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### Word from the COP



**Dorothy Matoyo** Chief of Party USAID Kizazi Hodari (Brave Generation) Southern Zone Project

As we close another fiscal year, I am proud and inspired by the meaningful progress the USAID Kizazi Hodari Southern Zone (UKHSZ) Project has achieved. FY24 has been a year marked by expansion and significant impact. With our reach now extending to 11 regions and 44 councils, including new areas such as Songwe, Rukwa, Katavi, Morogoro, Pwani, and Zanzibar, we've expanded our capacity to serve more communities in Tanzania.

This year, we welcomed thousands of new Recipients of Care (RoC), bringing our total enrollment well above our annual target. This accomplishment was driven by the dedication of Community Case Workers (CCWs), strategic partnerships with clinical implementing partners (IPs), and the SMART Linkage approach, enabling us to reach even those beyond our immediate catchment areas. Importantly, most

of the enrolled RoCs received essential case management services, aligning with the National Integrated Case Management System standards.

A major focus in FY24 was strengthening our integration of HIV clinical support through collaborations with partners like Afya Yangu Southern Zone, AMREF, and THPS. This enabled the successful enrollment of thousands of children and adolescents living with HIV (C/ALHIV) into the OVC program, resulting in impressive retention and viral suppression rates. We also facilitated early infant diagnosis and supported final outcomes for HIV-exposed infants, demonstrating our commitment to comprehensive, data-driven, and patient-centered care.

The Enabling DREAMS intervention expanded to several councils across multiple regions, providing critical SRH, HIV/AIDS, and gender education to AGYW and ABYM. The DREAMS and Coaching Boys Into Men (CBIM) interventions reached more adolescents, fostering safer environments and promoting positive behavioral change.

Capacity building and fostering local ownership were central to our collaboration with PO-RALG, where we equipped government officials with skills in MVC MIS data collection and analysis to promote data-driven decisionmaking and improve service delivery. Additionally, through partnerships with TIE and TACAIDS, we trained teachers to deliver Enabling DREAMS sessions, ensuring continued, impactful education within schools.

Economic resilience for OVC households remained a priority, with 50,000 caregivers participating in economic strengthening activities. In Njombe, public-private partnerships raised over TZS 74 Million (\$30,917), showcasing the importance of community and private sector collaboration for sustainable development.

Our dedication to long-term service delivery has been demonstrated through the selection of CCWs for the GoT's Integrated and Coordinated Community Health Worker program. Plans to expand income-generating models for these essential community members are underway to enhance their capacity to support their

communities further.

As we look ahead to FY25, we remain focused on nurturing our partnerships, advancing community-centered care, and leveraging data to drive impactful, sustainable results. The progress we've made is a testament to the collective effort of our partners, stakeholders, and the communities we serve. Thank you for your continued support and commitment to improving the lives of Tanzania's most vulnerable populations. Together, we are fostering a brave generation, empowered to thrive.

#### FY25 USAID KHSZ Project Regions





## USAID KHSZ Project's results framework and key interventions

The UKHSZ Project's vision is to support HIV epidemic control by ensuring the delivery of critical health/HIV, social welfare, and protection services for OVC, youth, and their families in high HIV-burden communities

OVC **DREAMS** Comprehensive Preventive

**Goal:** Improve the health, well-being, and protection of OVC and youth in high HIV-burden communities

**Project purpose:** Increase access to and use of health/HIV prevention, care and treatment, protection, education, and socio-economic services among Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) and youth

Objective 1:

Increase use of OVC platforms for pediatric HIV case finding, linkage to treatment, and viral suppression

**Objective 2:** 

Increase access to HIV prevention, violence prevention, and response services for OVC and youth

Objective 3:

Improve socio-economic capacity of at-risk adolescent girls and young women (AGYW) and OVC caregivers

