policy makers and other stakeholders.
- Began **best practice research studies** related to constraints on investment in infrastructure development in Africa and best practices in enterprise development. KSA also completed numerous smaller Knowledge Sharing and Analysis Briefs (KSABs), including an analysis and compendium of AGCI-produced success stories and case studies.
- Supported the launch of the documentary **Africa Investment Horizons**, including arranging for a launch event hosted by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and writing the required speech delivered by USAID Deputy Assistant Administrator Franklin Moore.
- Delivered speeches/presentations at several best practice and business networking events, including the **2008 Houston International Festival Business Conference** and **2008 Pan African Competitiveness Forum** in Ethiopia.
- Relocated to the Ronald Regan Building and established a **“rapid response” capability** within KSA to enable more comprehensive and more timely analysis and reporting on AGCI to support interagency briefings, periodic requests for information, self-directed analytic reports, and other uses. To date, this capability has been used to inform USAID briefings in Congress, meetings with USG partners, preparation of AGOA Forum materials, and the completion of internal Briefing Books for USAID management.



June – December 2007

- Revitalized USAID’s **AGCI Website** to include updated AGCI program information, links to AGCI projects and publications, KSABs, contact lists, and program summaries.
- Created a regularly updated **African calendar** listing events around the world relevant to African trade and competitiveness.
- Established a **vibrant Community of Practice** and updated stakeholder contact lists, enhancing USAID/Washington’s engagement with field-based personnel.
- Conducted several **baseline knowledge sharing needs assessments and analyses** among AGCI field mission/Hub stakeholders, clarifying KSA’s communication and research priorities as well as the tools available for performance monitoring.
- Drafted the **first consolidated Hub quarterly report**.
- Completed analysis of existing **AGCI performance monitoring tools and procedures**, including Hub indicators and quarterly/annual reports, FACTS, project PMPs, and reporting tools to inform development of the AGCI PMP.
- **Presented best practice and AGCI-related information** at several events, including the 2007 USAID **2007 AGOA Forum, Economic Growth Officers Training, African Chamber of Commerce of the North West Annual Africa Day, and Corporate Council on Africa’s U.S.-Africa Business Summit**.