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# Adolescent health integration with HPV vaccination program: Experience from Tanzania

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South Asian Meeting

HPV Prevention and Control Landscape and the way forward.

14<sup>th</sup> Dec 2022– New Delhi, India.



# Overview of HPV Vaccination in Tanzania



- Adolescents (10-14 yrs): **8,026,346 (13%)**
- Year Introduced: 2014 as pilot in 1 region and 2018 scaled up in 31 regions and 195 districts
- HPV Eligibility : Girls, 9-14 years
- During introduction (2018 ) - 2022, upper age cohort of 14 years were eligible girls
- Two doses of the quadrivalent HPV vaccine is used; 6 months apart b/n 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> dose
- HPV vaccine is provided in all government & Private HFs for free
- No parental consent



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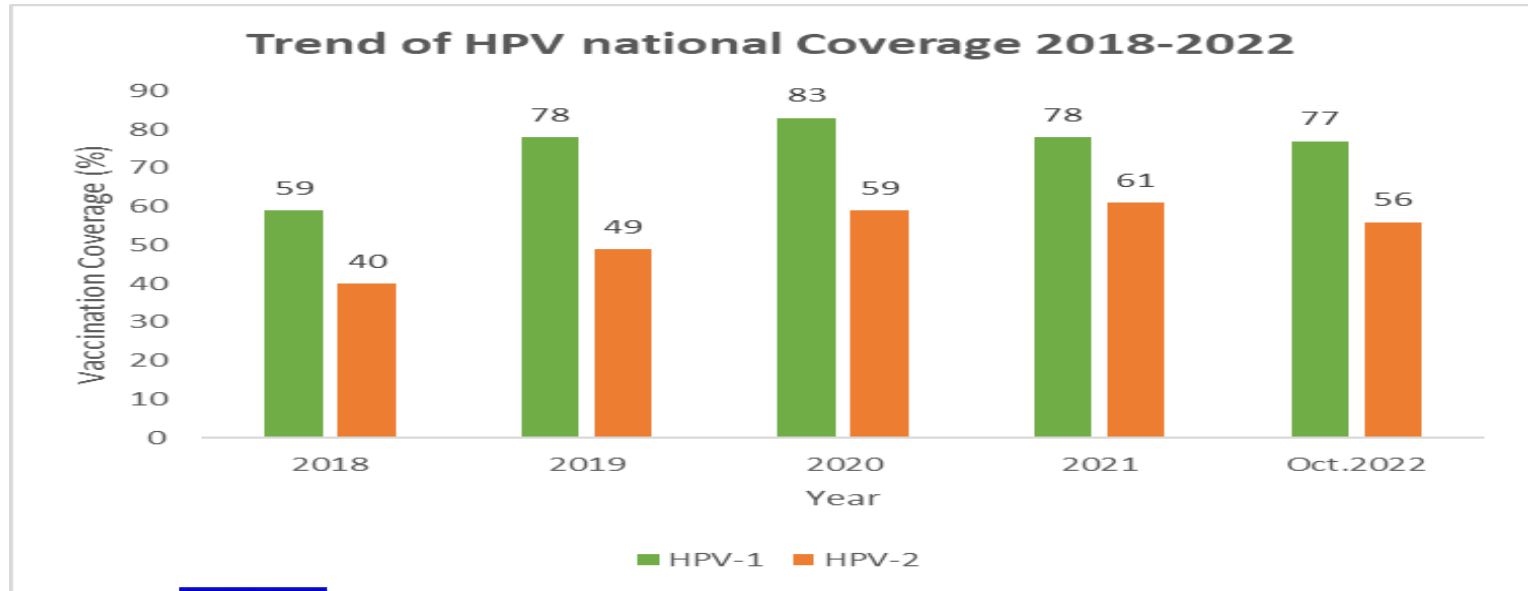


# How it started



- 73% coverage during introduction

# Where we are from 2018-2022



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# HPV vaccination Delivery strategy in Tanzania

