



DELIVERING VMMC SERVICES FOR MALES 15-49 IN ZAMBIA

USAID SAFE: Supporting an AIDS-Free Era

Prepared by:
Winfred Kapenda Khondowe
Senior Advisor-VMMC Services, SAFE

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Background

USAID SAFE Program

■ The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) SAFE (Supporting an AIDS-Free Era) program works to reduce HIV mortality, morbidity, and transmission, while improving nutrition outcomes, cervical cancer screening, and family planning integration.

VMMC country setting

- Zambia has circumcised almost 1.9 million males since program start in 2007.
- USAID SAFE has circumcised 8.7% (165,880) in the past 2.5 years.
- Of the static sites; 104 are MOH run and 22 (10%) are privately owned.
- >95% of staff conducting MC are MOH.
- Mainly school holiday campaign-based.

Working through MOH structures

Mainly donor funded (>90%).

Strategy

- Conduct VMMC campaigns with GRZ during school holidays, including in selected institutions of higher learning and hard-to-reach areas, targeting males 15 years and above.
- Use selected private sector platforms and farm blocks to provide VMMC services.
- Increase number of static sites for routine VMMC services.

Targets FY 20

■ MOH: 382,000

USAID SAFE: 85,498

60% of males 15–29 years

Community Mobilization Approaches

- Conduct meetings with traditional leaders (headmen, chiefs).
- Health care workers and community mobilizers reach men through neighborhood health committees.
- Mobilizers provide clarity to clients with specific concerns.
- Use female mobilizers to provide women's church groups with information on cervical cancer screening and VMMC for their spouses/partners.

Traditional Leadership and Faithbased Organization Engagement



- Launch of school holiday campaign involves traditional leaders, and includes drama sessions promoting benefits of VMMC.
- Separate sessions promote men's clinics in chiefdoms.
- Advocacy and local policy dialogue meetings with traditional leaders.
- Ministry of Health writes letters to churches informing them about the VMMC program.

Outreach to Remote Fishing Camps

- Teams bring mobile units to fishing camps.
- Target older men and those coming for fish trade.
- Use HIV testing as entry point.



Partnering with Farm Block Owners to Provide VMMC Services

- Farm blocks multiple farms with one owner, provide a livelihood upon which many men depend.
- District VMMC team works closely with farm managers and employees to plan service delivery and share resources.
- Farm authorities mobilize their employees and other locals using satisfied VMMC clients.
- Employees get free VMMC services and still receive their daily wages, SAFE increases uptake, and farm owners ensure healthy workers.
- Planning and sharing resource contributions and involving district health office and farm managers have contributed to success.

Reaching Males in Institutions of Higher Learning

- Engage academic officers.
- Deliver a VMMC presentation to firstyear students.
- Identify focal point person to register student clients and liaise with the local clinic for services.



Men's Health

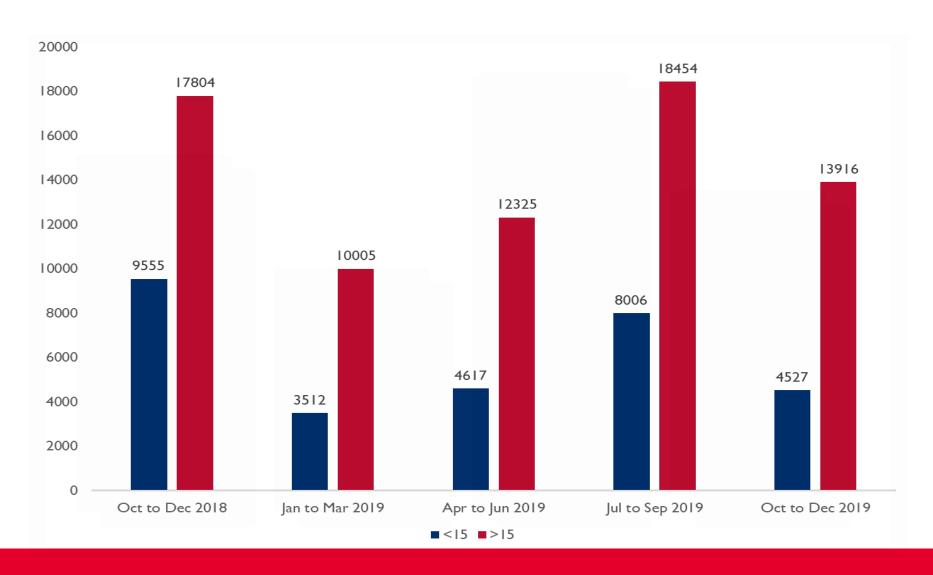
- Integrate VMMC into workplace wellness programs.
- Integrate VMMC into private companies' HIV testing program.
- Refer HIV positive clients to ART and HIV negative clients to VMMC services.



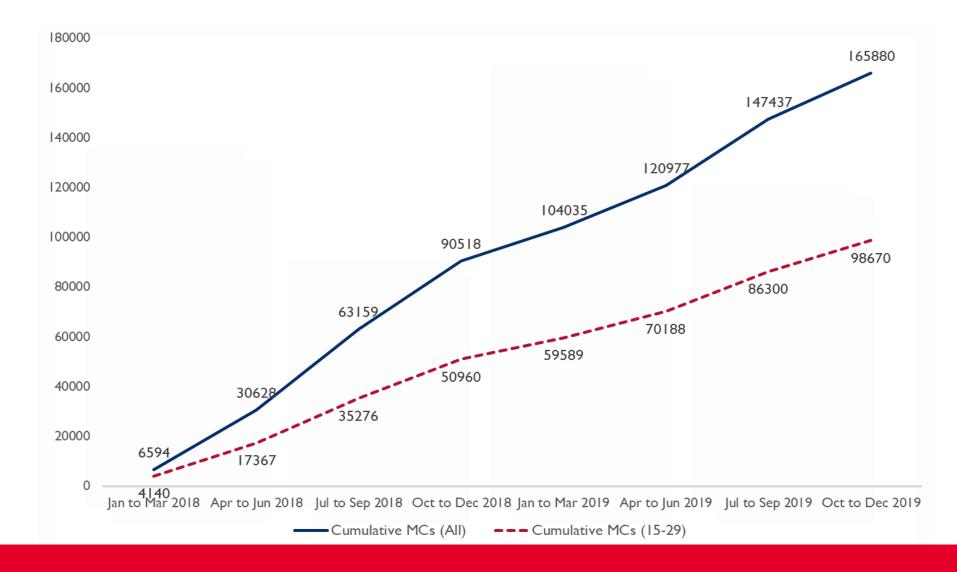
How Does SAFE Engage Companies?

- Meets with senior management to present SAFE's comprehensive services.
- Signs MOU with companies and private clinics to clarify responsibilities of both parties.
- Companies/clinic contribute space and staff for circumcisions.
- Commodities and logistics provided by SAFE through DHO.
- MOH staff conduct mobile activities.

Number of MCs per Age Group; FY 19–20



Cumulative Number of MCs; FY18–FY20



Lessons

- Meet with senior management of institutions and traditional leaders to solicit buy in.
- Partner with MOH to support farm block and private clinic interventions.
- Integrate VMMC with other HIV prevention and treatment services.
- Use mobile units in hard-to-reach areas to bring services closer to people.
- Offer routine VMMC services in fixed sites.
- Recruit satisfied clients and women as mobilizers.

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