



Fact Sheet: Advancing U.S.-South African Cooperation



"I see Africa as a fundamental part of our interconnected world – as partners with America on behalf of the future we want for all our children. That partnership must be grounded in mutual responsibility and mutual respect."

President Barack Obama, Accra, Ghana

"I've often heard it said that African problems need African solutions. Well, I'm here to say that some of our global problems need African solutions too."

Secretary Hillary Rodham Clinton, Cape Town, South Africa

In June 2012, President Obama approved a Presidential Policy Directive (PPD) that outlines his vision for U.S. efforts in sub-Saharan Africa. The work of the U.S. Mission to South Africa has helped advance key pillars of this policy: strengthening **democratic institutions**, spurring **economic growth, trade and investment**, advancing **peace and security**, and promoting **opportunity and development**.

South Africa is a strategic partner and friend of the United States. Since 2009, South Africa has hosted successful visits by President **Barack Obama**, Vice President **Joe Biden**, First Lady **Michelle Obama**, and Secretary of State **Hillary Clinton**, reflecting the importance the United States places on the bilateral relationship. In 2010, Secretary Clinton and Minister Nkoana-Mashabane launched the **U.S.-South African Strategic Dialogue** to advance cooperation on issues of mutual importance. Over the last four years we have held numerous ministerial meetings and four Annual Bilateral Forums, under which 14 working groups ensure concrete progress on shared concerns from education to energy to the environment. Some examples of our cooperation include:

Global Peace and Security

- South Africa and the United States work together on a range of issues impacting the region and the world. In 2012, we inaugurated a formalized mechanism for discussing cooperation, including non-proliferation, climate change, human rights, developments in Iran and Syria, and regional crises in Zimbabwe, Somalia, Sudan and South Sudan, and the Sahel. Dialogue under this **Working Group on African and Global Issues** is a mark of our shared commitment to cooperation on the multilateral stage, whether in the African Union, the UN Security Council, the UN Human Rights Council, the Nuclear Suppliers Group, the G20 or other international fora.

Health

- The United States has made an unwavering commitment to South Africans living with and affected by HIV and AIDS. Since 2004, we have invested more than \$3.7 billion in South Africa through **PEPFAR**, including over \$500 million in 2012, supplemented with an additional \$40 million in 2012 to scale up medical male circumcision. Hundreds of thousands of lives have been saved, 6.8 million individuals have received counseling and testing, 720,000 pregnant women access services to prevent mother-to-child transmission, and 1.9 million individuals receive antiretroviral treatment. Under the Partnership Framework Implementation Plan signed in August 2012, the United States will continue to play a strong supporting role over the next five years as South Africa takes the lead in HIV/AIDS prevention, care and treatment.
- Another sign of our mutually beneficial cooperation on health was the recent launch of a **Global Disease Detection Center**, co-directed by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and South Africa's National Institute for Communicable Diseases, with the mission to improve capacity to detect and respond to emerging health threats.

Education

- In November 2012, we launched the \$7.5 million **School Capacity Innovation Program (SCIP)**, a public-private partnership between USAID, the ELMA Foundation and J.P. Morgan, designed in collaboration with the Department of Basic Education, to improve teacher quality.
- In August 2012, Secretary Clinton announced a \$500 million **Opportunity Grants Program** for South Africa to help disadvantaged students study at U.S. universities. This is in addition to the over \$8 million that the U.S. Government currently provides for graduate-level Fulbright scholarships and other exchange and speaker programs.

Economic Development, Trade and Investment

- The United States is one of South Africa's key trading partners, with **two-way goods and services trade reaching \$24.8 billion in 2012**. The United States is the largest portfolio investor in South Africa and the third largest source of foreign direct investment (\$6.5 billion in 2011).
- South Africa is a key export destination for the United States, constituting 33% of total trade with Africa. South African exports to the U.S. were \$8.6 million in 2012. More than 99% of South African exports enter the United States duty free under various trade preference programs, including the **African Growth and Opportunity Act**.
- In August 2012, a business delegation of U.S. corporate executives traveled to South Africa with Secretary Clinton for the **U.S.-South Africa Business Summit**, where they built private sector linkages to create opportunities for trade, investment, and technology transfers.

