

Catholic Relief Services has been working in Tanzania with Church and other local partners since 1962. CRS implements program activities in 10 of Tanzania's 26 regions, directly benefiting more than 600,000 Tanzanians without regard to religion or ethnicity. Current programs emphasize HIV and AIDS services, including medical care and treatment, home-based care, and support for orphaned children. Other key programming areas are market-led agricultural projects and microfinance initiatives. CRS has offices in Dar es Salaam and Mwanza, with a sub-office scheduled to open in Arusha in 2008.

CRS in TANZANIA

> HIV and AIDS

CRS Tanzania provides services to 51,925 orphans and vulnerable children and more than 50,500 people living with HIV, including 15,150 patients taking antiretroviral medications and 7,600 in need of home-based care. Awarded two large grants from the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), CRS Tanzania has significantly increased the size and scope of its initiatives since program start in 2004. CRS works with local faith-based, government and private partners that have strong existing community relationships. All initiatives include basic training in essential life skills, preventive behavior change and living positively with HIV.



Photo by David Snyder for CRS

> Agro-Enterprise

CRS Tanzania has piloted groundbreaking work in agro-enterprise, targeting poor farmers in semi-arid areas of the Northern, Western and Lake Zones. CRS helps identify local market opportunities for crops that farmers are already familiar with or can easily adopt, such as pigeon peas, chickpeas and groundnuts. Farmers select improved drought- and pest-resistant seed varieties that promise high yields and market quality that they then multiply and disseminate. Partners also provide farmers with technical and marketing assistance to further increase yields, sales and income.

> Microfinance

CRS is organizing Savings and Internal Lending Communities (SILC) that promote savings in small groups and provide micro loans to members. Integrated as part of CRS' HIV and agriculture projects, SILC groups help boost incomes and provide poor families with access to capital to start micro-businesses.

Key CRS Projects in Tanzania

❖ **AIDSRelief**

CRS is the lead agency for PEPFAR-funded AIDSRelief, a faith-based consortium of five organizations that implement HIV and AIDS projects in nine countries. In Tanzania, AIDSRelief is providing high-quality antiretroviral therapy and medical care at 31 sites, serving more than 50,000 people living with HIV.

❖ **Orphans and Vulnerable Children Projects**

The AIDS pandemic has left behind 2 million orphans in Tanzania. Working through community-based partners, CRS' PEPFAR-funded programs provide food support, educational support, ART referrals, counseling services, life skills training and health care access to 51,925 children and their caregivers.

❖ **CRS Microfinance Lifelines Fund**

The privately funded Lifelines project, serving 1,470 households in the Mara region, offers integrated microfinance, nutrition, HIV and agricultural services to improve quality of life.

❖ **Integrated Agro-Enterprise Development and HIV Projects**

CRS is helping farming communities in the Northern and Lake Zones gain better access to markets while improving health through HIV education. Two key projects — one funded by USAID, the other by the European Union — are organizing farming groups to increase incomes through market alliances and collective bargaining. CRS also provides these groups with HIV education and trains them in community-based savings and lendings.



❖ **Cassava Disease Prevention**

CRS is working with consortium partners to address cassava diseases and increase incomes via the Great Lakes Cassava Initiative. Funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the four-year project will provide 25,000 farmers in Tanzania with preventive education and business skills, and disease-resistant cuttings to more than 410,000.

❖ **Interfaith Peace Initiative**

CRS supports the Tanzanian Episcopal Conference's Interfaith Peace Initiative to build dialogue between Tanzania's various religious groups. Using civic education and traditional councils, the project also helps to diffuse tension between Christians and Muslims in some regions.

“Catholic Relief Services addresses Tanzania’s most pressing development needs working with local partners. Through integrated initiatives, CRS is helping people in need overcome poverty, increase food security and live with dignity.”

Amy Rumano

CRS Tanzania Country Representative

About CRS

Catholic Relief Services is the international humanitarian agency of the Catholic community in the United States. Founded in 1943, the agency provides assistance to people in more than 100 countries and territories based on need — regardless of race, nationality or creed — touching the lives of 80 million people.



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