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USAID Kizazi Hodari (Brave Generation) Southern Zone Project Newsletter



Deloitte.

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Foreword

“Kizazi Hodari – Sothern Zone project is a USAID funded program that aims to support the Government of Tanzania’s (GOT) Ministry of Health to achieve HIV epidemic control by improving the health, well-being, and protection of OVC and youth in high HIV burden communities within the Southern Zones of Tanzania specifically Iringa, Njombe, Ruvuma, Lindi, Mtwara, Rukwa, Katavi, Songwe, Pwani, Morogoro and Mjini-Magharibi – Zanzibar regions.”

Dear Friends and Partners,

As we reflect on the milestones achieved and challenges overcome throughout the past year, I am filled with immense pride in the collective efforts of our team, partners, and communities. Each initiative, event, and engagement has brought us closer to our shared vision of a healthier, more empowered, AIDS-free Tanzania.

Expanding our reach to new regions means amplifying our impact and touching the lives of those who require our support the most. But none of this could have been achieved without collaboration, which has been the driving force behind our efforts, allowing us to make a meaningful difference in the communities we serve.

Throughout our journey, we’ve embraced transformative initiatives like Enabling DREAMS and the digitization of Community Micro-Finance Group (CMG) operations through

the CHOMOKA App. These efforts signify our commitment to empowering beneficiaries for sustained success beyond the project’s duration. By fostering financial inclusion and equipping adolescents with essential skills, we’re laying the groundwork for lasting impact and self-sufficiency.

As we continue to expand our reach and deepen our engagements, I am optimistic for the future. Together, we have the opportunity to shape a brighter tomorrow for generations to come.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each member of our team, our partners, and the communities we serve for their unwavering commitment. Your dedication inspires us to push the boundaries of what is possible and strive for excellence in all that we do.

We hope you enjoy reading this issue and explore our journey over the past two quarters.

Asante sana.



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

Our reach and impact



TZS 853,057,321
(\$355,440.55)

Savings in CMGs mobilized in FY24 Q1

115

Youth supported with VTC scholarships

86,596

OVC reached with Nutrition Services.

2,584

Community Case Workers supported in delivering case management services.

Enrolled Beneficiaries supported with health and social welfare services

155,606

Beneficiaries

95,202

Female Beneficiaries

60,404

Male Beneficiaries

In-school adolescent girls aged 9-14 reached through DREAMS

11,103

(SRH, Financial Literacy Training x educational subsidies)

In-school adolescent boys 10-14 reached via CBIM.

Reached through economic strengthening services.

60,707

46,174

Success story

Maria's Story: A Teenager's Dreams Restored

Being a teenager is a time of dreams, aspirations, and endless possibilities. However, for Maria, at only 17 years old, life presented challenges beyond the typical teenage experience. Living with both her parents in Marambo village, located in Nachingwea District, her life prospects were daunting. Having both parents who are HIV positive, compounded by her health issues and financial hardships, made her daily life a struggle. After failing to enroll in Secondary school and her family being unable to put three meals a day on their table, Maria lost all hope of a bright future.

Maria's life took a hopeful turn in January 2023 when she was approached by a Community Case Worker (CCW) and enrolled in the USAID Kizazi Hodari Southern Zone (KHSZ) Project. As a Child Living with HIV (CLHIV), she was referred to the health facility for viral load testing, to which she was found to have an alarmingly high viral load of 101,400 copies. A strategic plan was developed in collaboration with the clinical partner and CCW to ensure viral suppression.

The CCW became Maria's bridge to a brighter future, providing not only access to crucial ART services but also education on Reproductive Health, HIV,

and AIDS. Regular home visits were conducted by the CCW and Clinical IP to assess ART adherence, identify household conditions affecting treatment success and provide nutritional support. They emphasized ART adherence and advised against risky behaviors.

The dedicated efforts between Maria and the USAID KHSZ Project bore fruits. As of June 2023, Maria viral load was successfully reduced, achieving a Target Not Detected (TND) status.

To ensure Maria maintains her TND status and to improve the economic potential of her family, the Activity supported her to complete a six-month vocational training at Mbinga Folk Development College (FDC). Now, on the brink of launching her own tailoring business, Maria envisions to become a successful fashion designer in her community and support her family.

