



YALI REGIONAL
LEADERSHIP CENTER
EAST AFRICA • NAIROBI

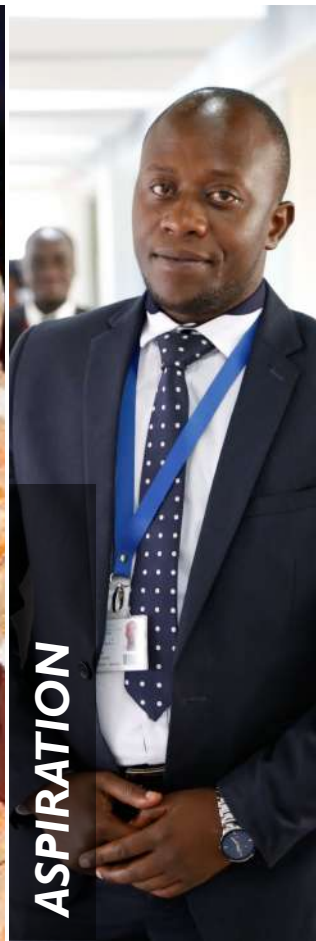
INFORMATIONAL OVERVIEW



DIVERSITY



COLLABORATION



ASPIRATION



EMPOWERMENT



INNOVATION



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE





“So through our Young African Leaders Initiative, we are empowering and connecting young people from across the continent who are filled with energy and optimism and idealism, and are going to take Africa to new heights. And these young people, they’re not weighted down by the old ways. They’re creating a new path. And these are the elements for success in this 21st century.”

**Former United States President Barack Obama
Kasarani Speech, Nairobi, July 26, 2015**



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ESTABLISHED 2010**



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What is YALI?

The Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI) was launched by the U.S. Government as a signature effort to invest in the next generation of African leaders. With more than 60% of its population below the age of 35, Africa is quickly becoming home to the world's largest number of young people, which raises several questions about the future of Africa.

Who will empower and lead young Africans to shape the future of the continent?

Will these young citizens be able to positively influence and impact business and entrepreneurship?

Will they be able to offer expertise to sustain meaningful and relevant nongovernmental organizations?

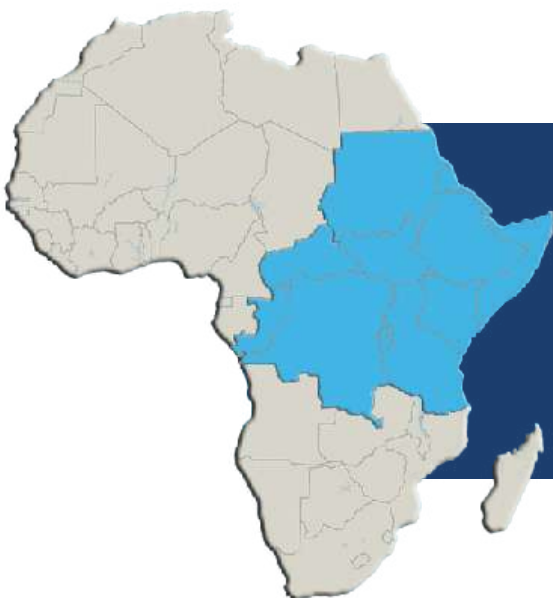
And who of these young people will be able to serve as functional and ethical administrators in public office?

The answers to these questions underscore the need for strong, passionate, and results-oriented young leaders. The YALI Regional Leadership Centers provide an avenue for young leaders to develop their skills and enhance their experience, along with two other YALI programs: (1) the Mandela Washington Fellowship and (2) the YALI Network.

More information on the Fellowship and Network can be found on the last page of this brochure.

The YALI Regional Leadership Centers

In July 2014, U.S. Government announced the creation of four Regional Leadership Centers (RLCs) in Ghana, Kenya, Senegal, and South Africa to serve as regional hubs across the continent to encourage transformational learning and enhanced leadership skills. The RLCs are a collaborative effort between the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), in close partnership with the MasterCard Foundation and other private sector partners. Each RLC is managed under a public-private partnership. The YALI Regional Leadership Center East Africa, located at Kenyatta University in Nairobi, is managed by Deloitte East Africa in collaboration with a growing number of African and international partners.



