



Feed the Future Tanzania Advancing Youth

Project Duration

August 2017 – August 2022

Budget

\$19.7 million

Geographic Focus Areas

Iringa, Mbeya, and Zanzibar

Implementer

DAI Global LLC.

Partners

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Tanzanian youth have the potential to play a key role in the economic development of their country, but for the 800,000 young people who enter the Tanzanian workforce each year, employment remains a challenge. For Tanzania to reap the benefits of its growing youth population and achieve the goals of its development agenda, it is more important than ever to provide youth with the skills, training, and resources they need to contribute to the economy. Nearly 67% of the workforce in Tanzania is engaged in agriculture. The country is, in part, addressing unemployment by encouraging youth to become more professionally involved in the sector. The Feed the Future Tanzania Advancing Youth activity connects youth to entrepreneurship training, technical skills building, leadership development, healthy lifestyle cultivation, and employment opportunities. The activity aims to increase income opportunities for 21,500 young people through rigorous, professional training and matching youth to formal and informal jobs.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Implemented in the Iringa, Mbeya, and Zanzibar regions, the Feed the Future Tanzania Advancing Youth activity collaborates with local government, the private sector, civil society organizations and young people themselves to change youth perceptions by developing professional and leadership skills

among young people aged 15-35, while promoting healthy lifestyles. The project connects youth to opportunities across its three objectives:

1. *Increasing entrepreneurship and workforce readiness skills among youth*
2. *Strengthening leadership and positive youth development*
3. *Enhancing life skills for healthy living and planning*





To achieve these objectives, Feed the Future Tanzania Advancing Youth uses a demand-driven approach adapted to meet the most pressing needs within the private sector, government, and workforce. By working with agribusinesses to identify the knowledge and skills needed to accelerate growth in the sector, the program develops tailor-made interventions and works through a network of grantees to connect youth with livelihood opportunities based on their interests, aspirations, and capabilities.

RESULTS

A key feature of Feed the Future Tanzania Advancing Youth is its national Advancing Youth Advisory Council: a youth-led body working at district, regional and national levels to inform and advise the project. Launched in 2018, the council ensures project activities are youth-centered and tackle the real-world challenges facing rural youth in Tanzania.

By the end of year two, Feed the Future Tanzania Advancing Youth trained over 10,000 youth on entrepreneurship, workforce readiness skills, leadership, and life skills for healthy living and planning. This enabled the establishment and improvement of nearly 1,800 youth-led microenterprises and the creation of 1,000 formal and informal jobs. The trainings have also increased youth participation in local leadership, with over 300 trained youth joining decision-making bodies and over 450 trained youth now participating in community development activities. Furthermore, over 3,600 young people have accessed youth-friendly sexual reproductive health services upon the activity's referral, and almost 740 youth at risk of violence have been trained on leadership and healthy life skills. However, collaboration with AY does not end with training. The project encourages participants to continue learning and growing with Advancing Youth by participating in all three component areas: becoming a community mobilizer or Youth Council member or taking part in community activities as a youth representative.

To increase access to financial services to often-excluded rural youth, the activity trained youth to establish Youth Savings and Loan Associations in Iringa, Mbeya, and Zanzibar. As a result, 120 youth savings and lending groups have been established; of the more than 1,967 youth participating in these groups, nearly 1,900 have already taken loans to improve their businesses and quality of life.