Maria's story is a testament of the USAID KHSZ Project's transformative impact to its beneficiaries. More than 90,000 beneficiaries will be reached with case management, HIV preventive and economic strengthening interventions across 11 regions in Tanzania.



Maria's Story

"Kizazi Hodari helped me a lot. I learned most of things from CCW when she visited our household. That changed my whole life. I now have hopes with my life, and I can accomplish my dreams. Now I feel happy, healthy, and courageous." "I planned to be a big fashion designer in my community and support my family economically. I real appreciate the advice provided by CCW of being good ART adherent, not engaging into prostitution and being entrepreneur"

* The names of beneficiaries have been modified to protect their identity.

Our eminence

Empowering Communities: Reflecting on World AIDS Day 2023



The USAID KHSZ & USAID Afya Yangu Southern Program Teams in a group photo following their participation in the AIDS Trust Fund Marathon during the World AIDS Day commemorations in Morogoro

Each year, World AIDS Day unites communities globally in the fight against HIV/AIDS. Between November 24th and December 1st, 2023, Morogoro Secondary School Grounds hosted the week-long commemoration event. The Regional Commissioner of Morogoro, Hon. Adam Malima, inaugurated the event, setting the stage for an inspiring journey. Under the theme, "Let Communities Lead," the event emphasized a powerful call to action, urging collective engagement in the battle against AIDS. On December 1st, World AIDS Day,

Hon. Kassim Majaliwa, the Prime Minister of the United Republic of Tanzania, graced the event as the Guest of Honor.

Throughout the week of activities, the USAID Kizazi Hodari Southern Zone Project, alongside USAID Afya Yangu Southern, were active members and participants, demonstrating our strong commitment to community empowerment. The project's booth showcased USAID KHSZ project activities, impact, and achievements in the protection of Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC), strengthening linkages between health

facilities and the community, and building capacity through evidence-based interventions such as DREAMS. The booth served as a hub of knowledge exchange, offering insights into the innovative DREAMS program and its transformative impact on adolescent girls and young women. Through interactive sessions and engaging displays, attendees gained invaluable insights into the project's approach to HIV prevention through comprehensive education, behavioral change communication, and socio-economic empowerment.



Dorothy Matoyo, Chief of Party- USAID KHSZ Project together with ELCT- Kizazi Hodari North Eastern Zone staff at the Deloitte booth, during the World AIDS Day (WAD) commemorations.



Jim Yonaz, the Permanent Secretary, Prime Ministers Office engaging with USAID KHSZ Project Staff as he visited the booth during the WAD Commemorations.



Hon Adam Malima, Regional Commissioner of Morogoro with Dr Marina Njelekela, COP- USAID Afya Yangu Southern and government officials at the launch of the World AIDS Day.



USAID Delegation engaging with USAID KHSZ Project staff during the World AIDS Day Commemorations.

Empowering Communities: Reflecting on World AIDS Day 2023

In addition to the booth activities, the USAID KHSZ team contributed significantly to the National HIV Symposium at Nashera Hotel in Morogoro. Presenting two impactful abstracts, *'Caregivers Attributes in Supporting Adherence to Antiretroviral Therapy for Children Living with HIV'*, explores how caregivers' characteristics impact adherence to antiretroviral therapy (ART) among children living with HIV (CLHIV) in Tanzania. The study emphasizes the significant influence of

access to nutritional counseling and food support on ART adherence. The second abstract, *'Understanding of Gender-Based Violence Signs in HIV Prevention among Adolescent Boys,'* evaluates the effectiveness of the Coaching Boys into Men (CBIM) intervention in enhancing adolescent boys' awareness of gender-based violence (GBV) indicators related to HIV infection. Results highlight CBIM's role in promoting responsible behavior and reducing HIV transmission rates.



Dr Daudi Maigah, HIV Integration Manager- USAID KHSZ Project during the World AIDS Day Commemorations.

16 Days of Activism: Uniting to End Gender-Based Violence

November 25, 2023, marks the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women and the commencement of the #16Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence. The campaign theme for 2023, 'UNITE! Invest to Prevent Violence against Women and Girls', underscores the urgent need for collective action and investment to eradicate gender-based violence.