YALI RLC East Africa Countries:

Burundi, Central African Republic, Republic of the Congo, The Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda

A Philosophy

The YALI RLC East Africa is more than a location for learning or a venue for collaboration; it represents a philosophy, a forward-leaning culture of diversity that invites dreaming and thinking differently to define and realize one's potential. The educational philosophy incorporates three main focus areas: personal transformation, leadership transformation, and sector transformation. Enhanced leadership skills underscore all three focus areas.



Selected participants will engage in leadership training across three tracks of study: (1) Business and Entrepreneurship, (2) Civic Leadership, and (3) Public Management in a 4-week residential format with a focus on individual and team leadership skills, innovation, creative learning, and communication. The program's emphasis is on interactive and experiential learning which fosters each participant's ability to contribute both individually and in teams.

Three Tracks of Study



Civic Leadership

Oriented to those who are or aspire to be civically engaged and serve the public through non-governmental organizations, community based organizations, or volunteerism.



Public Management

Tailored to those who work or aspire to work in any level of government (including elected positions), regional organizations such as the African Union or the East Africa Community, international organizations such as the United Nations, or other publicly-minded organizations or think tanks.



Business & Entrepreneurship

Focused on the range of emerging or aspiring entrepreneurs who hope to take on leadership roles within the private sector or build their own business ventures on the continent.

Parallel Learning Engagements

Participants in each track contribute to an interactive and experiential education model by working both individually and in teams. In addition to the immersive curriculum over the 4-week program, participants also have parallel learning opportunities: (1) working with fellow participants on a group project, (2) optional individual mentor engagement, (3) community service and (4) guest speakers.





Group Design Challenges

As part of their learning, participants collaborate to address a challenge posed by an organization involved in each of the three thematic areas (Business & Entrepreneurship, Civic Leadership and Public Management). Working together, each group of 5-6 participants from different countries must utilize the tools and knowledge they glean during the program and apply them to the Design Challenge process, a human-centered approach to innovation.

The Design Challenge is meant to encourage participants to work jointly to overcome technical problems, communication barriers, and issues related to diversity to create a meaningful and relevant solution that is presented to the sponsoring organization during Week 4. Organizations benefit from the process when they choose to actively implement the solutions and strategies that are presented by the winning team.



“You have an opportunity to write into their hearts what it takes to develop a nation, a company, or even to raise a family. As you give of yourself, you receive from the youth by feeling good about helping individuals become better and know that by virtue of that, you would have contributed in your humble way to the development of various nations. Your time and talent are the seedlings that will bear fruits for the next generation.”

Gerald Walterfang, Mentor for a Mentee in Cohorts 3, 5, and 6

Mentorship Program



Participants have the opportunity to be matched with a mentor for the duration of the program and potentially to continue once the Mentee has completed the program. Having a Mentor allows a participant to engage in a one-to-one relationship with an experienced individual who can coach the participant's personal and professional development. Mentor profiles are entered into a closed-access mentorship portal from which participants can select a Mentor based upon his/her specific experiences, skills, and goals. Mentors are recruited on an ongoing basis.

Recruiting and Selecting the Best Leaders

To place about 100 qualified participants per cohort, in nine cohorts each year, the YALI Regional Leadership Center East Africa Center has a rigorous recruitment and selection process. Admissions staff at the Center actively recruit young men and women, between the ages of 18 and 35 from 14 East and Central African countries, who are interested in enhancing their futures as leaders in business, the public sector, or civic organizations.

Participant Criteria:

- * Between ages 18 and 35
- * Citizen of one of 14 East & Central African countries
- * Fluent in English
- * Able to fully commit to the 4 week program
- * Demonstrated involvement in the community

In addition to age, citizenship, and residence requirements, prospective participants should be proficient in reading, writing and speaking English and be willing and able to commit to the intensive 4-week program. Successful applicants must describe their efforts to address a current challenge in their communities, organizations, or countries. This experience can be voluntary or work-related, but must show the applicant's desire to improve the quality of life in his or her community.

