



Telling Our Story

New Mission Director Off To Exciting Start



USAID | Ghana's New Mission Director Jim Bever (middle) is off to a very exciting start. Having traveled to nearly every region, Jim has participated in program launches, visited implementing partners in the field and just recently held a press roundtable briefing where he presented USAID | Ghana's new Country Development Cooperation Strategy (CDCS) for 2013-2017.

Bever stated "USAID's first funding commitment to Ghana, under the new strategy, in the amount of \$45 million, has been allocated to the health sector". The first commitment of health funding is just part of USAID's anticipated total contribution to Ghana's development under its CDCS of up to \$850 million by 2017, subject to availability of funds and U.S. Congress annual approval.

We wish Jim a very successful tour here in Ghana!

Economic Growth Program Launches

At the end of 2013-USAID | Ghana launched its Feed the Future Agricultural Technology and Transfer Project (ATT). Keeping up with the CDCS development objectives for the Economic Growth Sector, the ATT project will help increase the availability of appropriate and affordable key technologies to sustainably improve the competitiveness of the maize, rice, and soya value chains in northern Ghana. ATT will work closely with the Financing Ghanaian Agriculture Project (FinGAP) Project launching this month.

One of the key constraints that restrict the development of commercial agriculture in Ghana is access to finance. In an effort to address this issue, FinGAP will provide a comprehensive and integrated approach to facilitating agriculture related investment, engaging a broad range of Ghanaian financial institutions (banks, private equity firms, leasing companies, investment funds, etc.) in providing agricultural financing.





January, 2014

USAID Observes World AIDS Day

USAID|Ghana observed World AIDS Day on December 2 in Wa, Upper East Region of Ghana. The Government of Ghana used this day of remembrance and celebration to launch its new stigma discrimination reporting system. The reporting will be managed by Ghana's Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ). Because of a growing need to stop the discrimination faced by people living with HIV and key populations — including men who have sex with men and sex workers this new reporting system—which was strongly supported by USAID—will help fight human rights abuses and inequalities.



Signing Ceremony with KOICA



Moving into 2014, the Health, Population and Nutrition office will continue its focus on improving maternal, newborn and child health through a reduction of maternal mortality and infant mortality rates. In December 2013, USAID|Ghana signed a memorandum of understanding with the Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA). The cooperative project known as “Improving Maternal, Newborn and Child Health Care in Volta Region”—IMCH is a four year project ending in 2016.



January, 2014

New Feed the Future Partnership

USAID and Dupont, through its common interest in modernizing the agricultural sector of Ghana recently signed a MOU that will support the Ghana Advance Maize Seed Adoption Program (GAMSAP). Under Feed the Future, a partnership with Dupont/Pioneer has been developed to promote improved seed varieties in Ghana. Dupont will contribute \$2 million to GAMSAP which is designed to increase productivity of small holder maize farmers through linkages with commercial farms will improve access to credit, seeds and storage. Keeping with the Feed the Future objective, this new USAID|Ghana partnership will address food security and nutrition issues throughout Ghana.

USAID Support to Junior High Schools Reaches Completion

After three-years of vital support to Ghana's Junior High Schools in select regions, USAID's Transition and Persistence (TAP) Project-with Plan/Ghana-ended November 2013. USAID's contributions over three years resulted in increased Junior High School enrollment and completion rates in 156 schools across four regions in Ghana.



Helping to address the problem of "schools under trees" at the junior high level, USAID's support ensured that 7 new junior high schools were built and more than 100 schools were rehabilitated through partnerships with local government and communities. School improvements included; 90 latrines were repaired/built; 45 schools received access to water; 24 schools were connected to electricity and 13 Information Communication Technology centers

were supplied with furniture and installed with equipment.

USAID also emphasized gender equity by organizing three national girls camps between 2011 and 2013 and all TAP supported schools benefited from annual in-kind scholarships, distribution of school uniforms, and reading materials. As we move into 2014, USAID|Ghana Education Office will continue to support Ghana's Education Strategic Plan (ESP) 2010-2020, with a renewed focus on child literacy and the systems needed to improve learning outcomes and sustain them.



January, 2014



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PHOTO OF THE MONTH

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best development photos
to accradocs@usaid.gov
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featured in the monthly**

USAID E-Wire!



Farmers working a corn field , supported by ADVANCE
using technology to increase production.

Photo by Alicka Ampy-Samuel, USAID | Ghana

Coming Up:

- Closeout of USAID's Integrated Coastal and Fisheries Governance project (ICFG) in the Western Region
- Launch of the FinGAP Program
- Branch Opening of UT Bank in Tamale, Northern Region
- Ghana Heritage Conservation Trust (GHCT) Handover Ceremony-CapeCoast