- Routine
  - Health facility, outreach posts, mobile clinics or schools
  - Girls out of school are reached by fixed session or community outreach
- PIRI ( Periodic Intensification of Routine Immunization)
  - February and August HPV routine Immunization Intensified in schools
- Campaign during introduction
- Integrated with other health intentions i.e nutrition, eye, HIV, deworming



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# School based outreach sessions during intensification



- High uptake
- Engagement of teachers is key



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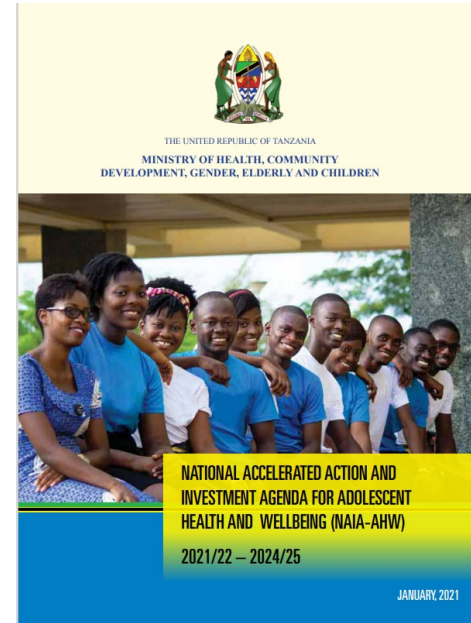


# Tanzania Adolescent Health Program and Service Integration



MINISTRY OF HEALTH, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, GENDER,  
ELDERLY AND CHILDREN

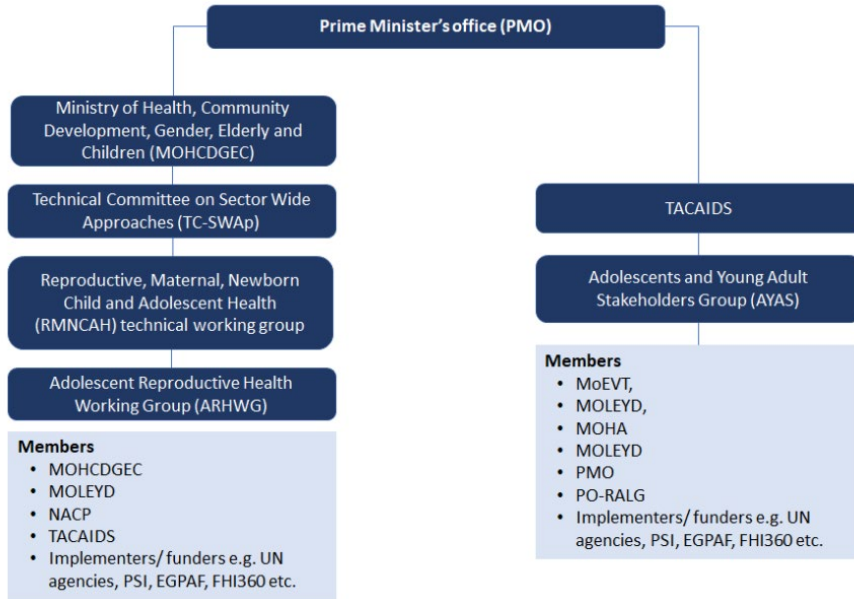
**NATIONAL ADOLESCENT HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT  
STRATEGY 2018 - 2022**



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# Adolescent health program's structure



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# HPV Integration with ASRH-Contributed to Improve Uptake of HPV 2 (MOH, PORALG, GAVI, UNICEF, Jhpiego Project)

