



THE AFRICAN CAPACITY BUILDING FOUNDATION | FONDATION POUR LE RENFORCEMENT DES CAPACITES EN AFRIQUE

ACBF's cooperation with **Kenya**

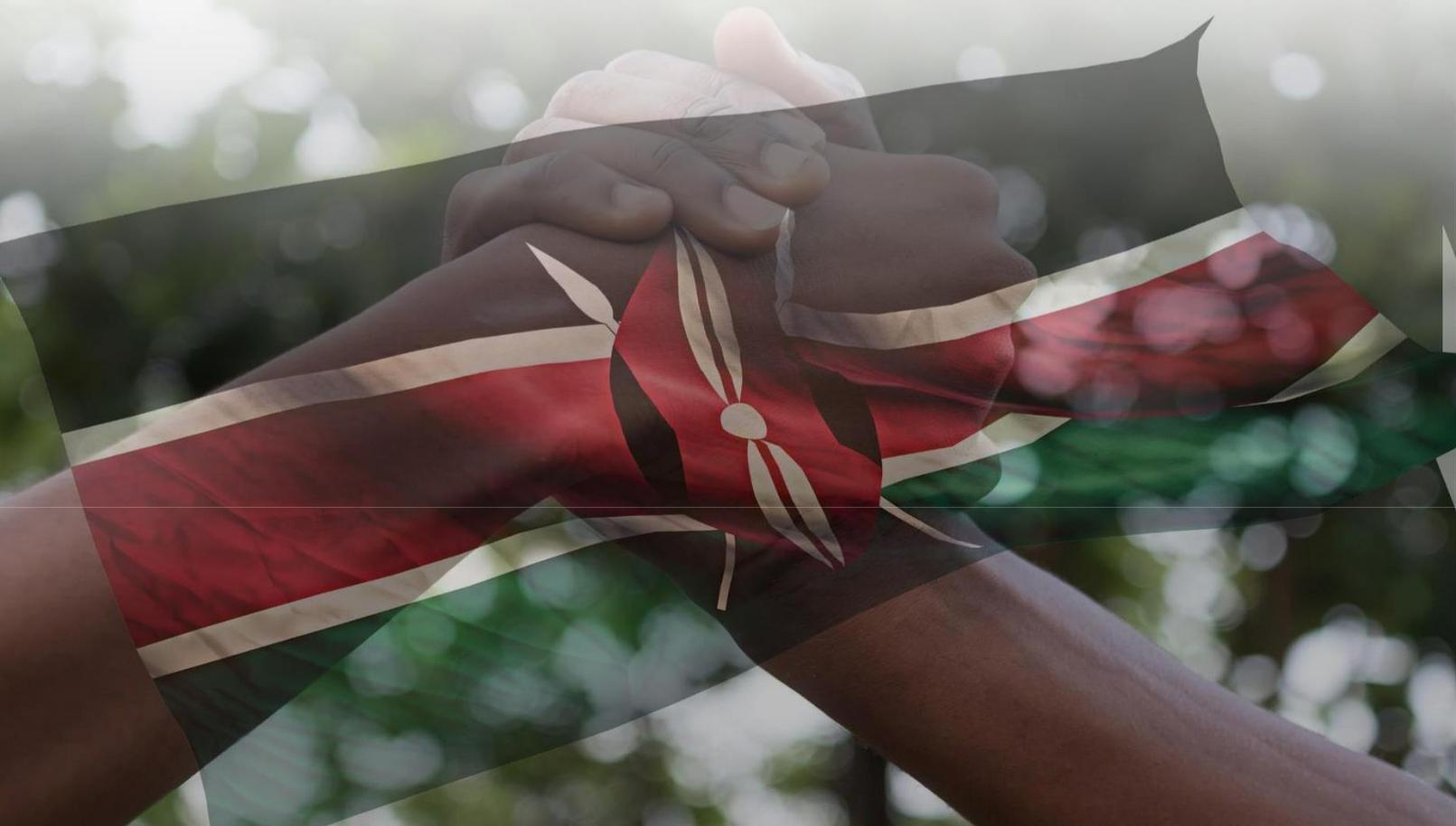


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ACBF STRATEGIC PLANNING	
PHASE 1	1991-1997
PHASE 2	1998-2001
SMTP 1	2002-2006
SMTP2	2007-2011
SMTP3	2012-2016
ACBF STRATEGY	2017-2022
ACBF STRATEGIC PLAN	2023-2027

INTRODUCTION

The Republic of Kenya is one of the 12 African countries which in cooperation with their bilateral and multilateral partners, established the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) on 9 February 1991. Since 1991, the partnership between ACBF and the Government of Kenya has grown enormously. To date, Kenya has been a shareholder and member of the African Capacity Building Foundation for 29 years. The country is represented by its Minister of Finance in the ACBF Board of Governors.

