



Project full name:
Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Tanzania

Priority:
Strengthening State Institutions

Phase I:
2024 - 2028

SDC contribution:
CHF 5'220'000

Total phase budget:
CHF 20 million

Implementing partner:
German International Cooperation (GIZ)

Project Overview

Over the past decade, Tanzania has made substantial efforts in improving primary healthcare services by increasing the number of primary health care facilities, workers and medical equipment. This has led to increased healthcare utilization and improved health outcomes. Despite these improvements, health system inefficiencies and health financing remain bottlenecks to improving population health and offering financial protection against sickness. Only 15% of the population in Tanzania Mainland is covered with some kind of health insurance. In Zanzibar, primary healthcare delivery is free of charge since independence. But the sector faces systemic and structural challenges in healthcare delivery, mainly due to insufficient financing and human resources issues (quantity and quality).

Both the Government of Tanzania and the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar adopted strategies to achieve Universal Health Coverage, in alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These goals are anchored in the respective health sector strategies – the Tanzania Health Sector Strategic Plan V 2021-2026 and the Zanzibar Health Sector Strategic Plan IV 2020/21-2024/25.

Overall goal

Support efforts of the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania to progress towards Universal Health Coverage for its population, especially the youth and women.

Approach

Universal Health Insurance: This intervention will address both the supply

and demand sides of the health insurance system. On the supply side, the intervention aims at building expertise of government staff, improving structures and processes and developing new or improving existing policies and strategies. GIZ will engage both national and international experts for capacity development and technical advice. On the demand side, state institutions will be supported to achieve high level of acceptance in the population for UHI by developing a comprehensive communication strategy and strong campaign messages.

Digital technologies for health: This intervention is informed by the Government's Operationalization and Sustainability Plan for the Center for Digital Health (CDH). The plan, which has been endorsed by the Ministry of Health, is a strategic fundraising tool and roadmap for CDH. The proposed three-year plan provides a stepwise approach to launching the CDH, focusing on building a strong foundation, kick-starting key initiatives and promoting sustainability and growth. The first stage prioritizes building foundations and infrastructures required for optimal function of the Center. The provision of technical assistance aims at building digital health capacity of the CDH governmental staff, strengthening governance and leadership structures and developing a resource mobilization and policy dialogue strategy for the Center.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Key state institutions are strengthened to expand health insurance coverage for the Tanzanian population, especially women and youth.
- Foundations for the operationalization and sustainability of the Center for Digital Health are built to serve as catalyst for Tanzania's digital health transformation

Beneficiaries

Primary target groups are the central government ministries, departments and agencies (regulatory authorities and health insurance fund), both in Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar

Secondary target groups are healthcare providers at the decentralized level, and healthcare users, namely the population of Tanzania at large but predominately vulnerable groups like mothers, children and youth

For more information:

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