



## Winrock in East Africa

For more than 20 years, Winrock International's work targeting food security, empowerment, and climate change have made a lasting impact in East Africa. From early programs in agricultural productivity, to current projects providing scholarships for girls and women, and supporting biodiversity conservation and natural resource management, Winrock's integrated approach focuses on the people and institutions that are shaping East Africa's future.

### Building the Capacity of Individuals & Organizations

Through training, hands-on projects, and technical assistance, Winrock supports the development of vital skills that communities and organizations require for effective collaboration, participation, management, and leadership. Participants have successfully attracted funding, designed and implemented community projects, and advocated for policy change. Their

activities create new jobs, stabilize local economies, and reach new markets and supply chains.

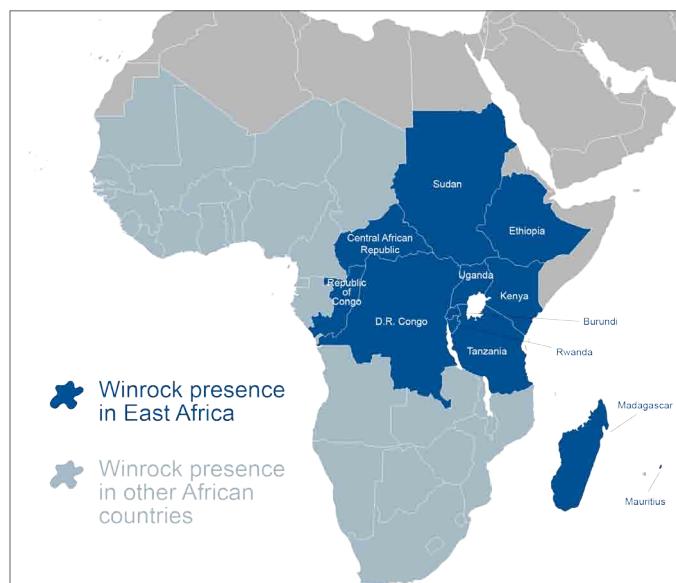
Two programs in East Africa exemplify Winrock's strategic approach to capacity building—African Women Leaders in Agriculture and the Environment (**AWLAE<sup>SM</sup>**) and the USAID-funded Building Responsibility for Delivery of Government Services (BRIDGE).

The **AWLAE<sup>SM</sup>** program is a model for women's empowerment and training. Hundreds of professional women in East Africa have received scholarships for advanced degrees in agriculture and environment disciplines. Scholarships are combined with *Leadership for Change* training and mentoring to actively address the continent's food security and environmental challenges.

By building the capacity of local government and enabling communities to rebuild after decades of conflict, BRIDGE is an important component in Southern Sudan's transition from relief to development. Since start-up in late 2008, the program has assisted 29 local government entities and formed dozens of community action groups, producer groups, water users committees, and parent-teacher associations, fostering local initiative and creating linkages between government and citizens.

### Promoting Market-Led Approaches by Meeting Consumer Demands

Market-based strategies generate sustainable benefits, increased food security, and greater farm income for the rural poor. Winrock's on-farm technical assistance introduces farmers to improved practices, new varieties, equipment, and inputs. By meeting the demands of consumers, rural farmers are earning enough to support their families. Supplier networks, farmer associations, and strengthened extension programs ensure continued success.





## Conserving Natural Resources

From needs assessments and planning to policy development, Winrock's programs create a foundation to support sustainable activities. Community members learn to adapt to natural resource limitations that affect rural livelihoods through reforestation and anti-desertification activities in arid and semi-arid environments. Using geographic and environmental information systems, Winrock produces land-use maps to enhance local planning and management strategies.

Conservation of water, soil, forests, and protected areas requires long-term vision and recognition of the integral role that traditional practices, gender, and economic constraints play. Winrock programs offer a holistic approach, incorporating education, training, and enterprise development.

Introduction of renewable energy technologies makes electricity available in the most remote communities. Renewable electricity powers income-generating activities and reduces dependence on fossil fuels and fuel wood. Biogas systems meet energy and sanitation needs and reduce indoor air pollution from cooking.

## A Record of Accomplishment

- Improved agricultural curricula and training at educational institutions are producing graduates who can provide better assistance to farmers.
- The lives and health of thousands of women and

children are improved each year by the use of improved cook stoves that reduce or eliminate indoor air pollution.

- Poultry farmers are increasing their competitiveness and improving their ability to cope with avian influenza and other poultry diseases in Kenya.
- More than 83,500 individuals in Southern Sudan now have access to safe drinking water and improved water sources.
- On-farm technical assistance and new technologies enable thousands of farmers to extend their growing season, increase crop production, and earn enough income to support their families and increase food security.
- 5,000 secondary school and teacher training institute scholarships assist vulnerable children, mainly girls, in Southern Sudan. Community grants strengthen 65 schools and teacher training institutions. The Ministry of Education, Science and Technology has improved its gender policy through technical assistance provided by secondary gender advisors.
- In Tanzania and Rwanda, more than 18,000 children either at risk or withdrawn from child labor in the agriculture sector benefit directly from educational services and vocational agricultural training programs. More 20,000 children either at risk or withdrawn from child labor were served through local NGOs under the CIRCLE project in participating countries.
- To boost girls' enrollment and retention in school, more than 7,750 scholarships, coupled with mentoring, have been awarded to HIV-affected orphans and other vulnerable children in Madagascar and the Republic of Congo.

Winrock International is a nonprofit organization that works with people in the United States and around the world to empower the disadvantaged, increase economic opportunity, and sustain natural resources.



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### Principal Offices

2101 Riverfront Drive | Little Rock, AR 72202-1748 | T 501.280.3000 F 501.280.3090  
2121 Crystal Drive, Suite 500 | Arlington, VA 22202-3706 | T 703.302.6500 F 703.302.6512  
[www.winrock.org](http://www.winrock.org) | [information@winrock.org](mailto:information@winrock.org)