ACBF'S INVESTMENTS IN KENYA

The Foundation's investment in Kenya to date has reached about US\$ 40.59 million. ACBF is proud to have supported human and institutional development in the country. The Foundation has to date funded national programs in Kenya to the tune of US\$12.51 million. This support has gone to key institutions which include the Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA), Institute of Policy Analysis and Research (IPAR) and Centre for Corporate Governance (CCG). In addition, civil society support has been provided to the Institute of International Legislative Affairs (IILA) to advance tobacco control initiatives. ACBF has also made considerable investment of about US\$28.03 million to regional programs and projects implemented in Kenya. From these regional programs supported by the Foundation, institutions like the African Economic Research Consortium (AERC) and African Women's Development and Communications Network (FEMNET) have benefited.

With support from the ACBF, the aforementioned national and regional institutes have become more valuable and are playing significant roles in the country's development agenda and training of human capital in fields of economics and agricultural economics as well as governance.

Table 1: ACBF-supported national projects and programs in Kenya (US\$)

NATIONAL PROJECTS/PROGRAMS	PHASES	INVESTMENT
Institute of Policy Analysis and Research (IPAR))	Phase I	2,525,000
Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA)	Phase I	1,629,916
Knowledge Network for Research and Development CLKNET – KENYA)	SMTPI	142,887
Institute of Policy Analysis and Research (IPAR II)	SMTPI	1,498,239
Institute of Policy Analysis and Research (IPAR III)	SMTPI	1,116,763
Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA)	SMTPI	1,700,000
The National Council of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO – COUNCIL)	SMTPI	389,015

Centre for Corporate Governance (CCG I)	SMTP I	922,860
Centre for Corporate Governance (CCG II)	SMTP I	758,445
Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA III)	SMTP III	1,596,135
Institute of International Legislative Affairs (IILA) Phase 1	SMTP III	168,074
Institute of International Legislative Affairs (IILA) Phase II	SMTP III	141,047
IILA Kenya	ACBF STRATEGY 2017 - 2022	41,600
Consumer Unity & Trust Society	SMTP III	39,016
TOTAL NATIONAL PROGRAMS (US\$)		12,668,997

Table 2: ACBF-supported regional projects and programs in Kenya (USD)

REGIONAL PROJECTS/PROGRAMS	PHASES	INVESTMENT
AERC-CMAP I :(Collaborative Master’s Degree Program in Economics for Anglophone Africa)	Phase I	5,000,000
AERC-CMAP II:(Collaborative Master’s Degree Program in Economics for Anglophone Africa)	Phase II	3,000,000
AERC-CMAP III:(Collaborative Master’s Degree Program in Economics for Anglophone Africa)	SMTP I	2,987,756
AERC-CMAP IV:(Collaborative Master’s Degree Program in Economics for Anglophone Africa)	SMTP I	3,000,000
AERC-PhD: (Collaborative Doctorate Program in Economics for Sub-Saharan Africa)	SMTP I	1,978,230
ARRF: (Africa Research and Resource Forum)	SMTP I	2,154,711
CMAAE (The Collaborative Master’s Degree Program in Agricultural and Applied Economics)	SMTP I	2,105,928
CMAAE II: (The Collaborative Master’s Degree Program in Agricultural and Applied Economics)	SMTP III	2,809,165
MBFM-KSMS: (Master’s Degree in Banking and Finance Project at Kenya School of Monetary Studies)	SMTP I	1,210,408
AERC-PhD (CPP II): (Collaborative Doctorate Program in Economics for Sub-Saharan Africa)	SMTP II	3,255,091

AERC-PhD (CPP II): (Collaborative Doctorate Program in Economics for Sub-Saharan Africa)	SMTP III	349,395
FEMNET: (African Women’s Development and Communications Network)	SMTP III	232,502
TOTAL REGIONAL PROGRAMS		28,083,186
GRAND TOTAL		40,752,183

The Foundation has conducted several non-grant activities in support of research studies for evidence-based policy formulation and implementation in Kenya. Some of the knowledge products prepared for Kenya are detailed in Annex 2.

