



MILLENNIUM
CHALLENGE CORPORATION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

MCC's New Concurrent Regional Compact Mandate

Regional Compact Context



MCC's New Mandate

- AGOA & MCA Modernization Act authorizes concurrent compacts if at least one focused on regional issues;
- MCC Board selects 5 current West African partners as eligible;
- Process guidelines prepared by MCC staff throughout 2018.



Why Regional Integration Matters

- Allows countries to gain access to larger markets;
- Supports regional efforts to enhance integration, including AfCFTA;
- Attracts increased private sector investment and strengthens both intra-regional and global trade ties.



U.S. Government (USG) Context

- A valuable new tool to promote trade and investment;
- New opportunity for MCC to collaborate with and potentially partner with other USG agencies;
- Assists MCC in leveraging reforms - value-added for all USG.



Initial Engagement Visit Summary

Feb-Early March 2019

Mission Objectives

- Identify viable cornerstone projects;
- Deepen understanding of regional dynamics;
- Communicate core MCC messages and build relationships to support next steps.



Key Outcomes

- Short list of potentially promising projects;
- Points of Contact in each government;
- An enhanced understanding of regional dynamics and appetite for reform;
- Engagement with Embassies & donors;

Countries Visited

Cote D'Ivoire
Benin
Burkina Faso
Ghana





Preliminary Findings



Features of an ideal 1st regional compact:

- ✓ A cross border infrastructure investment
- ✓ Policy and institutional reform potential
 - ✓ Significant political support
- ✓ Meets MCC's strict investment criteria

Potentially promising cornerstone projects include investments in the **Transport** and **Power** sectors.

Next Steps



- Deep dive analysis on the most promising potential cornerstone projects, including an assessment of the economic rationale and potential benefits associated with each project;
- High-level mission to assess political support for the most promising potential projects by early June;
- Concrete recommendations on proposed cornerstone project(s) and country pair(s) and a full strategy for compact development by late summer 2019.



Reducing Poverty through Economic Growth