



Photo: Eric Bond/EGPAF, 2020



# THE TANZANIA PROGRAM

Working with Women, Children, and Families to End Pediatric AIDS






## 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.

## EGPAF'S CURRENT WORK IN TANZANIA

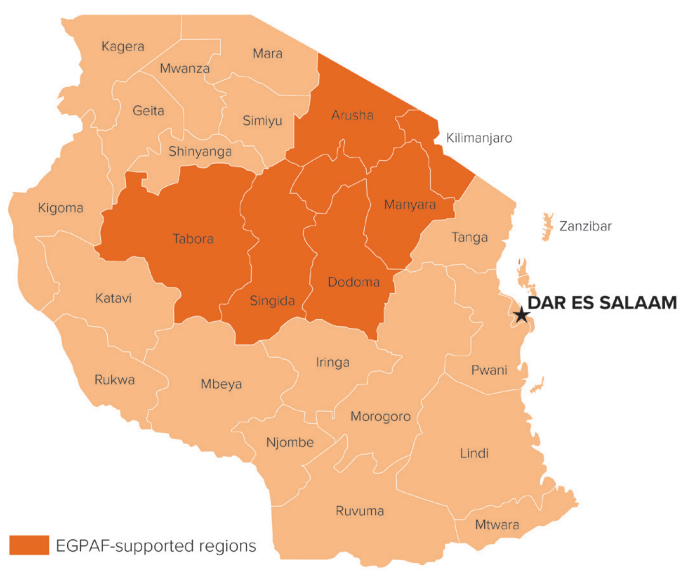
In the last year, EGPAF-Tanzania:

-  Has tested nearly **half a million** individuals for HIV and **identified over 22,000 new HIV-positive cases**
-  Is currently providing over **120,000 HIV-positive adults, and over 6,500 children** access to ART
-  Has reached over **5,000 pregnant women** with services to prevent mother-to-child HIV transmission
-  Identified over **22,000 TB cases** and supported with treatment.
-  Supported provision of **over 1.5 million FP methods**, including long-acting contraceptives to **44% of the clients**

## COUNTRY PROFILE\*

Population	56.32 million
Number of people living with HIV	1,700,000
New HIV infections	77,000
New HIV infections in children (0-14 years of age)	9,000
Deaths due to AIDS	33,000
PMTCT coverage	92%
Pediatric antiretroviral treatment (ART) coverage	66%
Adult ART coverage	75%

## EGPAF-TANZANIA PROGRAM GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE



\* Sources: Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS (UNAIDS), HIV and AIDS Estimates (2020), and World Bank population estimates (2018)  
 \*\* Data as of May 2020

## PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

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

The goal of 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 collaboratively with the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children (MOHCDGEC) and the President's Office – Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG) to support 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 of Arusha, Dodoma, Kilimanjaro, Manyara, Singida and Tabora, and as of October 2020 directly supports over 450 sites with HIV services that are integrated with TB, family planning, and reproductive health services.

### 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 treatment of latent and active TB through implementation of innovative models that focus on integration and decentralization in three regions of the country.

### CDC Delivering Technical Assistance 2 (DELTA2) Project (2019-2024)

DELTA2 is a five-year, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)-funded cooperative agreement implemented by EGPAF, starting in 2019. Building on EGPAF's successful Project DELTA, DELTA2 provides cost-effective technical assistance, capacity building and program implementation services to optimize the impact of programs supported by the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria to ultimately help achieve an AIDS-free generation. In the initial project year of DELTA2, EGPAF supported a variety of activities under PEPFAR's Faith and Community Initiative, as well as COVID-19 infection prevention and control activities.

### Conrad N. Hilton Foundation Malezi II (2018-2021)

Carrying on the success of Malezi I that was implemented from 2016-2019, the Malezi II project, with funding from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, continues to support children aged 0 to 5 years in catchment areas around 86 high-volume maternal and child health clinics and HIV care and treatment centers in three districts of Tabora. Malezi II also seeks to improve the capacity of health care staff in responding to the developmental needs of young children. The project launched an innovative media/communications component to enrich caregiver engagement in child stimulation.

### CDC Foundation Monitoring and Evaluating the Advanced HIV Disease Diagnosis and Treatment Cascade in Malawi and Tanzania (2019-2021)

EGPAF is conducting an intensive M&E study focused on advanced HIV disease (AHD) care models in Tanzania and Malawi. The main objectives of the study are to understand the cascade of clinical care provided to patients presenting with AHD as well as to survey the availability of new AHD diagnostic and treatment products in both countries. The evaluation has a pre- and post-intervention design, looking specifically at care given to patients six months before and after trainings conducted by EGPAF at health facilities and the introduction of AHD products in-country.

### Implementation of the WHO-Recommended Advanced HIV Disease Package of Care in Tanzania (2020-2021)

The World Health Organization (WHO) issued formal guidelines around the care and treatment of patients with advanced HIV disease (AHD) in July 2017. Over the last 3 years, many countries have sought to adopt these global guidelines and implementing partners such as EGPAF have helped

with these efforts. However, the extent to which these guidelines are being implemented with fidelity within health facilities and the extent to which the health outcomes of those with AHD are bettered is not known. In fact, data regarding even the number of patients presenting with AHD are unreliable, if they are available.

With this project, EGPAF will seek to strengthen the implementation of key interventions, such as screening for clients with AHD criteria, then screening for Cryptococcus, provision of cryptococcal infection pre-emptive treatment and meningitis treatments, and to improve the cascade of care for PLHIV with AHD aligned with the WHO Guidelines for managing advanced HIV disease and rapid initiation of antiretroviral therapy for adults, adolescents, and children

## 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 reduce stigma around HIV.

## RESEARCH

EGPAF-Tanzania conducts operational research to improve service delivery. EGPAF's recently completed and ongoing research include:

- The effects of multi-media, community, and facility-based interventions to improve child development outcomes are explored through a quasi-experimental program evaluation under Malezi II,
- A validation of an HIV risk screening tool has recently been completed, providing in-country evidence supporting optimized pediatric and adolescent case-finding using the tool, through USAID funding.
- The Namweza service delivery model engaging adolescent peers to support adolescent-focused quality improvement initiatives and transition to adult HIV care is currently being evaluated under a grant from the University of California, Los Angeles, Dance Marathon Fund.
- Evaluation of the Catalyzing Pediatric TB Innovation Project: A Pre- and Post-Implementation Assessment (TIPPI).
- Evaluation of the effects of targeting adolescents not virally suppressed and their caregivers: Timiza Ndoto ("Achieving Dreams") aims to promote secondary viral suppression through tailored treatment support from the family and facility.
- Two projects are underway to support the clinical management of advanced HIV disease (AHD) in the general population (CDC Foundation) and in children specifically, through mentored morbidity and mortality reviews.
- Two prospective studies to evaluate patient experiences with HIV care in relation to retention and viral suppression are ongoing
- The Reaching 90-90-90: Evaluation of Patient and Program Characteristics Associated with Increased Identification of Adults and Children Living with HIV, ART Initiation and Retention in Tanzania protocol supports secondary data analysis of patient outcomes over time and in relation to program interventions 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.*