- In November 2012, acting Secretary of Commerce Blank launched the Doing Business in Africa campaign in Johannesburg to help U.S. businesses take advantage of the many export and investment opportunities in sub-Saharan Africa using federal trade promotion and financing capabilities.
- USAID recently established a credit guarantee facility for South African-based asset management firm Cadiz Life Limited, which will make up to **\$150 million in funding available to more than 300 small and medium enterprises** and could help create over 20,000 jobs in South Africa.
- USAID helped to establish **South Africa's Supplier Diversity Council** to champion procurement opportunities for historically disadvantaged businesses. USAID is also partnering with South Africa's Competition Commission and the U.S. Federal Trade Commission to build the capacity of competition agencies throughout the region.

Energy

- South Africa and the United States share a commitment to developing clean, renewable, and efficient energy technologies. A recent **\$2 billion agreement was signed between the U.S. Export-Import Bank (EX-IM) and South Africa's Industrial Development Corporation** to provide credit guarantees for the development of the renewable energy sector. In February 2012, EX-IM signed an \$805.6 million **loan with South African utility company Eskom** for the purchase of engineering and management services related to a new coal-fired plant. The **U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA)** and the **Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC)** also support clean energy project development in South Africa, including with their U.S.-Africa Clean Energy Development and Finance Center, located in Johannesburg.
- USAID has a **\$65 million Development Credit Authority (DCA) Bond guarantee** facility with a South African agribusiness company that allows access to capital markets to finance off-grid waste-to-energy power generation projects. The projects will support the electricity demands of agriculture production and farms on-site, as well as adjacent communities, and South Africa will lower its carbon emissions and transition to a clean energy economy.

Rule of Law and Democratic Governance

- The U.S. Government is spending **\$1.7 million on bilateral law enforcement programs** in 2013 and committed an additional \$2 million in both 2014 and 2015 for training and support to South African government departments for victim empowerment, combating sexual and gender-based violence, border and port security, judicial capacity building, financial crimes, fraud detection, consumer protection, corruption, fugitive apprehension, LGBT rights, anti-terrorism assistance and women's justice and empowerment.
- A partnership between USAID, the MAC AIDS Foundation and the South African government is combating the scourge of gender-based violence through the expansion of **Thuthuzela Care Centers** in South Africa and in the region. These centers provide counseling, medical and legal services to survivors of such violence.
- The United States and South Africa cooperate to bolster democracy in the region through **14 trilateral assistance projects** that provide expertise to nine countries in Africa on gender-based violence prevention, natural resource management and constitutionalism in post-conflict areas. For example, USAID has partnered with South Africa's **Independent Electoral Commission (IEC)** and the University of South Africa to provide training to elections bodies, including for the South Sudan High Elections Committee, a critical institution in Africa's newest democracy.
- The U.S. Government provided over \$1.7 million in funding for security cooperation and law enforcement **training programs in forensics, detective work, narcotics, counterfeiting, anti-terrorism and crimes against women and children**, including human trafficking. Our law enforcement agencies conducted numerous joint investigations with their South African counterparts.

Military Cooperation

- Military cooperation has long been institutionalized through the **U.S.-South Africa Defense Committee**, which has met on a regular basis since 1997. The September 2012 visit of South African Minister of Defense Mapisa-Nqakula to Washington to meet with U.S. Secretary of Defense Panetta signals the strength of this enduring relationship. We will build on the success of **Exercise Shared Accord 11** during the next Shared Accord combined military exercise in July 2013, which will strengthen our nations' capacity to conduct humanitarian operations.

Environment

- The United States and South Africa will soon implement the U.S.-South Africa Low-Emissions Development Partnership to lower greenhouse gas emissions by supporting innovative low emissions development projects.
- The United States is committed to **stopping wildlife trafficking**, a national security, public health and economic security issue that spans continents. The U.S. Government is providing policy and technical assistance to improve awareness, surveillance, detection, law enforcement, and prosecutions. The State Department has committed \$3 million (part of \$10 million for the continent) to enhance law enforcement efforts and support regional cooperation. USAID has launched a new program to combat illegal wildlife trade between Asia and Africa by strengthening trans-regional cooperation between the two continents, including combating wildlife poaching.