## USAID KHSZ project FY24 achievements

#### **Community Microfinance Groups (CMG)**

**1,752** CMGs with **33,961** members

TZS 682,166 CMG savings

1.000 health insurance premiums through CMG

8,062 youth CMG members

5,435 loans worth TZS 29,068,100

TZS 56,159,500 raised through private support for 379 OVC in Njombe

90%

assessed on HIV status and risk of HIV exposure

98%

C/ALHIV are on HIV Treatment

Care through 2,927 CCWs

Å 105,560 63,925

42

Served 169,485 Recipients of

DSWO and RSWO trained on MVCMIS

**258** teachers trained as SRH



facilitators 155% received economic

565

ECD-related

referrals

completed



**59** CBIM coaches trained

93% C/ALHIV achieved viral suppression

385 new CCWs trained



110% received nutrition services



Established 305 school clubs for peer-to-peer discussions

strengthening services



Provided **CBIM** sessions to **5,976** adolescent boys



**220** sports jerseys and shoes distributed

#### **DREAMS**

#### **Enabling DREAMS**

Provided **14,266** adolescent girls and boys life skills-based training on SRH, HIV&AIDS and Gender



62 Primary

Schools

67 Secondary Schools

#### Core DREAMS

Provided 9,198

AGWY with Sexual and Reproductive Health **Education** 



**9,221** Adolescent girls received menstrual hygiene kits

#### Coaching Boys into Men (CBIM)

Enrolled 5,977 adolescent boys



**44** schools

21 schools in 20 schools in in Iringa MC Tunduma MC Mufindi MC

#### **Economic strengthening service**

54,376 youth and caregivers reached with economic strengthening services 32,566 Income Generating Activities (IGAs) established



CCWs SOP training session in Makambako TC , Iringa



Technical supportive supervision to CSOs, CCWs and HCWs at different settings.



HIO, CCW and facility providers conducting offering during enrolment in Mvumi Disp, Mvomero DC and Bagamoyo DC, Mpinga Disp.



The Zonal HIV Integration Coordinator conducting on job mentorships to facility providers in Mbinga DC (Ruvuma) and Nachingwea DC, Lindi.





HIO, CCW and facility providers conducting offering during enrolment in Mvumi Disp, Mvomero DC and Bagamoyo DC, Mpinga Disp.



Left: RHMT, THPS Deloitte and PASADA Staff during a joint Supportive Supervision at Kibaha TC. Right: the HIO conducting on job mentorships to facility providers in Mvumi Disp, Mvomero DC



Escorted referral by a Community Case Worker (CCW) for a CLHIV with a high viral load for Enhanced Adherence Counseling (EAC) and ART adherence counseling at Sabasaba Hospital, Morogoro MC.

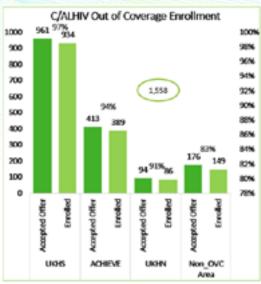
Best Practice: SMART linkage strategy on C/ALHIV enrollment

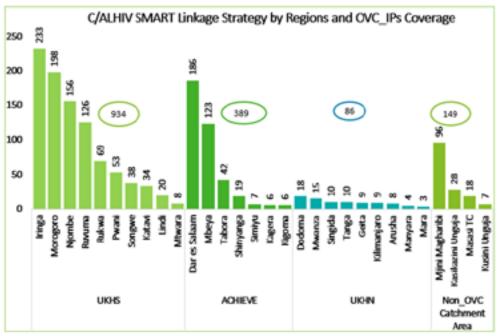
Tanzania has made strides in providing accessible HIV care by empowering Recipients of Care (RoC) to choose their preferred facilities regardless of the administrative boundaries from their residing areas. To ensure the RoC are adhering to treatment and are virally suppressed, the OVC program offers comprehensive HIV-inclusive case management services where RoC reside. However, the challenge lies in reaching RoC who are receiving treatment within the project catchment areas but outside the project coverage areas.

The SMART Linkage strategy addresses this gap by enhancing the linkage between community case worker (CCWs) from residing areas and healthcare facilities from another administrative area to improving RoC retention and clinical outcomes. The SMART linkage strategy links C/ALHIV receiving care in one council while residing in another to the Orphan and Vulnerable Children (OVC) project for follow-up at the household level.

