



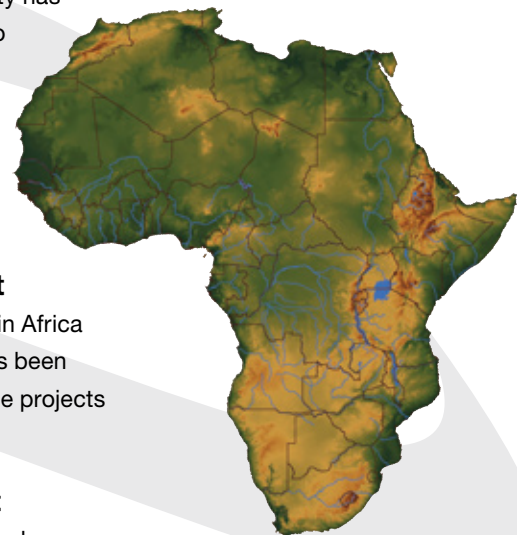
MSU at Work in Africa: An Overview

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Advancing Knowledge.
Transforming Lives.

More than any other higher education institution, Michigan State University has the breadth and depth of on-campus expertise and in-country partners to engage effectively in development and problem solving in Africa.

Contemporary MSU programs in Africa trace back 50 years. In the last decade alone, MSU has had a significant presence in 21 African nations and currently has faculty and students involved in projects in more than 30 African nations.



Promoting Food Security and Agricultural Development

MSU has been involved deeply in strengthening agricultural development in Africa since 1960, with a special focus on food security since 1984. The work has been spearheaded by the Food Security Group, which currently has countrywide projects operating in nearly 20 nations.

Food and Agricultural Export Value Chain Development

MSU also has pioneered an approach to value chain development that has been guided by initial investments in market intelligence to understand trends in product demand. MSU mobilizes private-sector, leveraged resources from buyers with business expansion interests in targeted regions.

Safe Water and Environmental Health

MSU is internationally known for its expertise in water quality and health and is involved in the study of waterborne disease and rapid, inexpensive methodologies for testing water. The overall objective in Africa is to establish community-based programs as part of current public health and medical systems to address concerns of water supply and quality, as well as overall environmental health.

Responding to Health and Environmental Change

MSU's health-environment team is composed of internationally acclaimed scientists and development practitioners who have been addressing health and environmental issues in Africa for more than 30 years. Their goal has been to effectively remediate—and perhaps eradicate—certain diseases, facilitate poverty reduction, and improve quality of life.

Improving Health

MSU professors and students have a long history of health education in Africa. The research and treatment infrastructure created by MSU faculty is well positioned to provide both on-campus and on-site education to increase expertise in areas such as clinical research skills, research administration, and information technology.



Education and Training

MSU has been a major partner in the development of both higher education and elementary education in Africa since the 1960s. During that time, MSU has developed a broader range of university partnerships in Africa than any other American university. Hundreds of African scholars have completed degrees at MSU and now are playing vital roles throughout Africa.

Gender and Development

MSU's collaborations with host country institutions and interdisciplinary approaches are key to addressing development challenges from a gender perspective. The Women and International Development program faculty bring significant expertise and long-term experience to combat disparities in education, health benefits, and political involvement.

Democracy and Governance

MSU's political scientists and economists from various departments across campus keep democratic governance at the top of the applied research agenda. Researchers assess the quality of democracy, track public opinion, and work to strengthen local government performance and reduce political violence, thereby creating a circle through which popular preference leads to the provision of better governmental performance.

Land Use, Strategic Growth, and Prosperity

MSU employs comprehensive and integrated strategies to help the people of Africa navigate the land-prosperity continuum, focusing on strategic growth. The Strategic Growth initiative will work with leaders at the local, regional, state, and national levels in the assessment of critical assets and the identification of viable enterprises to build sustainable organizations to support regional growth.

Cultural Documentation and Preservation

MSU's African Studies Center is a national resource center with funding through the U.S. Department of Education. The premier entity of its kind in the United States, this center coordinates the offering of courses in African history, culture, politics, society, economics, and more than 25 African languages. The MSU Museum works with African partners to document, preserve, and create access to Africa's cultural heritage, while the online resource MATRIX makes access easy and universal.



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