



Spotlighting TANZANIA

Young and Alive Initiative: From Community Dialogue to Youth Representation in HIV Decision-Making

In Ludewa District, Njombe Region, limited collaboration between young people, parents, and health providers has constrained youth participation in HIV and SRHR decision-making. To address this, Young and Alive Initiative implemented the Binti Imara campaign, convening inclusive community dialogues that brought together AGYW, parents, health professionals, and community leaders.

These dialogues created safe spaces for open discussion, addressing stigma, misinformation, and barriers to youth engagement. A key outcome was a commitment for two AGYW representatives to join the District HIV Control Committee, strengthening youth participation in local HIV decision-making processes. Formal appointment is pending completion of the general election and issuance of approval letters by the District Executive Director.



**Ludewa
District**



Practices for Girls and Women Career Development (PGWOCADE): Strengthening Youth-Friendly Health Services through Provider Engagement

With support from the HER Voice Fund, PGWOCADE conducted a stakeholder engagement meeting in Songwe Region to improve the accessibility and quality of youth-friendly SRHR services. The meeting convened more than 25 healthcare providers, district health officials, and community leaders from public and private facilities.

Through practical training and dialogue, providers addressed barriers faced by AGYW, including stigma, lack of privacy, and judgmental attitudes that limit access to HIV prevention (including PrEP and PEP), contraception, and GBV support. Follow-up outreach in Uinde village demonstrated improved provider attitudes and service delivery, contributing to increased confidence among AGYW to seek care. As a result, one AGYW engaged in the programme became a peer ambassador promoting youth-friendly services within her community.

Participating providers committed to implementing AGYW-friendly practices, including private consultation hours and improved counselling approaches, reinforcing sustainable improvements in health service delivery.



**Songwe
Region**



Voice of Youth Tanzania (VOYOTA: Building AGYW Leadership through Peer Education and Health System Strengthening

Through the HER Voice Afya Project, Voice of Youth Tanzania strengthened AGYW leadership and access to integrated health services in Monduli District. Twenty youth ambassadors from Sepeko, Engutoto, and Monduli Juu wards were trained on Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE), HIV, TB, malaria, early marriage prevention, and communication skills. These ambassadors now serve as peer educators within their communities.

VOYOTA also conducted training for healthcare providers, facilitated by the Ministry of Health, to address barriers to youth-friendly care. The training focused on integrating HIV/TB screening within SRH services, improving provider–youth communication, and promoting respectful, non-judgmental service delivery. Outcomes included increased provider confidence and stronger collaboration across service units.

Additionally, VOYOTA convened strategic community dialogues that engaged 105 youth and traditional leaders in the Monduli Juu and Sepeko wards. These dialogues addressed harmful cultural norms and promoted gender-sensitive practices around SRHR, HIV, TB, and malaria, positioning youth and traditional leaders as active contributors to community-level decision-making.



Monduli District



Pemba Poverty Eradication and Human Development Association (PEPOHUDA: Advancing Gender Equality, Livelihoods, and Maternal Health in Pemba

In Pemba, Zanzibar, PEPOHUDA is implementing a HER Voice Fund-supported project focused on transforming gender norms, improving livelihoods, and strengthening SRHR and maternal and child health outcomes for pregnant and breastfeeding mothers and AGYW.

Using a multi-sectoral approach that combines gender-transformative health education, vocational training, and psychosocial support, the project addresses harmful gender norms while strengthening family and community resilience. By October 2025, over 50 young couples had been sensitised on gender equality and reproductive health, health workers demonstrated an estimated 20% improvement in gender-responsive service capacity, and community structures for SRHR education and HIV prevention were strengthened.

The project demonstrates that integrating gender-sensitive health interventions with livelihood support contributes to sustainable social change. Ongoing peer mentorship by community health workers, trained paralegals, and health providers will support continued impact beyond the project period.



**Pemba
Zanzibar**

