



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE



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## UGANDA

# U.S. FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PERFORMANCE PUBLICATION Fiscal Year 2009

### FY 2009 FOREIGN ASSISTANCE GOALS

The United States Mission to Uganda implements a robust foreign assistance program that contributes to sustainable development and advances U.S. national interests in Uganda. Using a multi-agency approach, United States Government (USG) agencies, including the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the Department of State, the Department of Defense, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Peace Corps, coordinate the design and implementation of integrated programs that promote peace and security, improve democratic governance, support human capacity development, and foster economic growth in Uganda.

U.S. foreign assistance activities in Uganda build upon one of the closest and most productive bilateral relationships in East Africa. The Government of Uganda (GOU) supports U.S. foreign policy objectives, and works closely with the United States to advance regional peace and security goals. The GOU stands firmly with the United States in combating terrorist threats and in seeking viable solutions to regional conflicts. Uganda currently provides the bulk of the African Union peacekeepers deployed in Somalia, and persists in this regional peacekeeping mission despite significant casualties in 2009. Uganda also leads regional military operations against the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), whose leaders have been indicted internationally for crimes against humanity and have fled northern Uganda into the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Sudan.

The GOU has launched an ambitious "Peace Recovery and Development Plan for Northern Uganda" (PRDP) to support poverty reduction in the regions that were most affected by conflict and population displacement. The U.S. Mission strongly supports the PRDP, and in FY 2009, invested \$165 million in resources for defense, diplomacy, and development programs in northern Uganda. The U.S. Mission plans to maintain a vigorous program of multi-agency engagement and support to Peace and Security in FY 2010, but will increasingly shift resources from emergency response to development assistance in light of northern Uganda's improved security and renewed economic growth.

After four years of multi-party democracy, Uganda will hold Presidential, parliamentary, and local elections in February 2011. Riots in Kampala in September 2009 resulted in more than two dozen deaths and underscored the importance of a credible and transparent electoral process. Under Governing Justly and Democratically, the USG is committed to supporting free and fair elections, strengthening parliament and civil society, encouraging open public debate, and building the capacity of institutions and systems that combat endemic corruption.

The USG is implementing an Investing in People program that strengthens Uganda's health and education services, and uses multi-sector programming to support the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief. The United States is the largest international donor to Uganda's health sector, investing over \$340 million in FY 2009 in programs that address HIV/AIDS, malaria, family and reproductive health, child and maternal health, tuberculosis, and other infectious diseases. The USG improves the quality of basic education through curriculum reform, teacher training, HIV/AIDS awareness, and prevention. Programs in health and education focus on building the capacity, effectiveness, and use of social services in order to ensure a more healthy and productive society.

Uganda has registered strong economic growth over the past decade, but 30 percent of Ugandans remain in absolute poverty, and 60 percent of the population in northern Uganda is food insecure. While the discovery of oil in western Uganda has the potential to boost national revenues significantly, there is a continued need to focus on food security, agricultural productivity, and the move from subsistence to commercial production. In addition to agriculture, the U.S. Mission promotes trade and investment, enhances private sector competitiveness, builds ecotourism, and preserves biodiversity in Uganda.

## **HIGHLIGHTS BY PROGRAM OBJECTIVE**

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### **Peace and Security**

Peace and stability have returned to northern Uganda after 23 years of conflict between the GOU and the LRA. The departure of the LRA has resulted in the return of the majority of internally displaced persons to their original homes and farms. In FY 2009:

- The Ugandan army established positive civil-military relations in peacekeeping operations as the lead contingent of the African Union Mission in Somalia, and successfully handed over selected security functions to civilian police in northern Uganda
- Two grants to the International Organization for Migration helped reintegrate Ugandan ex-combatants in support of the Juba peace process and negotiations with the Allied Democratic Forces in the Democratic Republic of Congo
- Information, communication, and referral systems facilitated safe USG movement in northern Uganda, provided employment for approximately 90 ex-combatants and vulnerable youth, developed a radio drama to engage local leaders as partners in peace, and sent messages to fighters to seek amnesty, return home, and make a fresh start
- Twenty-four small grants promoted livelihoods, access to justice, peace building, and reconciliation. Activities targeted women and vulnerable children, reaching over 30,000 children in more than 8,500 households. At least 30 percent of adult beneficiaries were women.

