



Corridor Economic Empowerment Project in Tanzania



Since March 2011, the Corridor Economic Empowerment Project (CEEP) has worked within Tanzania within the Six hotspots; Chalinze in Coast region, Ilula and Mafinga in Iringa region, Makambako in Njombe region, Tunduma and Kyela in Mbeya region.

At a **Macro level** the project has provided 2,357 national stakeholders and policy makers with technical assistance and strategic information on the link between Economic Status, Gender Equality and HIV and AIDS vulnerability. Through these informative exchanges the project has influenced the development of 4 national policies which focused on HIV and AIDS, including National HIV/AIDS Policy 2011, UN Development Assistance Plan 2011/15, National Multi-sectoral Strategic Framework on AIDS (2013/18), Decent Work Country Programme for Tanzania 2013/16. Through these engagements the project has provided support to 35 programmes which have been implemented by these stakeholders (National 3 and workplace 32).

At a **Meso level** the project, has built the capacity of 20 Business Support Structures through the training of 30 trainers on the CEEP approach. Together the project was able to train 2,357 beneficiaries on Business Skills, Gender Equality and HIV and AIDS (90% being women). This has provided the opportunity to refer these individuals for various HIV and AIDS related services.

The Corridor Economic Empowerment Innovation Fund (CEEIF) was also launched in September 2013.

This fund is managed by the Project's Advisory Committee and is housed within **SCCULT**, a local micro-financial institution. Together, 67 business proposals have been reviewed and approved for funding, which amounts to a disbursement of \$180,550. SCCULT also provides the beneficiaries with on-going trainings and mentoring.

Further, at a meso level the project was able to solicit \$150 000 in public private partnerships

The effects at a **Micro level**, that is at the level of the beneficiaries is apparent and clear when considering the qualitative and quantitative data that was collected in the 2014 outcome survey. Drawing on a sample of 1,017, the quasi-experimental design categorized beneficiaries into levels of business skills adopted (BSA) as this forms the key strategy of the Economic Empowerment, Gender Equality and HIV and AIDS trainings—it also suggests the level of internalization of the projects' teachings. The following key and significant effects were observed:

Economic Empowerment	No BSA	BSA
Mode for business skill adopted	0	8
Profits (\$) reported over the last six months	522	915
Average monthly income (\$)	85	130
Percentage with savings	77%	97%
Gender	No BSA	BSA
Percentage with equitable contributions to household decision making	58%	64%
Percentage acceptance that wife can refuse sex	79%	84%
HIV and AIDS	No BSA	BSA
Levels of comprehensive HIV and AIDS knowledge	5.1	5.2
Adoption of HIV and AIDS risk reduction strategies	13%	67%
Condom use at last sex	28%	50%
Percentage of people engaged in transactional sex	9%	3%
Uptake of HIV and AIDS related services	60%	85%

The results from the outcomes surveys and the output reports indicate that the project has achieved some significant results within Tanzania. This is evident from the achievement of the project output targets, including training of beneficiaries, providing support to business support structures, national stakeholders as well as the outcomes or effects that the project has had on these groups. Highlights of these successes are captured within the individual stories and the quantitative results presented above including the improvements in economic status, gender relations and the adoption of risk reduction strategies.



Focus areas or hotspots in Tanzania—Chalinze, Ilula, Mafinga, Makambako, Tunduma and Kyela

WHAT THE BENEFICIARIES SAY:

"My business and my life as well were facing many challenges. At one point I thought I would give up the town life and return to the village...My profit was small;...With my 4 children and the fact that I was a widow, male disturbance was also abundant. Sometimes I had to move with the tide and give in to men so as to help my children. You know, we did not think so much about HIV/AIDS."

But after the support and capacity building offered by CEEP, Irene was able to secure her business, and accurately track her sales and profits.

Now, "I have started saving money so that my last born child will be able to join college in January 2015. I can now afford paying for the education of my child." She has even employed a person to who helps her with the work when she is out of office.

But Irene is grateful for the HIV/AIDS training as well. She says, "..... First the training has created awareness to me and others of the risks that we are in, by not taking HIV/AIDS seriously. I, being a widow, I am now very careful. I know I should be healthy for my children's sake because they have only one parent. And because my business generates more income, I really do not have to engage in risky behaviour. I do talk to my children about HIV/AIDS and I can answer their questions about it. Before the training I had just a vague idea of what HIV/AIDS was!"

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