



# Differentiated Service Delivery for Key Populations

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## Scaling up Linkage Case Management to KPs: Tanzania FIKIA Project Experience

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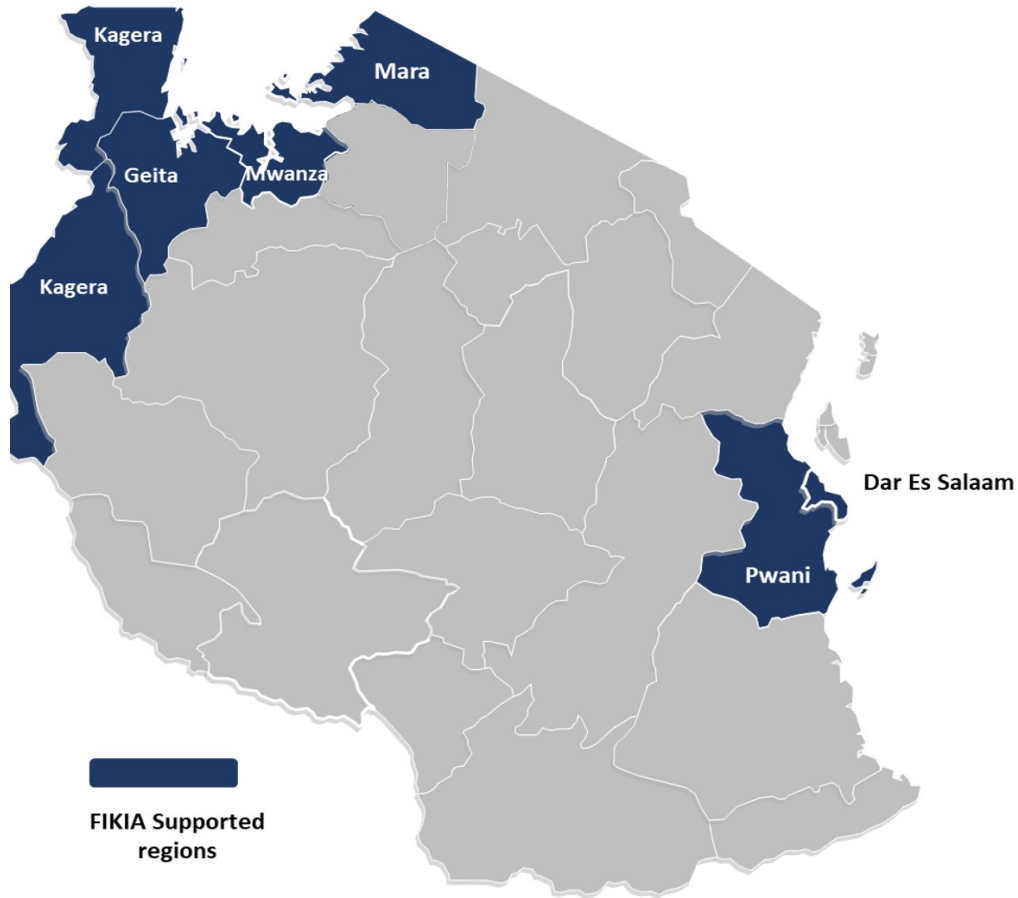
26th August 2021