- In Karamoja, a USAID grant to the International Rescue Committee built the capacity of peace committees to mobilize their communities. Activities included training of over 2,500 people in conflict prevention, mitigation, and response; monitoring and collection of security information from peace committees; and the collaborative desilting of a dam in order to build confidence between warring communities. Community coordination around these activities helped to harmonize approaches and contributed to peace in targeted areas.

### **Governing Justly and Democratically**

The U.S. Mission supports accountable and responsive democratic governance and a more effective electoral system that will enable Uganda to provide services to its people and promote stability, recovery, and development in northern Uganda. In FY 2009, the USG:

- Provided support to build local government capacity in 10 districts and 50 sub-counties, nearly half of which were in northern Uganda. Activities focused on promoting participatory development planning, local revenue mobilization, and local council development through multiparty political dispensation.
- Simplified the Ministry of Local Government’s planning process and incorporated planning at the parish level. In 10 pilot sub-counties, USAID supported financial analyses of revenue and expenditures, and identified local revenue sources.
- Developed an “Information and Communication Technologies” Project for Uganda’s major political parties. This media-based project will promote party development and increase two-way communication between the national and grassroots levels.
- Conducted “Youth in Politics” fairs in Kampala and northern Uganda, bringing together more than 3,000 young participants to interact with political leaders, civil society organizations, inter-governmental organizations, and the media. Regional forums examined how to increase female representation in political party structures and elected offices.
- Strengthened democratic linkages among key governance institutions, and engaged more than 300 civil society organizations (CSOs) in training, policy discussions, and local government planning and budgeting processes. USAID-supported CSOs facilitated public participation and dialogue on key issues, including oil and gas, land policy, and the working environment for CSOs in Uganda.
- Trained 1,000 CSO members in 10 districts on the functions and operations of local government, including the promotion of economic development, planning and budgeting processes, service delivery for HIV/AIDS, and operating in a multi-party environment

### **Investing in People**

With a current population of over 30 million, an annual growth rate of 3.3 percent, and the burden of HIV/AIDS, Uganda will be challenged to handle an ever-growing demand for health and education services. In FY 2009, the USG:

- Reached over 625,000 pregnant mothers and children under five with long-lasting insecticide-treated nets for protection against malaria, and sprayed nearly 240,000 households with insecticide, protecting over 1 million people from malaria for the entire year

- Provided nearly 670,000 couples years of protection in the area of reproductive health and family planning, trained 11 doctors in surgical methods to treat obstetric fistula, and successfully treated nearly 270 women for that condition
- Reached nearly eight million Ugandan children with Vitamin A supplementation, and treated over 135,000 Ugandan children with oral rehydration therapy and/or zinc supplementation for diarrhea
- Treated nearly 5,000 people for malnutrition with ready-to-use therapeutic food, the majority of whom were children under 15 years old
- Disinfected nearly 79 million liters of drinking water through the sale and distribution of point-of-use treatment products
- Supported the Ministry of Education and Sports in developing and rolling out Uganda's new thematic curriculum by training over 29,000 teachers in the new Grade 3 curriculum, piloting the Grade 4 curriculum in 90 schools, and developing achievement tests to establish baselines and measure improvements in student learning
- In 13 post-conflict districts, implemented a school-based program focused on peace education, leadership and governance, psychosocial care and support, community participation, girls' education, and performance arts and learning. USG support benefited four Teacher Colleges and 1,700 primary schools, over 200 of which received intensive support to become "Model Schools."

### **Economic Growth**

Despite Uganda's relatively strong economic growth, poverty levels remain high, with significant regional and urban-rural disparities. In FY 2009, for economic growth, agricultural productivity and food security, the USG:

- Created 24 new public-private partnerships, resulting in agribusiness investments of over \$5.5 million, and 7 industry cluster alliances
- Penetrated two new market segments, identified three regulatory constraints for value chain actors, and spurred seven firms to invest over \$850,000 in new market infrastructure
- Increased commodity exports by nearly 450,000 metric tons
- Trained 165,000 individuals in short-term productivity techniques, resulting in a 50 percent aggregate increase in volume of targeted commodities
- Brought over 66,000 hectares of prime habitat under improved management, resulting in reduced conflict over resources and increased economic benefits for communities
- Supported 75 schools and 31 community associations in establishing alternative livelihood options like apiary, tree nursery, and woodlot establishments, which resulted in the planting of nearly 3,500 hectares of trees for firewood to reduce dependence on natural forests
- Supported nearly 440 women's associations working in targeted agricultural staple commodities, and reached over 125,000 households, including 64,000 vulnerable households, with agricultural productivity programs