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*Kisongo Prison Health Facility provides comprehensive HIV services for prisoners and the surrounding community.*

*Photo: USAID/Rachel Chilton*

## TANZANIA

# AIDSFREE STRENGTHENING POLICE AND PRISON COMPREHENSIVE HIV SERVICES PROJECT

The USAID AIDSFree Tanzania Strengthening Police and Prison Comprehensive HIV Services Project (SPPCHS) works to improve HIV and TB prevention, treatment, care, and support services within 55 high-volume police and prison healthcare facilities.

The project's target populations include prisoners, prison and police staff, their families, and surrounding communities. SPPCHS also contributes to the United Nations' "90-90-90" strategy, which aims for 90 percent of people living with the disease to be aware of their HIV status, 90 percent of those testing positive placed on continuous HIV treatment, and 90 percent of those on treatment reaching viral suppression.

To achieve these objectives, AIDSFree provides technical assistance to police and prison facilities based on each facility's site-specific action plans. Furthermore, AIDSFree takes a decentralized approach through zonal field offices in order to ensure consistent and timely onsite support to facilities.

HIV prevalence in Tanzania stands at 5 percent, with high variability between women and men (6.5 percent versus 3.5 percent). Among prisoners in mainland Tanzania, however, HIV prevalence is significantly higher (6.7 percent) than in the general population. Prisoners are also at greater risk of acquiring tuberculosis (TB), with many prison health facilities having limited ability to deliver comprehensive HIV and TB services. Police and prison staff also face higher risk than the general population due to their frequent relocations and other factors.

## RESULTS

- Tested over 471,032 individuals for HIV since July 2014, with 14,154 individuals linked to care and treatment after testing positive.
- The project currently offers antiretroviral therapy (ART) services to 14,590 patients to suppress the replication of HIV in the body.
- The project's 2018 annual progress report indicates a 99.5 percent uptake of HIV testing services among pregnant women that accessed antenatal services in prison and police facilities, with 100 percent of HIV-positive pregnant women started on ART.
- Of the 1,715 HIV-exposed babies registered at AIDSFree-supported facilities since inception, 99 percent received early infant diagnosis services.
- Patients initiated on ART showed an 80 percent retention rate after six months, 77 percent after one year, and 75 percent after two years.
- Viral suppression among the project's target populations is at 86 percent (e.g. 85 percent among prison populations and 87 percent among police).

### **BUDGET**

\$5.2 million (to date)

### **DURATION**

July 2014 – December 2019

### **ACTIVITY LOCATIONS**

21 regions in mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar

### **IMPLEMENTING PARTNER**

JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc.

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### **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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