HIV Learning Network  
The CQUIN Project for Differentiated Service Delivery



# FIKIA: Geographic and Population Coverage



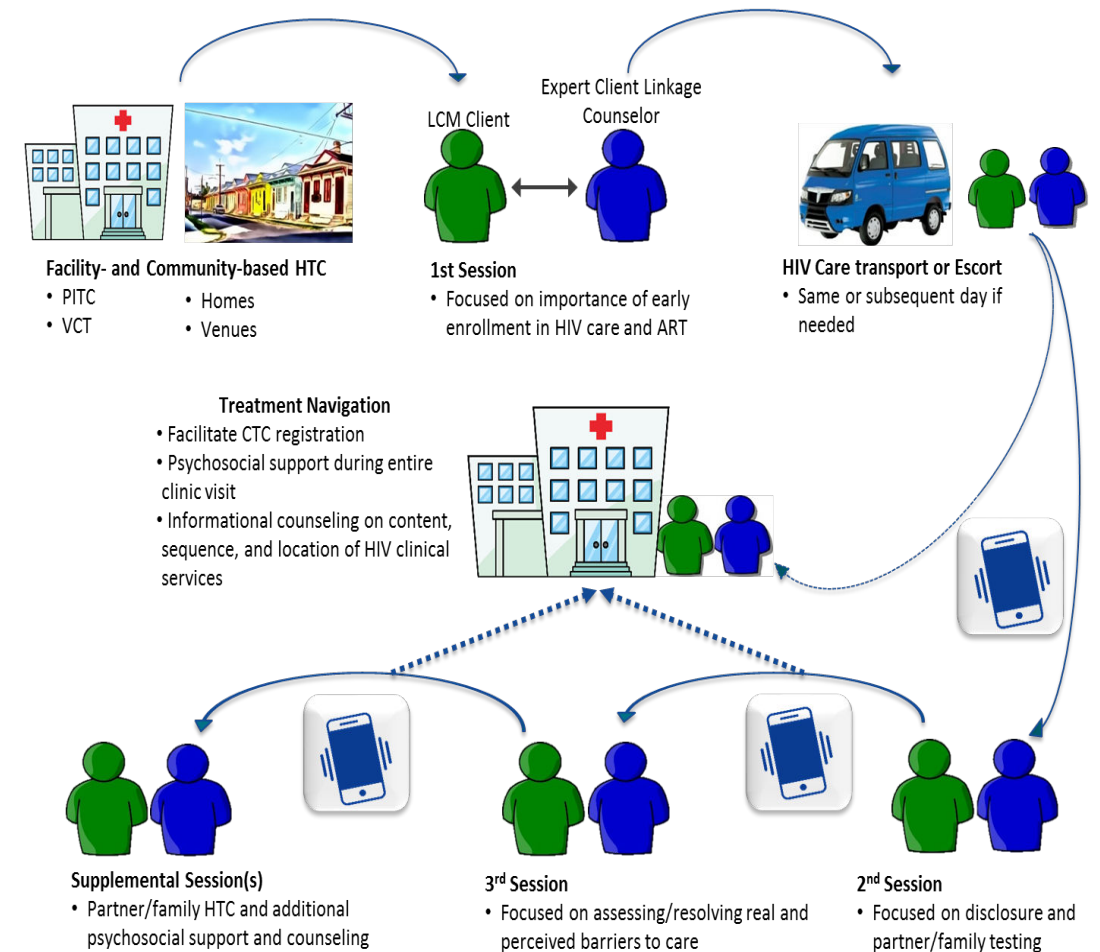
- Dar es Salaam, Pwani, Kagera, Mwanza, Kigoma, Mara and Geita
- KP focus: FSW, MSM and PWID.
- Package of KP-friendly, community-based services, including ART initiation and retention support
- First four project years:
  - 28,830 KP newly diagnosed
  - 25,170 New in care
  - 24,667 Received ART support

# Strategies for Linkage and Retention

- Same-day, community ART initiation at the point of diagnosis
  - Provision of client centered counseling on ART initiation to facilitate acceptance and early initiation by HCW and CEC
- All KP found to be living with HIV are attached to PLHIV peers for follow up and psychological support
  - Support the client through Linkage Case Management services(LCM)
  - Support partner notification and disclosure to enhance acceptance of linkage to care and social support

# Linkage Case Management

- LCM is a time-limited, targeted approach focused on linking PLHIV to care
- LCM services are designed to address barriers to linkage, enhance readiness for ART and support early retention in care
- Goal is to ensure rapid ART initiation, durable retention in care and optimal outcomes



