

# **Profile: General Michael Langley's 10 Strategic Initiatives and Their Impact on Africa**

Description: An in-depth analysis of General Michael Langley's policies as AFRICOM Commander and their implications for Africa's security and development.



## **Highlights**

**Whole-of-Government Approach**

# Engagement with West African Juntas

## Countering Russian Influence

## Support for Civil Society Initiatives

### **Content**

General Michael E. Langley's tenure as Commander of U.S. Africa Command (AFRICOM) has been marked by strategic initiatives and policy decisions that have significant implications for the African continent. His approach emphasizes a comprehensive, whole-of-government strategy that integrates defense, diplomacy, and development to address the multifaceted challenges facing Africa. Below, we delve into some of the key statements, events, and policies associated with General Langley and analyze their potential impact on Africa. [Defense.gov](https://www.defense.gov)

## **1. Whole-of-Government Approach**

General Langley advocates for a collaborative strategy that goes beyond military solutions, emphasizing the integration of diplomatic and developmental efforts. This approach aims to address underlying issues such as poverty, governance, and infrastructure deficits that contribute to instability. By working closely with entities like the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and local governments, AFRICOM seeks to foster sustainable development and peace.

## 2. Engagement with West African Juntas

Despite political upheavals and the emergence of military-led governments in countries like Mali, Burkina Faso, and Niger, General Langley maintains that AFRICOM continues to engage with these nations. The focus is on understanding their security needs and providing support that aligns with mutual interests, while also encouraging a return to democratic governance. [AP News](#)

### **3. Countering Russian Influence**

General Langley has highlighted the increasing presence of Russian entities, such as the Wagner Group, in Africa. He emphasizes the need for the U.S. to counteract Russian disinformation campaigns and to reaffirm its commitment to fostering stability and good governance in the region. [AP News](#)

## 4. Support for Civil Society Initiatives

AFRICOM, under General Langley's leadership, has shown support for grassroots organizations like Shining Hope for Communities (SHOFCO) in Kenya. By engaging with such entities, AFRICOM aims to address issues like water sanitation, healthcare, and women's empowerment, recognizing that these factors are integral to regional stability. [Africom+1Premium Times Nigeria+1](#)

## 5. Youth Engagement through YALI

General Langley underscores the importance of investing in Africa's youth, particularly through programs like the Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI). By empowering young leaders, AFRICOM seeks to build a foundation for long-term peace and prosperity on the continent. [Premium Times Nigeria](#)

## 6. Maritime Security and Combating IUU Fishing

Recognizing the threat of illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing, especially in the Gulf of Guinea, General Langley emphasizes the need for maritime security. AFRICOM's efforts in this area aim to protect the economic interests of African nations and to ensure sustainable use of marine resources. [Premium Times Nigeria](#)

## 7. Visits to Strengthen Partnerships

General Langley has conducted multiple visits to African nations, including Senegal, Algeria, Ghana, Djibouti, Somalia, and Kenya, to engage with military and civilian leaders. These visits aim to strengthen partnerships, understand regional challenges, and collaborate on solutions that promote security and development.

[Africom+1Africom+1Africom](#)

## 8. Emphasis on African-Led Solutions

A cornerstone of General Langley's strategy is the belief that African nations should lead in addressing their own challenges. AFRICOM's role is to support these efforts, providing assistance that aligns with the priorities and strategies of African governments and communities. [Defense.gov](https://www.defense.gov)

## 9. Addressing Non-Traditional Security Threats

General Langley acknowledges that threats to security in Africa extend beyond traditional military concerns. Issues like climate change, food insecurity, and health crises are recognized as factors that can lead to instability. AFRICOM's comprehensive approach seeks to address these interconnected challenges. [Africom](#)

## **10. Promotion of Democratic Values**

While engaging with various governments, including military-led ones, General Langley emphasizes the importance of democratic governance and human rights. AFRICOM's engagements aim to encourage transitions to civilian rule and the strengthening of democratic institutions.

## Conclusion

General Michael E. Langley's leadership of AFRICOM reflects a nuanced understanding of Africa's complex security landscape. By integrating military efforts with diplomatic and developmental initiatives, and by emphasizing partnerships and African-led solutions, AFRICOM aims to contribute to a more stable and prosperous continent.

## SEO Metadata

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