**N’Weti Zambezia**

**BACKGROUND**

Mozambique has a population of approximately 32.5 million people with 14.4 million (44%) under 15 years of age. The national *Indicators of Immunization, Malaria and HIV/AIDS survey* (IMASIDA) in 2015 estimated HIV prevalence at 13.2 percent, with substantial variation in provincial prevalence that ranged from 5.2 percent in Tete Province to 24.4 percent in Gaza Province (2015, IMASIDA). IMASIDA data indicate that Mozambique is still challenged by a generalized HIV epidemic. For example: HIV prevalence in Zambézia is estimated at 15.1% among adults aged 15-49. Due to the high population in Zambézia, this percentage represents the highest number of PLHIV in Mozambique. Prevalence is higher among women (16.8%) than men (12.5%) and this discrepancy in prevalence rate is even more strongly reflected among young men and women aged 15-24: from those who were tested for HIV, 14.3% of the young women and 4.1% of young men in Zambézia tested positive. This project started in Zambezia in March 2019 and expanded to Gaza in April 2021.

**PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

N’Weti Zambezia’s overall goal is to reduce the risk of HIV transmission and improve health outcomes of people and families affected by HIV in Zambezia and Gaza provinces by increasing coverage of high-impact, evidence-based community HIV services. The program is implementing Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS-free, Mentored and Safe (DREAMS) interventions for Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW), targeting 10-24 years old. It also works to increase demand for sexual and reproductive health services, HIV and gender-based violence (GBV) services, and testing, care and treatment services for people living with HIV/AIDS and TB. Activities contribute to achieve a higher level of viral suppression and tailored comprehensive and preventive models for orphans and vulnerable children (OVC).

**EXPECTED RESULTS AND IMPACTS**

- 31,263 adolescent, girls and young women (AGYW) most vulnerable to HIV infection receive HIV prevention services;
- 95% of people living with HIV (PLHIV) and tuberculosis (TB) presumptive cases who know their status and are effectively linked into facility-based care and treatment services;
- 96,306 orphans and vulnerable children receive comprehensive and preventive services related to HIV, sexual violence and gender-based violence;
- 95% children living with HIV and caregivers linked to and retained on treatment;
- Improved viral suppression for 95% HIV-positive OVC and caregivers.

**LIFE OF ACTIVITY:** March 2019 - March 2024

**Goals:**

- Reduce the risk of HIV transmission in Zambézia
- Improve health outcomes of people affected by HIV in Zambézia

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**Implementing Partner:**

N’Weti – Comunicação para Saúde

**Geographic Focus:**

Zambézia and Gaza

**USAID Funding:**

$56.8 million