The USAID KHSZ Project stood in solidarity with the Government of Tanzania, fellow Implementing Partners, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), and youth to commemorate the International Day for

Eliminating Violence against Women. The launch event of the 16 Days of Activism took place at the Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre (JNICC), and was honored by the presence of Hon. Dorothy Gwajima, Minister for Community Development, Gender, Women, and Special Groups. The event brought together over 1,000 participants to highlight the critical need for increased funding to address violence against women.

At the event, the USAID KHSZ Project, in collaboration with USAID Afya Yangu Southern, showcased its role in the fight against Gender-Based Violence (GBV). Through

impactful interventions such as DREAMS and Coaching Boys Into Men (CBIM), targeting Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW) and adolescent boys, respectively, the project continues to make significant strides in preventing and addressing GBV. Hon. Dorothy Gwajima visited the projects' booth, providing an opportunity to highlight the projects' contributions and engage in discussions on combatting GBV. As part of the ongoing 16 Days of Activism, the project also participated in the GBV Prevention Marathon, raising awareness of our collective responsibility to end Gender-Based Violence.

16 Days of Activism: Uniting to End Gender-Based Violence



The USAID KHSZ Project & USAID Afya Yangu Southern teams captured in a group photo during the launch of the 16 Days of Activism at the Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre in Dar es Salaam.



The USAID KHSZ Project and USAID Afya Yangu Southern teams captured in a group photo following their participation in the GBV Prevention Marathon.



Dr Dorothy Gwajima, Minister for Community Development, Gender, Women, and Special Groups engaging with a beneficiary of the USAID KHSZ Project to gain deeper insights as she visited the project's joint booth with USAID Afya Yangu Southern.

Celebrating 20 Years of PEPFAR's Achievements

From November 14th to 16th, 2023, Iringa was the focal point of a significant commemoration marking two decades of PEPFAR's transformative impact on Tanzania's HIV response. In the presence of USAID Mission Director for Tanzania Craig Hart, the event highlighted the collaborative efforts between PEPFAR and the Government of Tanzania, emphasizing their shared commitment to combatting HIV/AIDS.

Throughout the commemorative activities, USAID visited selected project sites in Iringa MC, engaging with beneficiaries, service providers, government officials, and implementing partners. The goal was to gain insights into the remarkable efforts made in HIV stigma reduction interventions and their contribution to reducing new HIV infections in the Iringa region.

As an integral part of these



Ms Dorothy Matoyo, COP of the USAID KHSZ Project, participating in discussions during the commemoration of 20 years of PEPFAR

initiatives, the USAID Kizazi Hodari Southern Zone (KHSZ) project participated in the presentation on the Collaboration Framework Implementation, which highlighted the seamless partnership between implementing partners, the Government of Tanzania, and private sectors. Recognizing the project's contributions, the USAID Mission Director for Tanzania presented a certificate of appreciation to Dorothy Matoyo, Chief of the Party for USAID KHSZ Project.

A highlight of the event was the visit to Njia Panda Primary School, where the transformative DREAMS and Coaching Boys Into Men (CBIM) interventions are implemented alongside economic strengthening through the USAID KHSZ project. Beneficiaries shared inspiring stories of success, speaking of improved academic

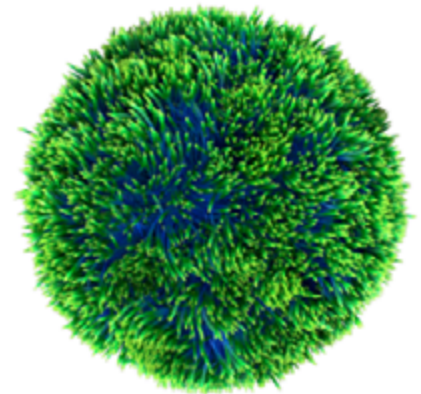


Zahra Nensi, Partner at Deloitte Consulting alongside Dorothy Matoyo, Chief of Party, USAID KHSZ Project and staff at the commemorations of 20 Years of PEPFAR in Iringa

performance and heightened confidence. Teachers echoed these sentiments, noting a significant reduction in school violence.