While there is no quota for the number of recruited applicants or selected participants from each country in each cohort, Admissions staff at the Center seek to ensure strong representation of men and women from each of the 14 countries. The Center is committed to ensure gender equality and thus we strive to have a representation of 50% male and 50% female participants.

The Center's recruitment strategy includes an emphasis on equal opportunity, so that all eligible young leaders—regardless of ability or disability, race, gender, or socioeconomic status—feel welcome, and have a fair chance of selection. Center participants are chosen through a merit-based selection process that takes several weeks. It includes a double-blind application review by two separate reviewers, followed by a telephone interview for semi-finalists. From the semi-finalist pool, about 100 participants are invited to join the cohort.

The care and consideration that goes into the recruitment and selection process ensures that the best and the most talented of East and Central Africa's young leaders are able to participate in this innovative and life-changing program. Applications for each cohort are available online at www.yalieastafrica.org.



The Center serves as a leadership incubator for young East and Central Africans to convene, create, and encourage transformational learning. This requires significant support from our main partners—USAID & Kenyatta University—but also from a wide array of other contributors.

To sustain this standard of excellence, the Center seeks to develop partnerships with companies and organizations interested in investing in the next generation of young African leaders to transform Africa.

Kenyatta University Vice Chancellor Professor Paul Wianaina (L), Dr Sara Ruto Chief Administrative Secretary in the Ministry of Education, USAID East Africa Mission Director Mark Meassick and Lilian Gangla Basic Education Team Leader, Unveil the Implementation Letter with the Ministry of Education for projects and activities under the Development Cooperation Framework Agreement.

Engagement After the Program

One of the most important questions after the 4-week program is: what's next? Alumni will have ongoing opportunities to connect, continue their learning, help to shape future cohorts of the program, and apply the lessons, tools, and techniques learned to benefit their communities.

Some of the Center's exclusive alumni-only opportunities include:



Volunteer Engagement — Serving as volunteers via country-based Alumni Chapters or as Country Liaisons, alumni can help to coordinate activities, host trainings, recruit prospective participants, review applications, and engage the community.



Transformation Fund — Applying for financial and non-financial resources that support collective action that help alumni to provide meaningful activities, trainings, events, workshops, and forums to their communities and countries.



Networking, Events & Continued Learning — Taking advantage of specialized networking occasions (e.g., with local investors, public officials, etc.), social events, continued educational opportunities such as monthly Learning Labs, and a platform to keep connected with fellow graduates.

To meet some of the Center's alumni please visit www.yalieastafrica.org/faq/meet_our_alumni.php



Alumni Commitment to Pay It Forward

After the program, alumni are requested to take on a meaningful role in giving back and fulfilling a commitment to “pay it forward” in a variety of ways. By sharing with an individual, organization, or cause, alumni can perpetuate the skills, tools and knowledge from the Center to benefit others.



YOUNG AFRICAN LEADERS INITIATIVE

What are YALI's other components?

YALI's other two components, the Mandela Washington Fellowship and YALI Network, provide opportunities across the continent by empowering and training tomorrow's leaders. The initiatives are complementary, sharing the common goal of creating a cadre of young African leaders. For more information about YALI, visit www.yali.state.gov.



The Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders, begun in 2014, is the flagship YALI program that empowers young people through academic coursework, leadership training, and networking at a U.S. higher education institution. Professional development opportunities are available after the Fellows return home to Africa.



The YALI Network provides virtual resources and vibrant physical spaces to equip young African leaders with the skills and connections they need to foster change in their communities and their countries. Established by the U.S. Government in April 2014, the Network includes more than 500,000 members. Using yali.state.gov and social media, the YALI Network provides online courses and materials, and connects members with global leaders in their fields to help members develop leadership skills.

For more information about the
YALI Regional Leadership Center East Africa's
Admissions, Curriculum, Partnerships, Mentor Program or Alumni Relations, please
visit www.yalieastafrica.org, email info@yalieastafrica.org, or call +254 700363741.



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