Table 3: Current ACBF-Supported projects in Kenya (2023)

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DETAILS
African-Finnish Partnerships on Taxation Capacity in Africa	The aim is to strengthen the capacity of selected African governments and pan-African organizations to increase Domestic Resource Mobilization (DRM) through informed policy-making and effective tax administration
African Union Transformative Climate Finance program	The projects aim at addressing the capacity gaps in climate change adaptation in Africa. Key activities include a Scoping and mapping of green growth landscape in Africa, conducting of a Capacity Needs Assessment and Development of a Capacity Development Program.

KENYA’S CONTRIBUTION TO ACBF

The Foundation has benefitted immensely from the Republic of Kenya since its establishment. Kenya has over the years been among the top leading African contributors to ACBF, and to date has made a cumulative contribution of US\$3.95 million since 1991.

With the support of the Republic of Kenya, ACBF has been able to leverage resources from the international community to support capacity development across Africa and to achieve significant results in support of the continent’s development process. Notably, ACBF has been catalyzing change in Africa by investing in capacity development initiatives in the public and private sectors as well as in civil society organizations; providing technical assistance in implementation of capacity development interventions; generating, managing and sharing knowledge on best practices in capacity building and development management.

The Foundation has strengthened public policy across Africa, produced highly-skilled public sector economists and managers, strengthened institutions on financial accountability and enhanced the effectiveness of non-state actors. ACBF has also supported the creation of platforms for dialogue on, and coordination in capacity development, supported improvements in trade and regional integration, empowered women and strengthened parliaments.

Table 4: Republic of Kenya's contributions to ACBF since 1991 (US\$)

FINANCING PHASE	PLEDGE	PAYMENTS
Phase I (1991-1997)	250,000.00	250,000.00
Phase II (1998-2001)	-	-
SMTP I (2002-2006)	700,000.00	700,000.00
SMTP II (2007-2011)	500,000.00	500,000.00
SMTP III (2012-2016)	500,000.00	500,000.00
ACBF STRATEGY 2017-2022	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00
TOTAL	3,950,000.00	3,950,000.00

ANNEX 1: ACFB SUPPORT TO KENYA - PROJECT DETAILS

Name of Project	Key objectives/Focus
Institute of Policy Analysis and Research (IPAR)	To undertake objective policy research and analysis activities mainly around four thematic areas namely governance and development; macroeconomics; real sector (agriculture and industry); and social sector (education and health); to process, manage, transmit, disseminate, and communicate policy information and knowledge to policymakers and other stakeholders. Build national capacity and sustain intellectual resources in public policy analysis, research, and evidence-based policymaking. To develop and enhance viable partnerships and networking with stakeholders (public sector institutions, civil society organizations, private sector).
Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA)	To enhance capacity of KIPPRA to produce quality research and policy support to Government and other stakeholders and ensure its sustainability; to strengthen capacity of Government, private sector and civil society in policy formulation and analysis; To enhance KIPPRA's communication capacity to enable the Institute respond to national policy issues; and to strengthen the Institute's partnerships and networks.
Centre for Corporate Governance (CCG)	To build the human and institutional capacity of CCG to become a sustainable and well governed Centre of Excellence with the institutional and human capacity to drive the implementation of good corporate governance. To develop and refine methods, standards and codes that would lead to the adoption and implementation of sustainable best practices of corporate governance within Kenya in particular and in the continent of Africa generally. To build the national, sub-regional and continental capacity to promote, implement, apply and monitor compliance with good corporate governance practices.
The National Council of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO – COUNCIL)	To strengthen its institutional and human capacity and carry out research. To facilitate training for member organizations, coordinate and strengthen the NGOs networking systems. To strengthen the information and data base of the Council and to publish and disseminate information on the NGO Council and member activities

Table A: Selected knowledge products to support African Union (AU) agenda, policy and development programs where Kenya was covered.

