



TANZANIA

DHAPP

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE HIV/AIDS
PREVENTION PROGRAM

REDUCING THE INCIDENCE OF HIV/AIDS
AMONG UNIFORMED PERSONNEL IN
SELECTED AFRICAN NATIONS AND BEYOND

WINNING BATTLES IN THE WAR AGAINST HIV/AIDS

BACKGROUND

Country Statistics

Tanzania's population is estimated to be 37.4 million people, with an average life expectancy of 45.6 years. Kiswahili, Swahili, and English are the official languages of Tanzania, which has an estimated literacy rate of 78.2%, unevenly distributed between men and women. Tanzania is one of the poorest countries in the world. The economy depends heavily on agriculture, which accounts for almost half of the gross domestic product (GDP) provides 85% of exports, and employs 80% of the work force. Continued donor assistance and solid macroeconomic policies supported real GDP growth of more than 6% in 2005. The GDP per capita is \$700, with 36% of Tanzanians living below the poverty line.

HIV/AIDS Statistics

The HIV prevalence rate in Tanzania's general population is estimated at 6.5%. Prevalence rates are higher in urban than in rural areas, and women are more severely affected than men. Identified significant risk factors include high-risk heterosexual contact and contact with commercial sex workers.

Military Statistics

The size of the Tanzanian People's Defense Force (TPDF) is approximately 27,000. As of this annual report, no information regarding HIV prevalence in the military was available, but it is estimated that HIV rates are higher within the military population than in the general population. Tanzania allocates 0.2% of the GDP for military expenditures.

PROGRAM RESPONSE

In-Country Ongoing Assistance

DHAPP staff members provided technical assistance to the TPDF during in-country Core Team visits. The purpose of each trip included review, assistance, and preparation of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) Country Operational Plan (COP) for fiscal year 2007, as well as military-specific planning and technical assistance to the TPDF and US Embassy personnel. DHAPP staff members represent the TPDF as members of the PEPFAR Core Team, and have been involved in every level of country planning, ensuring that TPDF programs are adequately addressed.

Proposed Future Activities

Ongoing successful TPDF and partner programming was expanded to include additional aspects of comprehensive prevention, care, and treatment for military members and their families. All proposed activities were submitted to the Tanzania country team, and were included in the FY07 COP.

OUTCOMES & IMPACT

Prevention

During FY06, the relatively new TPDF program reported encouraging results across all areas in prevention, care, and treatment of HIV. During the year, 4779 military personnel and their families were reached with comprehensive prevention messages. Ninety others were trained in the provision of those messages. Condom services were provided through 42 targeted outlets.

During the fiscal year, 341 military women were provided with prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) services at 5 PMTCT sites. These services included counseling, testing for HIV, and receiving results. Of the women tested in the PMTCT setting, 33 were provided with a complete course of antiretroviral prophylaxis. Seventy-four (74) military health care workers were trained in the provision of PMTCT.

Care

Seven (7) counseling and testing (CT) centers provided HIV testing for TPDF personnel. During FY06, a total of 2121 troops and family members were tested for HIV and received their results (1298 men, 823 women). Eighty-one (81) military members were trained in the provision of CT.

Treatment

During FY06, 73 military health workers were trained in the provision of antiretroviral therapy. Six (6) TPDF laboratories had the capacity to perform HIV tests and CD4 and/or lymphocyte testing, and 84 laboratory workers were trained in the provision of laboratory services.