The vibrant showcase featured engaging performances of songs, dances, plays, and arts, showcasing the impact of these interventions on the lives of beneficiaries. Caregivers proudly displayed products symbolizing their financial stability and sustainability as a result of the Economic Strengthening intervention.

During the engagement with the community, the USAID delegation interacted deeply with Njia Panda's beneficiaries. Recognizing the power of sports in fostering positive behaviors, particularly among youth, USAID Mission Director Craig Hart gifted footballs to CBIM beneficiaries. The visit ended with a spirited football game, with Craig actively participating alongside the beneficiaries.



Celebrating 20 Years of PEPFAR's Achievements



USAID Mission Director to Tanzania, Craig Hart, presenting a certificate of appreciation to Ms Dorothy Matoyo, Chief of Party-USAID KHSZ Project during the commemoration of PEPFAR in Iringa.



Ms Dorothy Matoyo, Chief of Party for the USAID KHSZ Project, and Dr Marina Njelekela, Chief of Party for USAID Afya Yangu Southern, along with Zahra Nensi, Partner at Deloitte, and Craig Hart, USAID Mission Director to Tanzania, gathered for a group photo alongside other USAID delegates and Implementing partners.



USAID Mission Director to Tanzania, Craig Hart displaying a heartfelt hand-drawn picture gifted to him by one of the beneficiaries of the Coaching Boys Into Men (CBIM) intervention from Njia Panda Primary School, symbolizing gratitude and appreciation.

Tanzania's first International Primary Health Care Conference

The USAID Kizazi Hodari Southern Zone Project, in collaboration with USAID Afya Yangu Southern, participated in the first International Primary Health Care Conference in Dodoma from March 25th to 27th, 2024. Hon Dr. Dotto Biteko, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Energy inaugurated the event.

The conference aimed at providing scientific evidence, innovations, and best practices to support evidence-based decision-making for policymakers and implementers. This was made possible through the invaluable contributions of multidisciplinary local and international experts in Primary Health Care.

The USAID KHSZ Project showcased its significant impact in primary health care through Community Engagement,, Nutrition Services, and Social Welfare Services such as Gender-Based Violence, Violence Against Children, and Social Protection.



Deloitte Staff alongside GOT official from the Ministry of Health (MoH), Dr Ntuli Kapologwe (Director -MOH) during the International Primary Health Care Conference.



Dr Daudi Maigah, HIV Integration Manager-USAID KHSZ Project at the International Primary Health Care Conference.



Hon. Dotto Biteko, Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of Energy officiating the International Primary Health Care Conference in Dodoma.



USAID KHSZ and USAID Afya Yangu staff in a group photo at the Deloitte booth during the International Primary Health Care Conference.



Deloitte Staff engaging with GOT official from the Ministry of Health (MoH), Dr Ntuli Kapologwe (Director -MOH) during the International Primary Health Care Conference.



Staff from USAID KHSZ and USAID Afya Yangu (UAYS) in a group photo along side Chief's of Party, Dorothy Matoyo (USAID KHSZ) and Dr Marina Njelekela (UAYS) at the International Primary Health Care Conference in Dodoma.

Our collaborations

Expanding Horizons: Regional Introduction Meetings in New Zones



USAID KHSZ Project staff alongside Regional and Council Health Management Teams after successful introduction meetings in Songwe, Rukwa and Katavi.

FY23 marked a significant milestone for the USAID Kizazi Hodari Southern Zone (KHSZ) Project with the expansion of our OVC Program Implementation into six additional regions: Morogoro, Songwe, Rukwa, Katavi, Mjini Magharibi, and Pwani. This expansion extends our reach to serve a total of 73,103 beneficiaries across 23 councils. The project's expansion into new territories was supported by Regional Introduction Meetings which provided a platform for engaging with important stakeholders and ministries in the respective regions. Some of the stakeholders included the President's Office, Regional Administration, Local Government (PO-RALG),

the Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Elderly, and Children, as well as the Regional and Council Health Management Teams for each respective region. These meetings aimed to establish a solid foundation and build meaningful partnerships in the newly ventured territories. Our engagements were built on a shared vision of fostering collaboration to ensure the success and sustainability of our implementations. Open dialogue and constructive exchanges were used to create integrated approaches to address the challenges faced by vulnerable communities. These meetings were not just formalities; they embodied collective action and solidarity, reflecting our commitment to helping Orphans

and Vulnerable Children in the fight against HIV/AIDS in Tanzania.