In FY24, the project enrolled 1,158 C/ALHIV residing outside CTC health facility councils and regions. Of those enrolled, 934 (52.5) were from UKHSZ Project implementation areas, 30.5% from ACHIEVE coverage areas, 389 (10.3) from non-OVC councils and regions (including Zanzibar), and 86 (6.7) from UKHN catchment areas. This demonstrates the project's ability to extend its reach beyond primary catchment areas.

The graph illustrates the SMART Linkage Strategy's role in achieving the enrolment of 1,276 C/ALHIV





## Core DREAMS

(Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS-free, Mentored, and Safe)

The DREAMS initiative continued to support adolescent girls and young women (AGYW) aged 10–14 years with a comprehensive package of services designed to protect against HIV and empower them for a better future. Key activities

included:



#### **Sexual Reproductive** Health, HIV and AIDS and Gender Curriculum

Sexual and reproductive health (SRH) education, HIV prevention and gender empowerment sessions.

#### **Financial Literacy** Curriculum (8 sessions delivered)



Maria and Salome, Standard 6 students of Mkimbizi Primary School in Iringa MC pose for a photo after the distribution of educational subsidies in their school.

### Education subsidies and Secondary services Menstrual hygiene kits

To address barriers like absenteeism, DREAMS distributed hygiene kits and provided educational support, improving attendance and engagement.

### through bi-directional referrals

Vulnerable AGYW identified through DREAMS were linked to health services, including HIV testing, counseling, and GBV support services.



Adolescent girls in their peer-to-peer Sexual Reproductive Health discussion at || Mungai Primary School in Iringa

### **DREAMS**

### Norms change interventions

To address deeply rooted community beliefs that contribute to HIV risk and violence, the Project continues to implement evidence-based approaches for transforming norms:



#### SASA! Approach:

This quarter, SASA! dialogues engaged community members in open discussions on gender equality, HIV prevention, and violence. By involving both men and women, these sessions fostered positive behavioral shifts, encouraging protective actions and reducing stigma around HIV and gender-based



## Parenting and Caregiver Training:

Community Case Workers (CCWs) facilitated sessions with caregivers, equipping them with parenting skills that foster safe, supportive environments at home and reduce the risk of violence.



#### **Community Events:**

DREAMS councils hosted events to raise awareness, featuring interactive elements like sports, art, and testimonials, to engage youth and adults in conversations about healthy norms and protective behaviors.









## Coaching Boys Into Men (CBIM)

#### Program reach





Boys aged 10 - 14 Iringa MC, Mufindi DC and Tunduma TC

#### **CBIM** curriculum



2 Sessions completed



Trained CBIM coaches (Government School Teachers)

#### **Key focus areas**





Violence prevention

#### Community engagement



School sports bonanza in Tunduma TC and Iringa MC



Football matches and quizzes to reinforce values of respect and teamwork

## Violence prevention and response

The project strengthened partnerships with community and government systems to ensure youth and families can access support services and report incidents of violence:



#### National Child Helpline Awareness (#116):

Through community outreach, the project raised awareness about about the child helpline (#116), empowering children and families to report abuse and receive timely assistance.



#### **Support for VAWC Committees:**

We worked with Violence Against Women and Children (VAWC) committees to improve their functionality and effectiveness. Committee members received mentoring on identifying, documenting, and responding to cases of gender-based violence (GBV) and violence against children (VAC).



#### **Capacity Building for Teachers:**

Over 260 schoolteachers received training on GBV awareness and reporting mechanisms, equipping them to support students in reporting and addressing cases of abuse.



In Q4, the USAID Kizazi Hodari Southern Zone Project (KHSZ) continued to focus on empowering AGYW and OVC caregivers with essential skills, financial literacy, and economic opportunities, aiming to reduce their vulnerability and foster long-term economic resilience. Key achievements include:

#### **Entrepreneurship and Financial Literacy Training**





#### **Generate Your Business Idea Training**

OVC caregivers and youth received GYBI training, a foundational program that equips participants with skills to identify and develop sustainable business ideas. The training enables recipients to understand local market demands, make informed financial decisions, and begin small-scale businesses.