# Linkage Case Management in Tanzania: Pilot

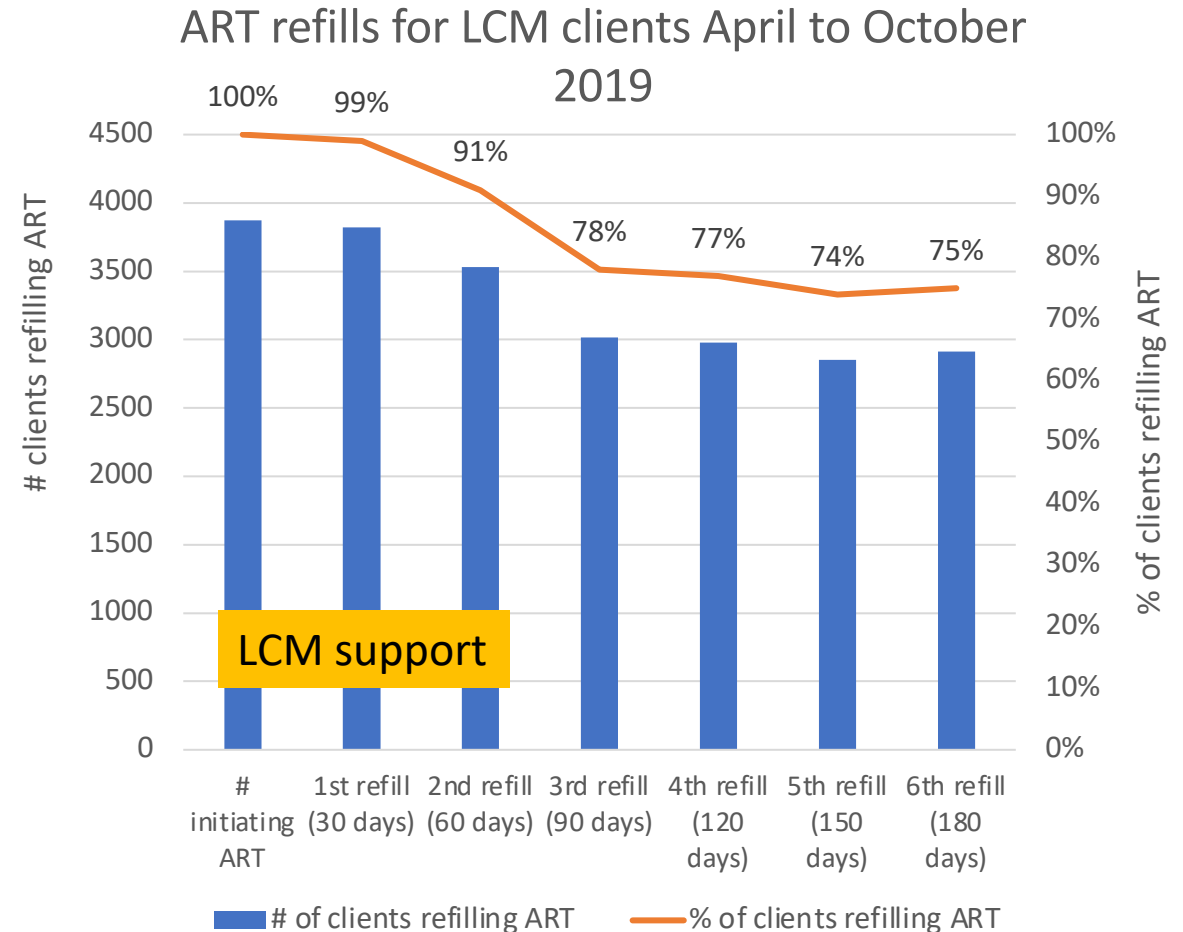
- Peer-led LCM for general population was piloted in the Bukoba Combination Prevention Evaluation (BCPE) study from 2014-2017
- Services were delivered by peers living well with HIV ('Expert Clients'), lasted for 90 days and included:
  - Three face-to-face counseling sessions on HIV care, disclosure, and resolving real and perceived barriers to care; supplemental sessions conducted as needed.
  - First visit escort or transport if needed, expedited registration and treatment at health facility
  - Follow-up support calls and appointment reminders.
  - Integrated index-client HIV testing and counseling to support disclosure, and to facilitate testing and linkage to care of sex partners and family members living with HIV.
- About 93% of 4,205 new diagnosed HIV+ clients enrolled in care

# Linkage Case Management in Tanzania: Scale Up

- Learning from BCPE, the Government of Tanzania (GOT) endorsed the use of LCM as a new service delivery model within national HIV programming
- LCM scaled up between 2017 and 2019
- FIKIA started routinely implementing LCM, with 'Community Expert Clients' (CEC) providing support for 60 days to KP HIV+ clients

# Linkage Case Management in Tanzania: Implementation Outcomes of Scale Up Phase

- 792 CEC were recruited and trained (KP and non KP)
- 98% of 3951 KP clients offered LCM, accepted the services.
- Key findings: Identified barriers could not be resolved in 60 days
- Action taken: Provide LCM for >60 days, support clients following ART initiation



# Extended Linkage Case Management (e-LCM)

In response, the FIKIA project launched the e-LCM model in 2020

- LCM was extended from 60 to 180 days
- Services were intensified with phone calls, text messages, reminders of refill dates; active same-day tracing for missed appointments; and addition of motor bikes in remote areas
- Expanded to include both newly-identified HIV-positive clients and PLHIV re-engaged in care after treatment interruption
- Peer-led services enabled LCM to be tailored to needs of diverse KP



# Closing e-LCM Cases

Cases are managed by CEC for a maximum of 180 days or until the client meets ALL the below criteria:

- 6 face-to-face counseling sessions completed
- Completed barrier resolution sessions
- Re/initiated on ART
- Returned to the clinic at least 6 times after ART (re)initiation
- Elicitation of index contacts for HIV testing
- Client is virally suppressed

# Retention of KP clients with e-LCM

Indicator	Number
Clients enrolled on e-LCM services	24,667

## Six (6) months retention

Current care status	Number
<b>In care</b>	<b>23,065 (93.5%)</b>
TO	740 (3%)
LTFU	518 (2.1%)
Death	98 (0.4%)
Opted out	246 (1%)

Time period: FY20Q4 – FY21Q2

# Lessons Learned

1. Peer led Linkage case management modal is acceptable among KPs and improve early ART initiation
2. It is feasible to take FIKIA KP outreach volunteer approach and develop it into CEC model in which peers provide ongoing support to PLHIV

## Acknowledge support and collaboration

- PEPFAR through CDC
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- RHMT/CHMT/HCW
- ICAP staff
- Volunteers
- Ahsanteni