Year	Type of Knowledge Product	Title/Theme	Coverage for Kenya
2019	Africa Capacity Report 2019	Fostering Transformative Leadership for Africa's Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kenya country Capacity Profile & Compendium of Statistics Case study on Kenya
2019	Strategic Studies	Capacity Imperatives for the SDGs: In line with African Union's Agenda 2063	Kenya case study
2018	Strategic Studies	African Financial Governance Outlook: Effective Public Financial Management for Sustainable Development	Kenya case study
2018	Compendium of case studies	Compendium of case studies on youth and managing for development results	Case study on Kenya
2018	Compendium of Case studies	Compendium of case studies on governance and economic development	Case study on Kenya
2018	Compendium of Case study	Compendium of case studies on gender and managing for development results	Case study on Kenya
2017	Africa Capacity Report 2017	Building Capacity in Science, Technology, and Innovation for Africa's Transformation	Kenya country Capacity Profile & Compendium of Statistics
2016	Occasional Papers	The Challenge of African Youth Unemployment	Case study on Kenya
2016	Occasional Papers	Infrastructure Development and Financing in Sub-Saharan Africa: Toward a framework for capacity enhancement. - 2016	Case study on Kenya
2015	Africa Capacity Report 2015	Capacity Imperatives for Domestic Resource Mobilization in Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kenya country Capacity Profile & Compendium of Statistics Case study on Kenya
2014	Africa Capacity Report 2014	Capacity Imperatives for Regional Integration in Africa	Kenya country Capacity Profile & Compendium of Statistics
2013	Africa Capacity Report 2013	Capacity Development for Natural Resource Management	Kenya country Capacity Profile & Compendium of Statistics
2012	Africa Capacity Report 2012	Capacity Development for Agricultural Transformation and Food Security	Kenya country Capacity Profile & Compendium of Statistics
2011	Africa Capacity Report 2011	Africa Capacity Indicators 2011: Capacity Development in Fragile States	Kenya country Capacity Profile & Compendium of Statistics
2011	Occasional Papers	The Challenges of Knowledge Harvesting and the Promotion of Sustainable Development for the Achievement of the MDGs in Africa	Case study on Kenya

Table B: Selected knowledge sharing events and networking to support African Union (AU) agenda, policy and development programs which Kenya has benefitted from.

Year	Knowledge Event	Title/Theme	Coverage for Kenya	Date and Venue
2019	2019 Africa Think Tank Summit	Tackling Implementation Challenges for Africa's Sustainable Development	Summit co-hosted with the Government of Kenya and the Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA): 117 local participants including from Kenyan Government, KIPPRA participants and other local stakeholders.	24 - 26 April, Nairobi, Kenya
2018	2018 Africa Think Tank Summit	<i>Tackling Africa's Youth Unemployment Challenge: Innovative Solutions from the Think Tanks</i>	2 participants sponsored to attend: 1 participant from African Economic Research Consortium (AERC) and 1 participant KIPPRA	5 - 7 April Accra, Ghana
2018	Fourth Planning Meeting for the African Union Committee of 10 Heads of State Championing Education, Science and Technology in Africa (C10) Conference	<i>Science, Technology and innovation (STI)</i>	1 participant from Pan African University sponsored to attend	26 - 27 March Lilongwe, Malawi
2017	Validation Workshop of the study on the "Capacity Imperatives for Achieving the SDGs in Africa."	<i>Capacity Imperatives for Achieving the SDGs in Africa</i>	1 participant from Kenya Network of Grassroots Organizations sponsored to attend	29 June Harare, Zimbabwe
2017	2019 ACR Data Collectors' Training Workshop	<i>Fostering Transformative Leadership for Africa's Development</i>	1 data expert hired and sponsored to participate in data collection training workshop	29 May - 1 June Harare, Zimbabwe
2017	AfCoP Rapid Results Initiatives (RRI) Report Validation Workshop	<i>Comparative RRI Study on Kenya, Burundi, Senegal and Madagascar</i>	4 local participants sponsored to attend	26 - 27 May Nairobi, Kenya
2017	Natural Resources Management for Results Knowledge and Learning Workshop	<i>Natural Resources Management for Results</i>	1 participant from Ministry of Energy and Petroleum and 1 participant from CoP Kenya	27 - 29 April Arusha, Tanzania
2017	2017 Africa Think Tank Summit	<i>African Think Tanks and Industrialization in Africa</i>	1 participant from African Economic Research Consortium sponsored to attend	6 - 8 April Abidjan Cote d'Ivoire