A glimpse of the USAID KHSZ Project introduction meetings in Songwe, Rukwa and Katavi.

Joint Supportive Supervisions: Strengthening Community Engagement and Healthcare Systems

The USAID Kizazi Hodari Southern Zone (KHSZ) Project, in partnership with the President's Office, Regional Administration, and Local Government (PO-RALG), conducted comprehensive Joint Supportive Supervision across Iringa, Katavi, Pwani, and Morogoro regions.

This collaborative effort aimed to strengthen healthcare systems and enhance community engagement strategies within these regions. The initiative kicked off with informative briefings at Zonal Offices and courtesy calls to

key stakeholders, ensuring alignment with shared objectives and goals.

These supervisions also aimed to evaluate the progress made within the newly expanded regions. Through a series of visits and meetings, the team gained invaluable insights into the daily challenges and realities faced by communities.

From assessing case management services in households with Children Living with HIV (CLHIV) to engaging with schools implementing Coaching Boys Into Men (CBIM) and DREAMS interventions,

each interaction deepened our understanding of the unique needs of each region.

The USAID KHSZ Project aims to amplify its impact and cultivate stronger partnerships with local communities and stakeholders across the Southern Zones of Tanzania by leveraging collaborative efforts.

Through these initiatives, we are committed to driving sustainable solutions for community well-being and empowerment, ultimately fostering positive change and progress throughout the region.



The USAID KHSZ Project Team in a group photo alongside the Regional and Health Management Teams, during a Joint Supportive Supervision in Morogoro MC.

Our achievements

Transforming CMGs Through Digitization

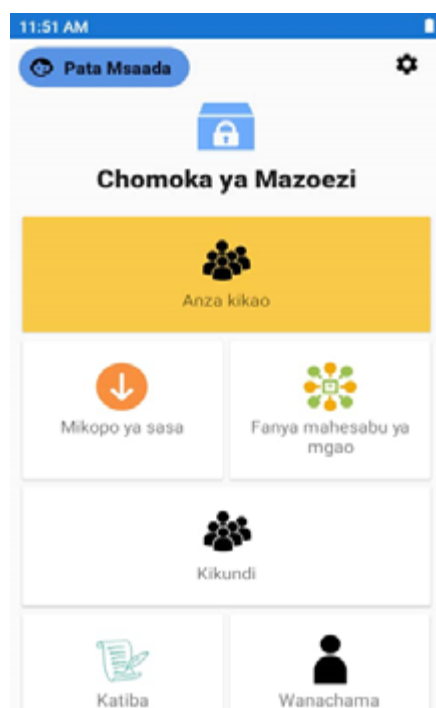
To enhance the sustainability and efficiency of Community Micro-Finance Groups (CMGs), the USAID Kizazi Hodari Southern Zone (KHSZ) Project has introduced the CHOMOKA App. This innovative application is designed to digitize CMG accounting systems, allowing groups to easily manage their finances, increase transparency in record systems, and transition from informal to formal financial inclusion. The project piloted the CHOMOKA app with 150 of the targeted 313 groups and has invested in utilizing the M-Koba digital wallet.

Currently, 32 groups are being monitored in their adoption of M-Koba digital wallets, demonstrating promising results in enhancing financial transparency and security within CMGs.

The Project has also collaborated with Care Social Venture to customize the KAYA CMG accounting system. This collaboration has enabled the seamless transition of CMG operations into the digital space, offering benefits such as increased transparency, streamlined recordkeeping, and establishing a credit history.

The CHOMOKA app not only empowers CMGs to manage their finances efficiently but also facilitates their transition from informal to formal financial inclusion. With its user-friendly interface and comprehensive features, CHOMOKA lays the foundation for CMGs to thrive in the digital age.

The pilot of the CHOMOKA app will continue with the remaining groups upon the completion of smartphone procurement. This initiative marks a significant step towards advancing CMG sustainability and fostering economic empowerment within communities across Tanzania.



Screenshot of the Chomoka App.



