



KENYA



Country Facts



- ACORD has been working in Kenya since 2005.
- ACORD works in the regions of north eastern Marsabit, Isiolo, and Moyale, Tana River, Nakuru, Eldoret, Mt. Elgon and the counties of Bungoma, Kisumu, and Kajiado.
- ACORD partners with 10 civil society organizations in Kenya to build capacity and sustainability.
- The ACORD team in Kenya is comprised of 20 core staff with 90 community based workers. 75% of staff are Kenyan.
- Last year, ACORD programs touched the lives of 500,000 Kenyans in the most marginalized, hard to reach communities.



ACORD (Agency for Cooperation and Research in Development) is a Pan-African non-governmental organisation that has been working for social justice and development in Africa since 1976. Our work is guided by a number of fundamental values and working principles, chief amongst these is our belief that people themselves are the primary actors in their own development.

ACORD works in common cause with people who are poor and those who have been denied their rights to obtain social justice and development and, ultimately, to become part of locally-rooted citizen movements. ACORD has facilitated the emergence of over 2000 strong and autonomous grassroots organisations across Africa.

Country Priorities

ACORD has four primary strategic objectives to its programming in Kenya: food sovereignty, right to health, peacebuilding and conflict transformation and gender and women's rights:

RESILIENT LIVELIHOODS

- **Specific Objective 1:** ACORD's food sovereignty strategy aims to strengthen the livelihoods of the marginalized communities by empowering small scale farmers and promote strong disaster risk reduction among farmers, pastoralists, and governments.

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES PROMOTION

- **Specific Objective 2:** ACORD Kenya aims to improve the health of marginalised /hard to reach populations and their capacity to advocate for inclusive policies and programs as a means to achieve universal access to health services and sustainable development.
- **Specific Objective 3:** ACORD Kenya seeks to build knowledge on positive Gender relations and effective ways of addressing gender inequalities through increased rights awareness on the community level, challenging traditional power dynamics, and continuous policy dialogue around gender mainstreaming.

PEACE BUILDING AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION

- **Specific Objective 4:** The Peacebuilding and conflict transformation strategy aims to increase the capacity of civil society to promote a shared vision of justice, increase consciousness and observance of citizenship, and increased participation of gender and youth in conflict transformation.

OUR PARTNERS:

ACORD works in collaboration with Peace and Rights Programme, Rural Women Peacelink – Eldoret, Kajiado, the English Premier League, the National Steering Committee on Peace, the CSO Network – Kisumu, and the County Governments of Kisumu and Bungoma. ACORD's funding partners in Kenya include UNWOMEN, UNDP, European Union, DFID, and the British Council.

ACORD in Kenya

ACORD began working in Kenya in 2005 in direct response to the effects of a prolonged drought situation that primarily affected Maasai pastoralist communities from arid and semi-arid land regions. Since then, ACORD's programme in Kenya has undertaken various projects working in the areas of livelihood improvement for small scale farmers, pastoralists, fisher folks, and particularly women in addressing both long term and immediate effects of marginalization, food insecurity and inequality. Since beginning work in Kenya in 2005, ACORD has been able to reach out to more than one million beneficiaries, men and women, boys and girls.

Recognizing the need for increased awareness on basic issues such as nutrition and risk perception, ACORD Kenya has been building inter-linkages between health and HIV and AIDS vulnerability, poverty, gender inequality, conflict, and fosters good governance towards facilitating social justice. ACORD Kenya also works with both men and women to address issues of gender violence.

ACORD believes in the crucial role of ensuring the empowerment and participation of the poor in development, mobilizing grassroots communities to monitoring government policy and practice and helping to shape social values that are geared towards promoting social justice. Therefore, we work in partnership with like-minded organizations, focusing on the hard-to-reach and marginalized populations.

ACORD Kenya ensures that there is community ownership to any engagement, having initiatives which are community driven as it is the acceptance and ownership of the initiative by the community that will determine the outcome of the initiatives and the sustainability of the project long after the implementing agency phases out the project.

One of the greatest benefits of ACORD's work in Kenya lies in its proactive approach to evidence-based policy in scaling-up community action to influence policy at national and regional levels.

Project Spotlight

Promoting Women's Participation and Leadership in the 2017 General Elections in Kenya targeting the nine constituencies of Bungoma County:

The overall objective of the action is to increase the number of elected women representatives at county and national level to conform to the constitutional provisions of gender balance in elective and appointive state positions. The two specific objectives (SOs) are: SO1: To galvanise a critical mass of citizens in Bungoma County to support the election of at least 33% women to all electoral positions and SO2: To create a conducive political, legal and policy environment supporting women's participation in politics and electoral processes.

Project Spotlight

Using Football to Address Violence Against Women and Girls:

ACORD in partnership with The British Council, English Premier League with funding from DFID are implementing a football-for-development programme with young people aged 10-20 and their wider communities in two regions of Kenya. The programme uses inclusive community football coaching with young people (combined with a thematic curriculum) and wider community advocacy work as a means to address negative gender stereotypes and attitudes towards violence, challenge harmful relationship dynamics between men and women, and ultimately change behaviour and reduce the incidence of violence. The programme takes a multi-pronged approach that uses football sessions (to help the young people gain confidence and learn the soft skills). Policy advocacy is also pursued through interlinkages with other CSO's and county government.

2016 Impact in Numbers:

330,000

Women were reached

7

Civil Society Organizations have enhanced capacities

6

Communities have increased access to basic services