Year	Knowledge Event	Title/Theme	Coverage for Kenya	Date and Venue
2016	African Governance Outlook (AGO) Validation Workshop of the Draft Workshop	<i>Validation Workshop</i>	1 Team leader and 2 members (drafting team recruited for Kenya country study as consultants) and sponsored to attend	3 – 4 November Addis Ababa
2016	COMESA Knowledge Sharing Meeting	<i>AfCoP COMESA knowledge sharing</i>	3 participants: 1 from Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 1 from Ministry of Industry and Commerce and 1 from Ministry of Industry, Trade and Cooperatives sponsored to attend	22-23 September Lilongwe, Malawi
2016	2016 AfCoP Annual Forum	<i>Mobilizing Domestic Resources for Africa's Transformation</i>	13 local participants sponsored to attend	13 - 15 July Nairobi, Kenya
2016	3rd Capacity Development Forum and the 25th Anniversary Celebrations for the African Capacity Building Foundation	<i>Developing Capacity for Africa's Economic and Social Transformation</i>	1 participant from AERC sponsored by ACBF to attend	3 – 5 May Harare, Zimbabwe
2016	ACBF-AUC Stakeholder Engagement Agenda 2063 Workshop	<i>Capacity Needs Assessment and Critical Technical Skills required for implementation of Agenda 2063</i>	1 participant from Women's Development and Communication Network (FEMNET) and 1 participant from the East African Community sponsored to attend	12 – 13 May Addis Ababa Ethiopia
2016	2016 Africa Think Tank Summit	<i>Creating a Sustainable Future for African Think Tanks in Support of SDGs and Agenda 2063</i>	4 participants from Kenya: 3 from KIPPRA and 1 from AERC sponsored to attend	8 - 10 April Victoria Falls Zimbabwe
2015	2017 Africa Capacity Report Data Collectors' Training Workshop	Building Capacity in Science, Technology and Innovation for Africa's Transformation	1 data expert hired and sponsored to participate in data collection training workshop	16–19 November Harare, Zimbabwe
2015	5th Policy Institutes Committee Meeting	<i>Knowledge and Experience Sharing for Effective Capacity Building in Africa</i>	2 participants, 1 from Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA) and 1 from the African Research and Resource Forum (ARRF) sponsored to attend	22-23 October Kigali, Rwanda
2015	Board of Governors' meetings	<i>Domestic Resource Mobilization</i>	3 participants: 1 from Trade Mark East Africa, 1 from AERC and 1 from Africa Policy Research Institute	2 – 4 September Addis Ababa Ethiopia
2015	Financing for Development Conference (UN DESA)	<i>Building Capacity for Domestic Resource Mobilization (DRM) to</i>	1 participant from Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA) sponsored to attend	15 July Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Year	Knowledge Event	Title/Theme	Coverage for Kenya	Date and Venue
		<i>achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)</i>		
2015	2015 Africa Think Tank Summit	<i>The Rise of Africa's Think Tanks – Practical Solutions to Practical Problems</i>	2 participants, 1 from Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA) and 1 from the African Research and Resource Forum (ARRF) sponsored to attend	7 – 8 April Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
2015	4th Policy Institutes Committee Meeting	<i>ACBF's Policy Institutes Committee and its Contribution to Policy Direction in Africa</i>	2 participants, 1 from Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA) and 1 from the African Research and Resource Forum (ARRF) sponsored to attend	9 April Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
2014	2015 Africa Capacity Report Data Collectors Training Workshop	Capacity Imperatives for Domestic Resource Mobilization in Africa	1 data expert hired and sponsored to participate in data collection training workshop	12 – 15 February Harare, Zimbabwe
2014	2014 Africa Capacity Report Data Collectors' Training Workshop	Capacity Imperatives for Regional Integration in Africa'	1 data expert hired and sponsored to participate in data collection training workshop	17 – 21 October, Addis Ababa
2014	Validation Workshop of the Position Papers on the US-Africa Relations	<i>Validation of Draft position papers on U.S.-Africa relations</i>	2 participants from KIPPRA sponsored to attend	18 – 19 July Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
2014	2nd Policy Institutes Committee Forum	<i>"ACBF's Policy Institutes Committee (PIC) - Rethinking Capacity Development Solutions in Africa</i>	1 participant from KIPPRA and 1 from ARRF sponsored to attend	25 - 26 April Nouakchott, Mauritania
2014	Inaugural Meeting of the ACBF Strategic Studies Group (SSG)	<i>Launch of the SSG</i>	1 participant from AERC sponsored to attend	7-8 March Lusaka Zambia
2013	2014 Africa Capacity Report Data Collectors' Training	<i>Capacity Development for Natural Resources Management</i>	1 data expert hired and sponsored to participate in data collection training workshop	8 – 11 October Harare, Zimbabwe
2013	2014 Country Policy and Institutional Assessment (CPIA) Workshop, and National Launch of 2013 Africa Capacity Report	CPIA Training workshop and ACR 2013 national launch	1 participant from KIPPRA sponsored to attend	24-27 September Bujumbura Burundi,
2013	Inaugural Policy Institutes Committee Meeting	<i>Official Launch of the PIC</i>	African Research and Resource Forum (ARRF) and Kenya Institute	13 -14 June

