THE ELIZABETH GLASER PEDIATRIC AIDS FOUNDATION IN TANZANIA

The Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation (EGPAF) seeks to end pediatric HIV/AIDS through research, advocacy, and prevention and treatment program implementation. EGPAF began supporting HIV programs in Tanzania in 2003 and established a country office in 2004.

EGPAF-Tanzania supports the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children (MOHCDGEC) at national, regional, and district levels to implement the highest quality services within the national HIV and AIDS program. EGPAF-Tanzania advocates for the development of policies that facilitate greater access to services and support those affected by HIV and AIDS in Tanzania. We also carry out operations research to inform high-quality HIV and AIDS programs. Through EGPAF’s program implementation, research, and advocacy activities, EGPAF-Tanzania is working to eliminate HIV infection in infants and to increase access to comprehensive, high-quality, and well-integrated prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission (PMTCT), family planning, and HIV/AIDS and TB care and treatment services among HIV-positive pregnant women, infants, adolescents, and adults.

COUNTRY PROFILE*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>55,572,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of people living with HIV</td>
<td>1,400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New HIV infections</td>
<td>55,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New HIV infections in children (0-14 years of age)</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deaths due to AIDS</td>
<td>33,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PMTCT coverage</td>
<td>84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pediatric antiretroviral treatment (ART) coverage</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult ART coverage</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

KEY PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Since 2003 EGPAF Tanzania has:

- Provided PMTCT service to almost 5,000,000 pregnant women
- Provided over 134,000 women with ART
- Prevented the transmission of HIV to over 25,000 babies
- Supported over 2,400 health facilities

* Sources: Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS (UNAIDS), HIV and AIDS Estimates (2016), and World Bank population estimates (2016)
** Data as of May 2018
PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Boresha Afya (2016-2021)

The goal of USAID Boresha Afya is to improve the health of all Tanzanians and increase access to high-quality, comprehensive, and integrated health services. The project is implemented in partnership with EngenderHealth and supports preventive and curative services for HIV/AIDS, family planning, and TB, while ensuring equitable access to health services for women and girls. Differentiated models of care are being employed to address the special needs of children, adolescents, and other vulnerable groups. The project is implemented in six regions and as of April 2018 directly supports over 440 sites with HIV services that are integrated with TB, family planning, and reproductive health services.


Through the integration of early childhood development interventions into maternal, neonatal, and child health (MNCH) and PMTCT services, the Malezi project aims to increase the proportion of HIV-positive and affected children that reach their full cognitive, social, emotional, and physical potential. With funding from Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, the project integrates early childhood development (ECD) services in community-based and facility-based MNCH/PMTCT and HIV services in targeted communities in Tabora Region.

Carrying on the success of Malezi, Malezi II will continue to support children aged 0 to 5 years around high-volume maternal and child health clinics and HIV care and treatment centers in three districts of Tabora. Malezi II will improve the capacity of health staff in responding to the developmental needs of young children. This project will launch an innovative media/communications component to enrich caregiver engagement in child stimulation. This project will introduce a bidirectional referral system, which will include mapping of existing relevant support services and assist children with developmental delays through linkages to those services. Malezi II includes a major operations research component assessing the efficacy of messaging across multiple media platforms.


This CIFF-funded project focuses on increasing adolescent HIV testing and treatment adherence through the promotion and improvement of youth-friendly sexual and reproductive health services and the quality of care for adolescents living with HIV. The project will provide national-level technical assistance and site-level support for 50 sites in 11 districts with the highest HIV prevalence rates. This project is implemented in partnership with EGPAF affiliate Ariel Glaser Pediatric AIDS and Healthcare Initiative.

USAID Kizazi Kipya Project (2016-2020)

Under this USAID award, EGPAF is a sub-recipient of Pact-Tanzania and provides technical assistance to enable more Tanzanian orphans and vulnerable children to utilize age-appropriate HIV prevention, care and treatment, sexual and reproductive health, and early childhood development services in 30 councils with the highest HIV prevalence.


The purpose of this assignment is to facilitate and provide technical support to the Tanzania MOHCDGEC and the National AIDS Control Program in the implementation of continuous improvement of monitoring and evaluation systems and use of health information systems and business processes.

Unitaid Catalyzing Pediatric TB Innovation (CaP TB) Project (2018-2021)

Funded by Unitaid, the goal of this project is to reduce morbidity and mortality associated with pediatric TB through reducing the pediatric TB diagnostic and treatment gap. Launched in 2018 in Tanzania, CaP TB will increase coverage of new pediatric fixed-dose combination and scale-up treatment of latent TB through implementation of innovative models of care for pediatric TB that focus on integration and decentralization in three regions of the country.

ADVOCACY

EGPAF works closely with regional health management teams to help translate national policies into implementation plans and increase awareness of HIV and integrated HIV services in Tanzania among parliamentarians and other decision-makers. EGPAF also works closely with communities to increase awareness of HIV risks to children, pregnant women, and adolescents and to reduce stigma and ensure community involvement in scaling up integrated HIV, TB, family planning, and reproductive health services.

RESEARCH

EGPAF-Tanzania conducts operational research to ensure that program approaches are evidence-based and to improve service delivery. EGPAF’s recently completed and ongoing research activities include:

- **UMOJA:** This study is evaluating practical approaches to enhance community health worker motivation and engagement with health systems to improve PMTCT/MNCH service utilization.

- **Unitaid-funded CaP TB Project (2018-2021):**
  - A study using market research approaches is assessing willingness-to-pay for PMTCT services and HIV self-test kits, supported by the USAID-funded AIDSfree Project (Strengthening High Impact Interventions for an AIDSFree Generation).
  - A validation study of an HIV risk screening tool used within an OVC project is being conducted under the USAID-funded SOAR Project (Supporting Operational AIDS Research).
  - The effect of multi-media interventions on caregiver and community health worker knowledge and behaviors in early stimulation and responsive care for child development will be assessed in a quasi-experimental study under Malezi II Project, funded by the Hilton Foundation.

For more information on the EGPAF-Tanzania program, please visit http://www.pedaids.org/countries/tanzania

The activities described here were made possible by the generous support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention under the U.S. President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, and funding from Unitaid and the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation. The content included here is the responsibility of EGPAF and does not necessarily represent the official views of these donors.