#### Gender & Entrepreneurship Together (GET) Ahead Training

Through a collaboration with the ILO, the GET Ahead program trained participants in entrepreneurship fundamentals. This five-day training covered modules such as business planning, budgeting, and risk management, empowering AGYW and caregivers with practical skills to run and sustain their businesses.

#### **Community Microfinance Groups (CMGs)**







## Establishing New CMGs and Strengthening Existing Groups:

CMGs remain a key platform for financial inclusion and socio-economic resilience among OVC caregivers. Members receive support for savings and loans, enabling them to build assets and invest in income-generating activities.

#### Digitalization through CHOMOKA App:

To improve financial record-keeping and minimize risks associated with cash handling, KHSZ piloted the CHOMOKA digital app within select CMGs. The app streamlines savings and lending activities and supports financial accountability within groups.

#### CMG Registration and Formalization:

This quarter, CMGs were formally registered under Tanzania's Community Microfinance Act, enhancing members' access to community funds and financial services, fostering long-term economic security.

Income-Generating Activities (IGA) and Private Sector Linkages





#### **Supporing Small Business Creation**

In Q4, UKHSZ supported the establishment of IGAs, particularly focusing on agricultural value chains and small-scale businesses. These activities enabled caregivers and AGYW to gain stable income sources.

#### **Collaboration with Private Sector Networks:**

The project linked out-of-school youth and caregivers to business networks for technical mentoring, including guidance on agricultural production and business management, through partnerships with Feed the Future and other USAID initiatives.

#### **Vocational Skills Training and Startup Support**





#### **Vocational Training for Out-of-School Youth:**

The project facilitated vocational skills training for youth, providing them with technical skills in trades like tailoring, agriculture, and handicrafts. Post-training support and mentorship helped youth transition to employment or self-employment.

#### **Business Startup Kits and Capital Access:**

To support sustainability, UKHSZ is collaborating with stakeholders to help trained youth access business startup kits and startup capital. These resources provide a foundation for youth to operationalize their acquired skills and pursue income-generating ventures.



From Left: The OVC supported with FDC sponsorship who has established her own business in Nyasa DC, the second picture is a CMG member established a business of producing local beer after loaning from the CMG from Nachingwea DC and the last picture is the CMG IGA established to increase the group income from Lindi DC.

Savings, Health, and Resilience Initiatives





#### Health Insurance Awareness and Medical Funds:

CMG members were encouraged to establish medical funds to cover health-related expenses, providing financial relief and ensuring access to healthcare. Through this initiative, CMG members also explored health insurance options, strengthening the overall health resilience of their families

#### **Household Vulnerability Assessments:**

The Family and Child Assets Assessment (FCAA) allowed KHSZ to assess and categorize household vulnerability, guiding targeted support for highly vulnerable households, such as linkages to social support programs like the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF).

#### **Community Resource Mobilization for OVC Support**





#### Mobilizing Community Support for Vulnerable Children:

KHSZ strengthened the capacity of CMGs to mobilize community resources, establishing a fund to support OVCs. This fund provided health insurance, school supplies, and emergency aid, helping vulnerable children access essential services.

#### **Collaboration with Community Stakeholders:**

Community leaders and local government officials were engaged to support sustainable resource mobilization for OVC households, fostering a culture of community ownership and support for vulnerable populations.



From Left: Vulnerable family received a support of a bundle of iron sheets (with 23 sheets) to improve their housing in Mjini council.

Mama Yohana HH visit with, USAID, Deloitte, Zamwaso, Hlton foundation and D-Tree in Mjini Magahribi.







Above: UKHSZ Project youth and OVC caregivers in action during GET Ahead training of entrepreneurs' sessions



Left: Ally, an OVC during an apprenticeship in Kiwangwa Ward in Chalinze DC.



## Success Story

### A Brighter Future: Amina's transformation from sex work to sustainable livelihoods



Amina, a young woman from Zanzibar, transformed her life through the GET-AHEAD program, a joint initiative by the International Labour Organization (ILO), USAID's Kizazi Hodari Southern Zone Project (implemented by Deloitte Tanzania), AMREF, and Youth Solidarity Association (YOSOA). The program provided Amina with entrepreneurship skills alongside vital HIV awareness training, empowering her to pursue economic opportunities and gain a fresh start.