Year	Knowledge Event	Title/Theme	Coverage for Kenya	Date and Venue
			for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA II)	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
2012	2013 Country Policy and Institutional Assessment (CPIA) workshop	Training	1 participant from KIPPRA sponsored to attend	28-30 June Yaounde, Cameroon
2012	2012 Africa Capacity Report Country/Regional Level Dissemination Workshop	Launch of Report	4 participants from Kenya sponsored to attend	14-15 August Kampala, Uganda
2011	Training Workshop on the Country Policy and Institutional Assessment (CPIA)	Training	1 participant from KIPPRA sponsored to attend	1-3 August Harare, Zimbabwe
2011	2012 Africa Capacity Report Data Collectors' Training Workshop	<i>Capacity Development for Agricultural Transformation and Food Security</i>	1 data expert hired and sponsored to participate in data collection training workshop	13 – 18 June Harare, Zimbabwe
2010	2011 Africa Capacity Report Data Collection Training Workshop	<i>Capacity building in Fragile states</i>	1 data expert hired and sponsored to attend training workshop	13 – 16 July Harare, Zimbabwe

ANNEX 2: SUCCESS STORIES

1. ACBF-sponsored centre becomes champion of corporate governance

Years of support, nurturing and institutional capacity development interventions by the ACBF have made the Nairobi-based Centre for Corporate Governance (CCG) to become self-sustainable and to have impact on the ground.

CCG has been at the centre of promoting the highest standards of corporate governance in different types of business enterprises through awareness raising, advocacy, education campaigns, research and training in Kenya's private sector.

CCG initiated the establishment of the Pan African Consultative Forum on corporate governance – drawing lessons and experiences from across Africa, sharing them in a common platform to assist others faced with similar issues.

The Forum has had great success in raising awareness on the significance of corporate governance to economic development in Africa and in forging consensus on concepts and methods of corporate governance standards and practices across all sectors of enterprise in Africa. It has also enabled collaboration between CCG and similar institutions including the Institutes of Board of Directors of Zambia, Zimbabwe and Uganda. CCG served as the Secretariat for the Pan African Corporate Governance Forum from 2001 to 2008.

CCG started as a Trust; the Private Sector Corporate Governance Trust (PSCGT,) which was renamed the Centre for Corporate Governance in 2002 and has grown into a self-sustaining national enterprise with strong credibility and high demand for its services. It has also become mandatory for directors of state corporations, insurance companies and companies listed on the Nairobi Stock Exchange to go through the training and courses on corporate governance offered by CCG. Various organizations including the Central Bank rely on due diligence by CCG in appointing, training and recommendation of new directors.

ACBF supported CCG with a capacity development investment grant of US\$ 1 million in 2000, which enabled the efficient implementation of the Centre's programmes and leadership of the Forum.

ACBF played a significant role in the transformation of the centre into a self-sustaining enterprise with a further financing of its strategic plan for 2007-2011. The Strategic Plan 2007-2011, solely funded by ACBF, enabled the Centre to enhance its self-generated income capability, matching its level of activities with its focus on growth. Since then, the Centre has been fully funding its own activities.

2. Transforming the lives of underprivileged women in Nairobi

Ms. Violet Moraa MOGAKA, an entrepreneur, is a beneficiary of the AERC's Collaborative Masters in Agricultural and Applied Economics (CMAAE) with membership from 17 Universities in Africa, a program partly supported by the ACBF.

She now motivates girls and young women in Kibera (Africa's largest city slum) to study hard at school. She mentors housewives in the same locality to boost their household incomes through the production of peanut butter. "Anybody can consult me on matters related to bioenergy and agricultural economics," she says.

