



# RAPID FUNDING ENVELOPE FOR HIV/AIDS: TANZANIA



## PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

The Rapid Funding Envelope (RFE) for HIV/AIDS is an innovative partnership among the Tanzania Commission for AIDS, the Zanzibar AIDS Commission, nine bilateral donors, and one private international foundation. Developed and launched in 2002, the RFE provides grants (up to \$200,000) for short-term projects to civil society organizations (CSOs) in mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar. The grants enable civil society organizations to contribute to the national response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Urgent, best practice, and innovative projects are funded in five priority areas:

- Prevention, advocacy, information/education/communication, and behavior change communication
- Care and support for HIV/AIDS and related opportunistic infections
- Impact mitigation of the effects of the epidemic, including orphans and vulnerable children
- Research to provide baseline information or assess effectiveness
- Institutional strengthening, including capacity building in monitoring and evaluation



Michael Paydos, MSH 2007

An RFE grant to Envirocare in Mara Region provided vocational training to more than 200 young adults orphaned as a result of HIV/AIDS.

## 2007 EXTERNAL ASSESSMENT

The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation sponsored an external review of the RFE in 2007. The team, from Economic Development Initiatives, reported the following findings:

- There is still a need to fund civil society in the fight against AIDS.
- The RFE remains an effective and appropriate mechanism for channeling funds to CSOs to reach individuals, families, and communities.
- The RFE serves as a model for engaging civil society in national programs, and for mobilizing resources to achieve rapid results.

## SELECTED RESULTS OF RFE GRANTS

RFE funds innovative proposals that deliver important results quickly. Examples include:

- National Pharmacy Curriculum on ARVs adapted by national program
- National reference manual and curriculum on nutrition for PLHAs and HIV+ mothers now used by national program and donor projects
- National toll-free HIV/AIDS hotline receives 400 calls/day, more than 1.2 million calls to date
- National AIDS Policy in Braille for the blind and sign language interpretation for the deaf to access VCT and IEC
- 25 new VCT sites opened
- Over 30 small civil society organizations strengthened; three CSOs have become direct PEPFAR partners and five CSOs have become Global Fund partners
- More than 1,500 orphans received vocational training and tools to establish their own businesses
- Over 900 men and women affected or infected by AIDS received legal support
- Establishment of peer networks in communities offering HIV education and support
- Manual developed to train judges and magistrates on human rights and HIV/AIDS
- A website developed in Swahili for Tanzanian youth ([www.chezasalama.com](http://www.chezasalama.com))

# RAPID FUNDING ENVELOPE

We have never stopped working to make RFE stronger and more responsive. New or proposed enhancements include:

- Embedding funds for capacity building with future sub-grants.
- Linking CSOs to local capacity builders and programs for organizational development.
- Extending grants for one or two years to enhance sustainability and impact.
- Disseminating RFE lessons, best practices, and successes.
- Promoting greater collaboration between RFE and other grant making organizations.
- Launching an RFE website (2006) and e-newsletter (2007).

The ability of RFE to support its sub-grantees has never been stronger. The full-time dedicated staff visits sub-grantees regularly to support implementation and resolve bottlenecks. Every visit is an opportunity to build CSO capacity. Greater speed and efficiency in grant making is ensured through electronic communications.

## GOALS FOR NEXT FIVE YEARS

- Raise \$5-6 million annually from donors, foundations, and the private sector
- Launch and support Rounds 7, 8, 9, and 10
- Fund 30 to 40 grants per Round, including extensions of successful grants
- Provide a basic package of capacity building support for ALL grantees, and tailored/ enhanced capacity building support to targeted grantees using training, mentoring and coaching, virtual programs, study tours, and other approaches



Michael Paydos, MSH 2007

4H Tanzania member Batulli giving a lecture to primary school students in Lushoto on the ways HIV can be transmitted.

## INFORMATION

If your organisation would like more information on the RFE in Tanzania, please contact:

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