

# Developing and Expanding Community Enterprises

## Creating Pathways to Prosperity for Underserved Communities in Africa

The U.S. African Development Foundation (USADF) is an independent U.S. government agency established by Congress to invest in African grassroots organizations, entrepreneurs, and SMEs. USADF's investments promote local economic development by increasing incomes, revenues, and jobs. Utilizing a community-led development approach, USADF provides seed capital and local project management assistance to African-owned and -led enterprises addressing some of Africa's biggest challenges around food insecurity, insufficient energy access, and unemployment—particularly among women and youth. Over the last five years (2016–2020), throughout Africa's Horn, Sahel, and Great Lakes regions, USADF has invested more than US\$117 million dollars directly into over 1,000 Africanowned and -operated entities and impacted over four million lives.

# **SOMALIA**



Last

10 Years\*

of Impact

58 / 23K Enterprises / People Impacted

**US\$11.2**Million

\*FY 2011 to March 30, 2021







Growing Enterprises



Increasing Incomes



Building Capacity

#### **INVESTING IN COMMUNITIES**

**Challenge**: Candlelight for Environment, Education and Health lacked the capacity and skills to administer a large-scale youth employment program.

**Action**: USADF invested US\$244K in Candlelight for it to advance education and skills training and improve the living conditions of low-income women, pastoralists, and agro-pastoralists through income-generating activities.

**Results**: With USADF's investment, Candlelight trained 180 youths (90 male and 90 female) in tailoring, welding, fried food preparation, masonry, henna and beautification, and metal and glass installation.

#### **GROWING ENTERPRISES**

**Challenge**: Relief and Development Committee (RDC) lacked the skills and capacity to support and create income-generating opportunities for youth in Somalia.

**Action**: USADF awarded RDC US\$250K to strengthen its women's vocational, childhood nutrition, and community reconciliation training programs.

**Results**: With USADF's investment, RDC successfully engaged 200 youths (100 male and 100 female) in the classroom and through on-the-job skills training programs. RDC now provides employment toolkits and small business start-up toolkits to youth trainees.

#### **INCREASING INCOMES**

**Challenge**: The Institute of Practical Research and Training (IPRT) lacked the capacity to administer a large-scale youth employment program.

**Action**: USADF awarded US\$248K to IPRT for it to train youth in community health, construction, information and communications technology, beekeeping, and small business development.

**Results**: With USADF's financial and technical support, IPRT increased its capacity to develop and manage training activities for 200 youths, linked trainees to employment opportunities, and supported trainees in starting their own businesses.

#### **BUILDING CAPACITY**

**Challenge**: Kaah International Microfinance Services (KIMS) lacked the capacity to improve living conditions for off-grid households through access to affordable renewable energy.

**Action**: USADF invested US\$238K in KIMS for it to provide affordable electricity to low-income families through a commercially viable, off-grid solar initiative, and offer youth "solar entrepreneur" jobs.

**Results**: With USADF's investment, KIMS strengthened its capacity to market and install more high-quality solar home systems and provide media coverage on the benefits of using off-grid energy.



**USADF.gov** 



## **USADF Somalia Investments Active in 2021\***

\*Active portfolio as of March 31, 2021

USADF invests directly in African community enterprises, providing grant capital and local technical support to early-stage businesses.

#### ClearSky Power (CSP)

US\$99,718 • 2 years • Solar Energy

### Institute for Practical Research Training (IPRT)

US\$249,024 • 2 years • Health Training

#### **Kaah Microfinance (KIMS)**

US\$238,192 • 2 years • Solar Energy