Members from Matumaini Yetu Tusonge Mbele Group from Amani Ward, Mjini councils during a Chomoka App practical session.

Supporting Vocational Scholarships for At-Risk Out-of-School AGYW

The USAID Kizazi Hodari Southern Zone (KHSZ) Project continues to champion vocational scholarships for at-risk, out-of-school Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW). Throughout FY23, the project has monitored the academic journey of 96 youths, comprising 51 females and 45 males, aged 15-17, enrolled in vocational skills training across 8 Folk Development Colleges (FDCs) under our support. Additionally, 19 youth (10 females, 9 males) received support from ACHIEVE in the newly transitioned regions of Morogoro, Songwe, Rukwa, and Katavi. All 115 youth successfully completed their coursework and proceeded with practical work in various workshops within their communities. These initiatives aim to equip them with technical and business skills, foster self-employment opportunities, elevate their economic status, and contribute to their household's economic well-being. Moreover, our initiative extended to supporting 125 out-of-school youths (66 females, 59 males) in applying for Government vocational training scholarships. 22 youths (4 female, 18 male) from the Iringa region were accepted into colleges such

as Ulembwe VTC, Ilula VTC, and Rural Development Organization (RDO). Their chosen fields of study range from motor rewinding, masonry, and carpentry to tailoring and mechanics. Commencing in December 2023, these training programs are projected to conclude in June 2024. The project remains committed to following up on the application outcomes of the remaining 121 youths.

The project provided 41 youths (35 female, 6 male) from newly transitioned regions with business startup kits after they completed vocational skills training. The ACHIEVE project generously procured these kits. Moving forward, we'll facilitate the appropriate utilization of these kits while monitoring the progress of these aspiring entrepreneurs.

Through these initiatives, the USAID KHSZ Project remains steadfast in its mission to empower vulnerable youths, catalyzing positive change and sustainable development within communities across Tanzania.



Sustainability Spotlight: Introducing Enabling DREAMS

In our commitment to fostering sustainable HIV outcomes, the USAID Kizazi Hodari Southern Zone (KHSZ) Project rolled out the implementation of Enabling DREAMS. This health systems intervention propels us along the Journey to Self-Reliance (J2SR) by enhancing the delivery of comprehensive services to adolescents in collaboration with the Government of Tanzania. Enabling DREAMS equips adolescents with vital

knowledge about HIV risks, transmission modes, and essential life skills. By expanding youth-friendly health services, we're breaking down barriers and ensuring that Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW) receive the support they need without stigma. To ensure a lasting impact, selected teachers from Enabling DREAMS councils will continue to provide crucial support to adolescents even beyond the duration of our project.

Simultaneously, we digitize Community Micro-Finance Group (CMG) operations through the CHOMOKA App and M-Koba digital wallet. These initiatives underpin CMG sustainability, enhancing financial records accuracy, safety of group funds, and transparency, reducing reliance on external support. Digitization opens avenues for financial empowerment and inclusivity, facilitating access to formal financial services.



Adolescent girls enrolled in the evidence-based Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS-free, Mentored, and Safe (DREAMS) intervention in Nyambutatu Primary School located in Iringa MC.

Sensitization Meeting for Enabling DREAMS Intervention

The USAID Kizazi Hodari Southern Zone Project conducted a series of sensitization meetings in the Iringa and Morogoro regions. The primary objective was to introduce the Enabling DREAMS program, aimed at addressing the unique needs of Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW) and Adolescent Boys and Young Men (ABYM). The program is strategically designed to support the implementation of the Tanzania National Minimum Package of Services for Adolescents, particularly in regions characterized by high population density, prevalent HIV rates, and

increased vulnerability among youth. Through the Enabling DREAMS initiative, an effort is made to initiate systemic changes that enhance the provision of Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH), HIV/AIDS, and Gender education while emphasizing the dissemination of essential knowledge and fostering effective life skills communication channels. During these enlightening sessions, government officials were actively engaged to comprehend the importance of implementing the Enabling DREAMS program, particularly in promoting comprehensive SRH education within primary

and secondary educational institutions. Discussions centered around dispelling common misconceptions, cultivating an enabling environment conducive to the successful execution of SRH programs, and exploring avenues for collaborative action between government agencies and community stakeholders. The Enabling DREAMS initiative seeks to empower AGYW with the knowledge and resources to make informed decisions regarding their sexual and reproductive health, with the goal of improving health outcomes for all young people across the country.