Amina's education came to a halt after completing primary school in 2013. Following the loss of her parents a decade earlier, she was raised by her grandmother, who lacked the financial means to support her further education. In 2014, Amina left her grandmother's home to live with her partner. However, her situation worsened when he abandoned her upon learning of her pregnancy, leaving her alone and vulnerable.

"I was so frustrated when I told my boyfriend I was pregnant; he was mad and later abandoned me. He told me to leave him alone and never come back to him with such stories," Amina recalls.

Left without income, Amina resorted to sex work to support herself and her daughter. She also faced the challenge of living with HIV, which she discovered during a routine antenatal check-up. Despite her adherence to treatment, Amina experienced severe stigma and discrimination from her family and community, leading to further stress and health complications.

"I faced a lot of stigma and discrimination because of my HIV status. I ended up with hypertension and stress, which affected my overall health," says Amina. "The ILO- HIV/ AIDS and USAID Kizazi Hodari- Economic Empowerment Program gave me hope with the GET-AHEAD training. With more support, especially financial resources, I can start a business and leave sex work behind."

With entrepreneurship skills and a positive mindset, Amina now sells fruits in her community and serves as a peer educator. She encourages others to access essential health services through the ILO's VCT@WORK initiative, implemented in partnership with Deloitte and YOSOA. Amina also shares her knowledge of tailoring and cooking, hoping to inspire other young women to pursue safer livelihoods.

### "I don't want other young girls and women to go through what I did," Amina adds.

The Tanzania HIV Impact Survey (THIS 2022-2023) reveals that around 60,000 new HIV infections occur annually among adults, with women accounting for 67% of these cases. Adolescents and young people aged 15-24 represent 40% of new adult infections, with adolescent girls and young women making up 78% of these cases. This stark reality emphasizes the urgency of initiatives like GET-AHEAD, which empower vulnerable women with skills, knowledge, and opportunities.

Supported by Deloitte, USAID, and ILO, this initiative is making a tangible impact in Tanzania and Zanzibar, benefiting 1,100 adolescent girls and young women across 44 councils.



Amina and peers getting entrepreneurship skills from Deloitte in collaboration with ILO Tanzania



Amina, as a peer educator, used to encourage others to know their HIV status by testing.

### Collaboration

### Collaboration with USAID Afya Yangu Southern

The partnership between the Kizazi Hodari Southern Zone Project (UKHSZ) and USAID Afya Yangu Southern (UAYS) has strengthened over the past fiscal year, resulting in key operational and performance improvements. This collaboration has enhanced data sharing, regular performance review meetings, and feedback processes, reinforcing governance at regional and headquarters levels.

#### **Key Collaborative Achievements**

## Enhanced Data Sharing for Enrollment and Tracking:

The UKHSZ Project's access to the Afya Yangu Data Exchange has allowed real-time analysis and verification, facilitating the successful enrollment of 11,728 CLHIV (98%) into the OVC program. This data sharing has greatly contributed to more efficient and accurate enrollment processes.

#### **Outreach ART Refills:**

To improve retention, CCWs and HCWs collaborated on outreach ART refill services for Recipients of Care (RoCs) residing far from Care and Treatment Centers (CTCs). This approach has significantly improved access to treatment for RoCs in remote areas across six regions.

#### Joint Pediatric ART and PMTCT Training: Return to Treatment for CLHIV Lost

Together, UKHSZ and UAYS facilitated specialized training for Community Case Workers (CCWs), Healthcare Workers (HCWs), and CSO staff. This training enhances the capacity of field staff to provide ongoing care for C/ALHIV and HIV-exposed infants (HEI), helping strengthen health outcomes through better monitoring and support.

#### **Improved Viral Load Testing:**

UAYS provided data on 2,335 CLHIV eligible for viral load (VL) testing. Through collaborative efforts, UKHSZ facilitated escorted referrals and appointment reminders, ensuring timely VL testing and contributing to enhanced clinical outcomes.

