

KENYA

Despite an impressive recent economic growth record, Kenya ranks 146th out of 188 countries on the UNDP's 2016 Human Development Index. Two out of five Kenyans still live on less than US\$1.25 a day.

Significant obstacles to sustainable social, environmental and economic development remain in Kenya. These include:

- regional insecurity;
- resource-based conflict;
- cyclical drought;
- under-investment in natural resources; and
- high unemployment and skills gaps among youth.

Barriers to women's empowerment continue to exist. Women have fewer opportunities for employment in both the public and private sectors. Complications from pregnancy and childbirth remain one of the main causes of death for women. Sexual and gender-based violence is a serious problem for women and girls in Kenya and transcends social and economic boundaries.

Canada's development assistance in Kenya is addressing these issues by focusing on the poorest and most vulnerable groups. In particular, it is focusing on women, children and youth living in marginalized, drought-prone regions. Funding supports the following three areas:

- human dignity;
 - this is particularly through access to safe, quality basic education
- growth that works for everyone;
 - this is through improved SME development and enhanced technical vocational education and training, and
- inclusive governance;
 - this is through focusing on improved civic and political engagement and voter registration.



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