

# Annual Results Report on Country Strategy for Development Cooperation

**Country:** Kenya  
**Period concerned:** 1<sup>st</sup> January – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016

## Highlights

The overall performance in 2016 can be rated fairly good. The political environment in Kenya was somewhat challenging during 2016. Especially county politics brought difficulties in implementing the programmes as planned and scheduled. In some activities, extra effort by the country team was needed to solve bottlenecks. The new Country Strategy was drafted but the implementation was mainly oriented towards the previous Strategy, since some of the big programmes (Palweco, MMMB) were still running and at the same time many of the interventions to be implemented under the new strategy are yet to be planned. The lessons learnt from the past especially on tackling mismanagement or misuse of funds has been taken into account when planning the new Country Strategy. The human resources of the country team were reduced and had a high rotation pace of members in 2016, during which the team was not complete for more than half a year. Despite the challenges, the disbursement rate was 79 per cent which is over six percentage points more than on the previous year. Another lesson for the up-coming year and the implementation of the new country strategy is that the new dynamics of local politics, and especially the elections in August 2017, will make implementation more challenging.

The linkages to Team Finland work were developed especially in forestry and water with the help of two ministerial delegations from Finland. These will be followed up in 2017, but it can already be said that concrete business openings are emerging in both the forestry and the water sectors.

In support of accountability at county level governance, Finland's support to URAIA TRUST's grass root civic education and to the World Bank Accountable Devolution Programme have improved citizen participation at the county level. URAIA's continuous civic education programme has been attended by 301 703 people and around 5,94 million people have been reached indirectly through media. With World Bank support two counties have established functional structures for participatory budgeting. Citizen participation has already contributed to more equitable resource allocation in some of the counties and/or wards.

The programme supporting people's right to water and sanitation started late in the year due to stringent but highly effective risk mitigation measures that were time consuming. These measures have entrenched good governance and accountability at the duty bearer level. The projects focused on rehabilitating dilapidated and old infrastructures and the expansion of a new strategy. It is envisaged that upon completion more than 280,000 people will have access to clean and safe water. As the new strategy and procedures have worked well, they have been applied by other development partners (Danida, EU, Safaricom Foundation).

In order to improve access to jobs and livelihoods, the planning of the new forestry cooperation was initiated but has been more complex than expected and has required considerable inputs from the Embassy staff. The previous forestry programme (MMMB) set up institutional, policy and governance reforms which have improved conditions for private sector investments in the forestry sector, paving the way for creating jobs and increased economic opportunities. MMMB developed forestry-related value chains in selected Arid and Semi Arid Land (ASAL) counties which increased jobs and the livelihoods of about 3000 rural poor. In addition, the multi-stakeholder National

Forest Programme (NFP) was completed and approved. In 2016 PALWECO progressed well and had positive impacts to jobs and livelihoods in all sub-counties of Busia. Sustainability was a key focus during the exit phase of the programme, and steps were taken to incorporate activities into the County Government's budget and for the upcoming County Integrated Development Plan.

Women's and girls' rights active policy dialogue contributed towards the implementation of the national policy and legal framework, especially in terms of women's participation in decision making. Despite significant efforts by several stakeholders the constitutional quota legislation was not passed. However, the National Action Plan on Women Peace and Security was finally launched. Through FLC support altogether 1260 survivors of violence received support services and 5312 community members were sensitized in SGBV.