## Return to Treatment for CLHIV Lost to Follow-Up:

In Q4, UAYS shared data on 673 CLHIV who had been lost to follow-up. Through escorted referrals, 539 children (80%) were successfully returned to treatment (RTT), highlighting the success of coordinated outreach efforts between CCWs and HCWs.

## Collaboration

### Collaboration with other Implementing Partners (IPs)

Clinical & Community IPs	Area of collaboration
USAID Tuwajali Watoto	<ul> <li>Joint supportive supervision to oversee the implementation of 3 collaborative projects.</li> <li>On-the-job training for HCPs and CCWs.</li> <li>Data sharing.</li> <li>Mapping exercise for a new digital social welfare directory and pediatric intensification on HIV-related indicators.</li> </ul>
EpiC Project (FHI360)	<ul> <li>Linked AGWYs into vocational training (tailoring and computer courses).</li> <li>Data sharing for AGYW vocational scholarships and linking OVC caregivers to PLHIV clusters. Quarterly technical meetings and site visits.</li> </ul>
USAID Kilimo Tija	Linked youth in horticultural value chains for support.
UNICEF	<ul> <li>Identifying youth members for a fully funded scholarship VTC program through the IPOSA program.</li> </ul>
THPS Afya Hatua Project	<ul> <li>Data sharing and triangulation for CLHIV and HEI enrolment, supportive supervision at facilities and households.</li> </ul>
Lishe Project	<ul> <li>Share list of KH community volunteers to be engaged in community Lishe programs including training and Village Lishe programs.</li> <li>Sharing list of schools which implements Lishe Project interventions so as UKHSZ Project can capacitate students on income generation activities in formed school clubs.</li> </ul>
AMREF Afya Thabiti Project	<ul> <li>Data sharing for clinical outcome indicators, joint participation in USAID and CDC interagency site visits.</li> </ul>



## Collaboration, Learning and Adaptation (CLA)

Collaborative efforts in strengthening OVC support in Tanzania

In response to evolving health challenges in Tanzania, the USAID Kizazi Hodari (Brave Generation) Southern Zone Project (UKHSZ), implemented by Deloitte, focuses on improving the lives of orphans, vulnerable children (OVC), and youth in communities highly affected by HIV. The project encountered challenges, including limited government involvement and a global decrease in OVC PEPFAR funding support causing financial constraints. To address these, Deloitte adopted a collaborative, learning, and adapting (CLA) approach emphasizing external collaboration and continuous learning and improvement with civil society organizations (CSOs), the Government, and other stakeholders.

Deloitte closely engaged local government authorities in the project's planning and implementation leading to the shift from community-based Case Management Coordinators (CMCs) to National Integrated Case Management System (NICMS) focal persons, government-employed extension officers. This transition reduced costs and increased government participation and project ownership.

The integration of NICMS focal persons into the project's implementation followed steps fourfold; joint planning with CSOs and government, pause, reflect, and innovate, piloting the new approach, and replication.

This strategy significantly enhanced organizational effectiveness. The government became actively engaged and well-informed on project activities, leading to improved data management, efficient tracking and reporting of outcomes, and the sustainability of project initiatives.

Challenges, such as delays in government approvals of NICMS focal persons, were navigated by engaging senior government staff and developing joint action plans with the Government and CSOs. The strategic shift has decreased the cost per beneficiary and enabled the redirection of funds to serve more beneficiaries while fostering stronger government ownership and participation.



For more information on this CLA Case, please visit <a href="https://usaidlearninglab.org/resources/strengthening-ovc-support-tanzania-collaborative-efforts-usaid-kizazi-hodari-brave">https://usaidlearninglab.org/resources/strengthening-ovc-support-tanzania-collaborative-efforts-usaid-kizazi-hodari-brave</a>



## Success Story

### A New Beginning for Dickson: How stakeholder collaboration built more than just a home



In the rural village of Boma la Ng'ombe, 13-year-old, Standard IV pupil, Dickson and his elderly grandmother, Katimu, faced immense hardship after their already crumbling home collapsed. Living with HIV, Dickson's health and well-being were jeopardized, and without proper shelter, the two were exposed to harsh weather conditions. Dickson found it difficult to attend school, while his grandmother, with no resources to rebuild their home, worried constantly about their future. Homeless and vulnerable, they were left without any protection from the elements or hope for improvement.

