The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Tanzania works with the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly, and Children on the mainland and the Ministry of Health on Zanzibar to support HIV testing, prevention, treatment services, and to strengthen the health systems.

**Strengthening Public Health Systems:** CDC supports HIV rapid testing quality assurance, early infant HIV diagnosis, and viral load testing, health worker training, deployment and retention, and strengthening health information systems to inform data for decision-making.

**Scale-up of HIV Treatment and Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision (VMMC):** CDC collaborates with MOHCDGEC to implement the World Health Organization’s Test and Start policy to immediately start HIV-positive individuals on antiretroviral treatment (ART). CDC provides technical assistance to increase voluntary medical male circumcision (VMMC) in Tanzania as part of the HIV risk-reduction program.

**Reaching Key Populations and Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission Transition:** CDC supports formative research, testing, prevention, and linkage to treatment services for KPs, including medically assisted treatment for people who inject drugs. CDC provides technical assistance to improve mother-infant pair cohort monitoring. CDC supports skill building of health care workers to use data on testing, linkage, enrollment, and retention in ART for pregnant and lactating women living with HIV and for their infants.

**KEY ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

**Bukoba Combination Prevention Evaluation Study:** This study has successfully demonstrated higher uptake of HIV testing at health facilities and facilitated linkage to HIV treatment through enhanced provider initiated testing and counseling (PITC, and linkage case management (LCM) program, respectively. The study started in November 2013, with a baseline evaluation, followed by interventions from October 2014 to March 2017. Compared to the period before, BCPE interventions increased more than five-fold, where more people living with HIV were identified during the 2.5 years of BCPE PITC model implementation. CDC linked 94% of the diagnosed clients who were out of HIV treatment and initiated on ART through the LCM program. The last phase of the study – also known as end line evaluation - ended in March 2018.

**Laboratory Accreditation and Certification:** Eight laboratories have been accredited to international standards, and 76 labs are enrolled in WHO’s Strengthening Laboratory Management Towards Accreditation (SLMTA) program. The MOHCDGEC, in collaboration with CDC, launched the National Framework for Point-of-Care Testing (POCT) Certification in November 2017.

**Project Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes (ECHO):** Since its launch in November 2016, Laboratory Project ECHO - a distance learning and mentorship model for building health care worker capacity - has extensively trained and mentored HIV testers in Tanzania. To date, a total of 40 training sessions serve a total of 315 participants. Evaluation tests conducted after each distance learning session have shown a measurable gain in knowledge by the participants.

**Methadone Assisted Therapy:** CDC supports integrated HIV services in Methadone Assisted Therapy (MAT) clinics for people who inject drugs. Services provided include: MAT; HIV testing and counseling; antiretroviral therapy; and hepatitis B, STI and tuberculosis (TB) screening. There are three clinics in Dar es Salaam, one in Mwanza, and one in Zanzibar. By the end of fiscal year 2018, 4,909 individuals are expected to have completed six months of MAT services. In fiscal year 2019, CDC is planning to scale-up to two additional clinics in Pwani and Tanga, respectively.

**Workforce Development:** In 2008, CDC helped establish the Field Epidemiology & Laboratory Training Program (FELTP) in Tanzania. In 2016, Tanzania’s FELTP emerged as one of the few countries worldwide to implement the full pyramid FELTP approach with three training programs for Frontline, Intermediate, and Advanced recruits. Overall, FELTP Tanzania has graduated 100 residents from the Advanced Program, 117 from the Frontline Program, and 22 from the Intermediate Program.