USAID KHSZ Project staff along side the Regional and Council Health Management Teams in a group photo after a successful Enabling DREAMS Sensitization Meeting in Morogoro.

Success story

Empowering Women: The Success Story of Upendo Community Micro-Finance Group (CMG)

Upendo Community Micro-Finance Group (CMG) located in Kigonsera ward, Ruvuma region, has undergone a remarkable transformation since its establishment in 2016. Initially facing challenges with low savings and limited income-generating activities (IGAs), the group has seen significant progress with the support of the USAID Kizazi Hodari (Brave Generation) Southern Zone Project

Through entrepreneurship training and guidance provided by the project, the group's 15 OVC caregiver members learned to contribute savings, establish viable businesses, and manage their finances effectively. The project facilitated the group in attaining council-level registration and securing a loan of TZS 3,000,000 from the Local Government Authority (LGA), which was invested in maize farming. Subsequently, the profits generated from maize production were reinvested to establish two new IGAs: Pig and Chicken Farming, and a Chair and Pot Hiring business, leading to a substantial increase in income for both the group and

its members.

The group's entrepreneurial endeavors have not only improved its financial standing but have also garnered recognition from various stakeholders. Notably, PORALG representatives conducted a successful fundraising event, raising a total of TZS 530,000 to support OVCs. This financial injection will further enhance the group's ability to provide essential support to vulnerable children within the community. Additionally, Upendo CMG's success story has inspired neighboring groups to emulate their entrepreneurial spirit, fostering a culture of economic empowerment and self-reliance across the region.

Looking ahead, Upendo CMG is pursuing ambitious plans for expansion and sustainability. The group is currently in the process of acquiring 15 acres of land from the ward authority to scale up maize production and explore additional income-generating opportunities. Through strategic partnerships with local authorities and community stakeholders, the group aims to create lasting social and economic impact, not only for

its members but for the broader community as well.

Reflecting on their journey, the Group Chairperson narrates, "The USAID KHSZ Project helped us register our group and access a soft loan from the LGA, which has been instrumental to our success." Another group member, Christina Nchimbi, explains, "We have already repaid the loan we received from the government, and currently, we use the profit generated to establish new income-generating activities and improve existing ones."

The success of Upendo CMG serves as a testament to the effectiveness of collaborative efforts between community-based organizations and development projects. With 1,499 CMGs across the regions of implementation, the USAID Kizazi Hodari Southern Zone Project continues to empower women, strengthen livelihoods, and promote sustainable development, contributing to the realization of national development goals and improving the well-being of vulnerable populations across Tanzania.

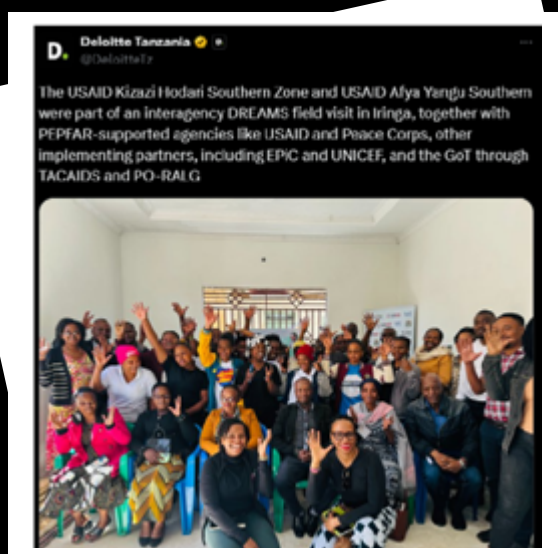
The Success Story of Upendo Community Micro-Finance Group (CMG)



The dedicated women of Upendo CMG showcasing the diverse range of products from their income-generating activities.

SUCCESS STORY

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USAID KIZAZI HODARI (BRAVE GENERATION) SOUTHERN ZONE
ARIS HOUSE, 3RD FLOOR,
OYSTERBAY, DAR ES SALAAM
TANZANIA

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**MAKING AN
IMPACT THAT
MATTERS**
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