Dickson was identified by Community Case Workers (CCWs), under the USAID Kizazi Hodari Southern Zone Project, who observed the unsafe living conditions he and his grandmother faced. Recognizing the severity of the situation, the CCWs, in collaboration with an Independent Livelihood Provider (ILV), referred the case to local authorities and key stakeholders to secure support for building a new shelter for Dickson and his grandmother.

A network of local organizations, including Twaweza, Upendo, Amani, Agape A and B Worth Yetu groups, CEFA, ONE ACRE FUND, and RDO, rallied together to mobilize resources. Community members, led by the village office, began making bricks for the new house. Stakeholders contributed water, iron sheets, and even skilled labor to bring the construction to life. While the process spanned over two years, the end result was transformative—a sturdy, secure home where Dickson and his grandmother could live without the constant fear of exposure to harsh weather.

"We thank all the stakeholders for their support. This collaboration shows how important partnerships are in addressing the needs of vulnerable children like Dickson", expressed the Independent Livelihood Provider

The Ward Executive Officer also praised the dedication of Project and CCWs, noting, "Their persistence in finding a solution for Dickson's housing situation shows the role they play in supporting vulnerable families within the community."

For Katimu, the relief is evident. She shared, "I am so grateful for the support from the project and the government. God bless you all." Now, she and her grandson enjoy the comfort and security of their new home—a place where they can feel safe, protected, and hopeful for the future.





Left: A glimpse of Dickson and Katimu's living conditions before the intervention of the USAID KHSZ Project. Right: Their home after the project's intervention

### Eminence

### USAID OVC visit in Iringa

USAID representatives, including members from both the Tanzania and Washington offices, visited the UKHSZ Project and USAID Afya Yangu Southern sites in Iringa to assess and support ongoing efforts in pediatric HIV/TB care and OVC services. The visit emphasized the collaborative efforts between implementing partners to drive impactful health outcomes in the region.

During the visit, the team engaged with stakeholders to review the implementation of the collaborative framework, particularly focusing on the enrollment and care of children living with HIV (C/ALHIV). At Tosamaganga Hospital, they evaluated key health indicators such as viral load coverage and suppression rates, while gaining valuable insights from peer educators and community case workers (CCWs) who are instrumental in delivering essential health services. The visit included a household assessment, showcasing the critical role CCWs play in providing comprehensive, home-based care and support to vulnerable children.

The delegation visited a DREAMS site at JJ Muungai Primary School, where they observed interactive sessions with adolescent girls and young women (AGYW) on sexual and reproductive health. The team noted the success of mentorship programs and life skills workshops that empower young women while promoting the goals of the DREAMS initiative.





Left: Sarah Dastur, OVC Senior Technical Advisor USAID OHA, alongside USAID Delegation, Deloitte (USAID KHSZ and UAYS) teams and government officials. Right: Sarah Dastur addressing stakeholders during the USAID OVC visit in Iringa





Left: Sarah Dastur, OVC Senior Technical Advisor USAID OHA, alongside students of JJ Muungai Primary School in Iringa.

### Eminence

### USAID CLA case competition

The project has been awarded first place in the USAID Collaborative, Learning, and Adapting (CLA) Case Competition. The winning case, titled "Collaborative Efforts in Strengthening OVC Support in Tanzania," highlights how the project successfully transitioned from using Case Management Coordinators (CMCs) to National Integrated Case Management System (NICMS) focal persons.

This shift has been instrumental in enhancing the sustainability and efficiency of the project. By integrating NICMS focal persons, the project aligned more closely with government systems, ensuring that data management and case follow-up are streamlined and that OVC services are better coordinated at both district and national levels. The approach has improved access to data and government ownership, ensuring long-term support for Tanzania's most vulnerable populations.





USAID KHSZ Project Chief of Party received an appreciation award from the Deputy Mission Director during the Case Competition winners announcement session.

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This newsletter design and project implementation is powered by Deloitte Tanzania.

This Newsletter is made possible with support from the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents of this newsletter are the sole responsibility of Deloitte Consulting Limited and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.

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