4. The First Ever Sub-National Tobacco Control Legislation: A Case of Baringo County in Kenya

In 2016, the International Institute for Legislative Affairs (IILA) began a programmatic intervention under a project funded by the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF), titled "Advocacy and Capacity Building for the

Effective Implementation of Tobacco Control Policies in Kenya.” This ACBF-funded project enhanced effective implementation of tobacco control in selected counties through capacity development and technical support for the development and implementation of tobacco control in the counties. The project goal was to contribute to the reduction of prevalence of tobacco consumption in Kenya.

In 2010, Kenya inaugurated a constitution that altered the governance structure and affected the implementation of tobacco control. Article 174 of the Constitution provides that one of the key objectives of devolution is to promote social and economic development and provide proximate, easily accessible services throughout Kenya. The governments at the national and county levels are “distinct and interdependent,” and are expected to undertake their relations through “consultation and cooperation.”

A Model County Tobacco Control Bill was drafted and used to sensitize the county stakeholders on the ideal provisions for a County Tobacco Control (TC) legislation. The Bill became a guide for the counties to develop own legislation and will continue to provide direction for other counties that are interested in county TC legislation. This initiative led to demonstrable growth in knowledge and skills of county stakeholders. Mobilization and capacity building for relevant stakeholders were major components of this project and played a key role in the success of this intervention. In total, over 300 stakeholders, drawn from the Executive arms and Legislative arms of the county governments Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and media were trained in tobacco control.

Although the process of developing the County TC Bill was fraught with tobacco industry interference to derail and delay the outcome, on 5 September 2019, the Governor of Baringo County signed the Baringo County Tobacco Control Bill, 2018 into law and became the first County in Kenya to enact local legislation to support effective implementation of tobacco control in the country.

The success of the County TC law was made possible through human capacity and systems strengthening provided by the ACBF. These included strengthening the governance, building research skills of IILA, training in tobacco industry monitoring and regular interaction with the ACBF. These competencies and skills continue to be useful not only internally at IILA but also as the organization continues to support tobacco control interventions in Baringo County and beyond.

5. Evidence-Based Research for Strategic Policy Choices in Kenya

The Government of Kenya needed to make an informed decision on whether to sign or not; the Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) with the European Union (EU). In January 2014 the Government requested the Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA), one of the projects supported by the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF), to conduct an analysis of the economic implications of the EPAs to enable the Government to make an informed decision. The Government was able to arrive at a decision and eventually initialed the EPAs based on the findings of the KIPPRA study. The signing of the Agreement has enabled Kenyan exports to enter EU markets without any tax which has been a huge relief for the Kenyan exporters. <http://www.trademarka.com/news/relief-for-exporters-as-kenya-signs-new-trade-deal-with-eu> The signing of the EPAs meant that Kenyan exports would have free access to the EU markets, with a huge potential and benefit to the country’s export sector, especially the exporters of horticultural products. In this regard, the exporters were putting pressure and urging the Government to sign the agreement because they stood to gain.

On the other hand, the Civil Society had an opposing view underpinned by the opinion that Kenyan exporters would not be able to compete with products from the EU, the outcome of which would be

loss of jobs for the local producers if the Government signed the Agreement. Moreover, media exacerbated the situation with hyping of the perceived reluctance of Kenya to sign the EPAs.

The call by the KIPPRA was therefore in line with the Government's desire to take pragmatic decision based on evidence. KIPPRA is among the first Policy Research Institutes established by the Government of Kenya with support from the ACBF. Since its establishment in 1994, the Institute has provided insightful research-based evidence that has informed a number of strategic policies, programs and projects implemented by the Government and other stakeholders. The study on EPAs is one of the many research engagements supported by the ACBF as part of the USD 2 Million grant provided to KIPPRA Phase III since 2011.

The decision to sign the trade agreement was informed by the empirical research, conducted by the Institute. To ensure quality and relevance of the research, KIPPRA adopted a participatory approach backed by a multi-faceted team. The team is composed of individuals with extensive technical expertise in economic and trade analysis as well as highly experienced senior government officials who were conversant with the intricacies of trade negotiations.

KIPPRA has also provided diverse policy research and analysis support to its partners - Ministries, departments and agencies through the generation and dissemination of policy working groups and taskforces on different policy issues. Through these fora, the Institute has provided targeted policy advice and pick-ups of views and policy concerns of the government.



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