## Service delivery flow in school visits

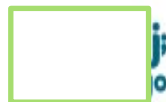


10-14 yrs Boys and Girls

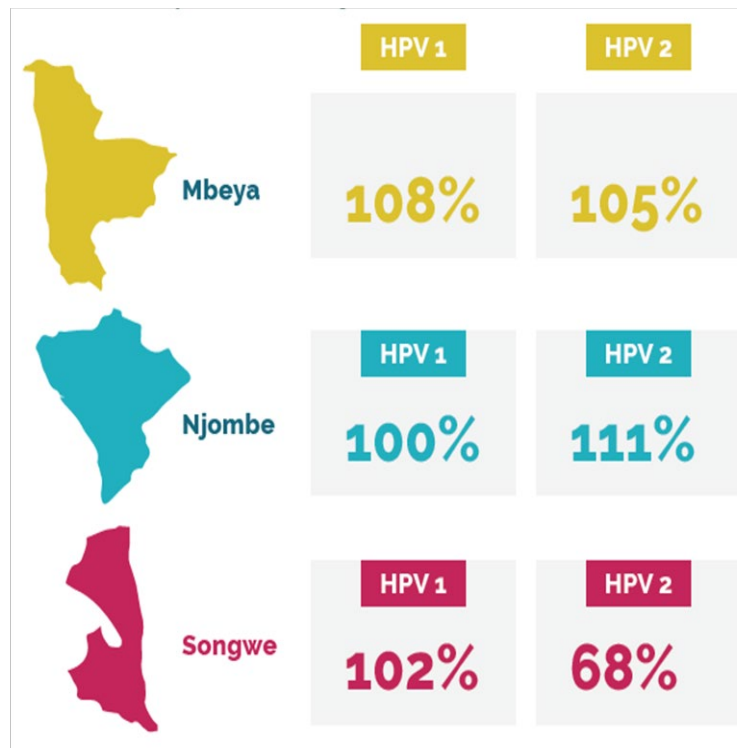
Group health education



14yrs Girls Only  
Visual Assessment  
Nutrition Assessment  
Deworming  
HPV Vaccination



## HPV Plus Coverage in Focused regions, Jan – Nov 2021



# Process/ steps for integration of adolescent health

- **Step 1: Mapping of Adolescents**
  - Identifies where adolescent health and wellbeing programmes operate, how many adolescents are reached, and what each programme achieves eg. In schools and communities
- **Step 2: Create enabling environment**
  - Develop policies and legislations that will enable adolescents to access the integrated services
  - Develop demand creation materials
  - Ensure availability of biomedical products like HPV vaccines and supplies at targeted integration point
- **Step 3: Conduct comprehensive demand-creation activities and sensitization campaigns**
  - Multifaceted means of communication should be used
- **Step 4: Implement combination prevention initiatives eg. HPV vaccination and SRH education**
- **Step 5: Monitor and Evaluate**

## programs



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# Lessons Learned in Tanzania for integrating HPV vaccination programs with adolescent health programs

- Investing in girls education empowers them and delays sexual debut among adolescents
- Integrating HPV vaccination into school health programs increases coverage of HPV vaccination
- Engaging communities in demand creation for HPV vaccine has a positive impact on utilization
- Integration helps to leverage available little resources
- Use of available Local Stakeholders( Ips, NGOs, CSOs and FBOs) in implementing outreach and mobile services



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# Challenges

- *Lack/cancellation of Outreach and due to fuel, transport, shortage of staffs at HFs*
- *Low vaccination coverage and high dropout rate*
- *Poor coordination between health facilities, schools and other intervention's*
- *Inadequate Adolescent-friendly health services*
- *Poor documentation and data management at health facility*
- *Lack of awareness among adolescents*



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# What support is needed & Next step?

- Commitment
  - *Registration of eligible girls, School Outreach services, proper data management, increased resource mgt*
- Community mobilization and awareness raising ie CHWs
- Introduce single dose HPV and MAC in October,2023
- Conduct HPV catch up by revitalizing school based outreach , microplanning involving communities & scaling up HPV plus in 5 new
- Use of Social media group (WhatsApp group) to communicate outreach dates and reporting on the girls vaccinated in each session
- Political support ie policy, guidelines,



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**Asante Sana**

