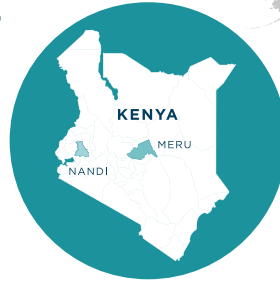


USAID CDP: COOPERATIVE ECOSYSTEM AND SOCIAL INCLUSION (CESI)

KENYA

OCTOBER 2023 – SEPTEMBER 2028



AT A GLANCE

IN KENYA'S MERU AND NANDI COUNTIES, CESI WILL STRENGTHEN

16 CO-OPS WITH 155,176 MEMBERS

DIVERSIFY CO-OP PRODUCTS AND MEMBER SERVICES TARGETING WOMEN AND YOUTH

FACILITATE AMENDMENT OF COOPERATIVE BY-LAWS, BENEFITING

14,000 CO-OPS

SUPPORT DRAFTING OF NEW CO-OP LAWS TO ENSURE INCLUSION OF WOMEN AND YOUTH

ENHANCE THE ADVOCACY AND EDUCATIONAL WORK OF

20 CO-OP SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS

PROMOTE UPTAKE OF CDP-DEVELOPED TOOLS BY

26 LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

KEY LOCAL PARTNERS

- State Department of Cooperatives (SDC)
- Cooperative Alliance of Kenya (CAK)
- Kenya Society for Professional Cooperators (KSPC)
- Kenya Union of Savings and Credit Cooperatives (KUSCCO)
- Nandi and Meru County Governments
- Kenya Co-op Development Organization (KCDO) platform

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Awarded through the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)'s Cooperative Development Program (CDP), NCBA CLUSA's Cooperative Ecosystem and Social Inclusion (CESI) project works in Kenya, Guatemala and Peru (through 2028); and Madagascar (through 2025) to further strengthen: 1) co-op capacity; 2) cooperative enabling environments; and 3) project learning applied in the development community. CESI is informed by the success of NCBA CLUSA's USAID CDP-funded Creating an Environment for Cooperative Expansion (CECE) project (2018 to 2023).

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

STRENGTHENING CO-OP CAPACITY

CDP/CESI focuses on the ecosystem level, working to strengthen five secondary, or union, co-ops in Meru and Nandi counties, and 11 primary dairy and coffee co-ops that are members of



Nandi co-op leaders during a learning exchange in Meru. Photo: Simon Mwambanga/NCBA CLUSA



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PROJECT PROFILE

these unions; some were previously supported by CECE and all are committed to social inclusion. These 16 cooperatives have 155,176 members. By Y5, we expect their memberships to grow to more than 174,000 members with 40% and 20% participation of women and youth, respectively, in these cooperatives' governance bodies. CESI's technical assistance (TA) will focus on effective engagement of women and youth, and on product diversification and other income generating activities that support environmental sustainability (e.g., agri-shops targeting women, biogas installation). Coaching will also cover foundational areas of business performance including governance, finance, management and member engagement. In Y3, TA will shift to local co-op support organizations, including County Cooperative Officers and higher-tier co-ops, of which primary co-ops are members.

IMPROVING THE COOPERATIVE ENABLING ENVIRONMENT

Building upon CECE's success, CESI will bolster the cooperative enabling environment. One pivotal initiative is expanding the impactful Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) initiative within Meru and Nandi counties. NCBA CLUSA will also introduce ADR on the national level through learning exchanges with other counties expressing interest. CESI will also prioritize facilitating access to finance. This involves steadfast support of Capital SACCO's thriving CASA DADA program, which fosters financial literacy and lending opportunities for women. Additionally, CESI plans to create innovative products and programs tailored to the youth demographic, such as mobile banking solutions. Collaborative efforts with Kenya's Cooperative Bank are underway to cater to co-ops' financing requirements, leveraging the existing relationships many co-ops in Meru and Nandi have with the bank and potentially expanding this partnership at an ecosystem level. Moreover, CESI is poised to provide support to SDC and CAK in their endeavors to advocate for the Cooperative Bill's passage into law and help develop associated regulations.

ENHANCING KNOWLEDGE AND LEARNING IN THE DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

A key learning activity in Kenya will involve collaborating with other CDP implementers (Global Communities, World Council of Credit Unions and HealthPartners) and local co-op partners through the KCDO platform. In one of 10 planned collaborations, CESI will partner with KSPC to expand the Co-op Business School to Kenya, increasing access to existing certifications and creating new trainings that respond to Kenyan co-ops' needs, with a focus on ecosystems and social inclusion. CESI will also facilitate the uptake of CDP-developed tools by 26 local-organizations, including the adoption of NCBA CLUSA's Diagnostic and Monitoring of Organizations' Capacity by KSPC and county governments; our Women's Inclusion, Empowerment and Leadership in Cooperatives (WIELCOOP); and a similar tool for youth inclusion by Meru and Nandi Dairy Unions, the Cooperative Bank and Capital SACCO, reaching nearly 20,000 people.

BUY-INS

The Annual Program Statement (APS) for the USAID Cooperative Development Program (CDP) is a flexible procurement instrument that offers an easy way for USAID Missions and Operating Units to quickly deploy programming resources. If a USAID Mission is interested in implementing activities that generally align with one of the APS' three focus areas, there are two buy-in options:

- Direct buy-in: If a USAID Mission knows the implementing CDO partner they would like to work with, funds can be added directly to the implementing partner's cooperative agreement.
- Addendum: A solicitation can be put together that eligible implementing partners can respond to in the form of concept papers.

For more information about the USAID CDP and buy-ins options, email Senior Cooperative Development Advisor Emily Varga at emvarga@usaid.gov.

For 70 years, NCBA CLUSA has worked in 100+ countries in Africa, Latin America and Southeast Asia, building resilient communities, creating economic opportunities and strengthening cooperatives. Our work empowers smallholder farmers, women and youth in the areas of food security and nutrition-led agriculture, climate-smart agriculture, market development, natural resources management, positive youth development, gender equality and enabling regulatory environments. We envision a world where people have the knowledge, resources and authority to build prosperity for themselves and future generations.

NCBA CLUSA

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