

## **Mzumbe University, University of California- San Francisco, and University of California - Berkeley collaborate to address local research capacity gaps in Tanzania**

Mzumbe University - Centre of Excellence in Health Monitoring and Evaluation under the School of Public Administration and Management is excited to announce a new collaboration with Tanzania's Ministry of Health, the [University of California San Francisco](#), and the [University of California Berkeley](#) on a research initiative focusing on HIV interventions among Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW) in Tanzania. This is a five-year initiative funded by the [National Institutes of Health \(NIH\)](#).

The grant supports the establishment of the Mwitaji Clinical Research Center in Tanzania which is one of [eight](#) funded clinical research centres dedicated to adolescent health in Africa. The primary aim of Mwitaji is to explore effective methods of delivering HIV prevention services to adolescent girls, such as pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), through community pharmacies. This innovative approach is designed to increase healthcare access and reduce the stigma associated with HIV prevention, especially among AGYW.

In this consortium, Mzumbe University will develop a certificate in implementation science with collaborative support from the University of California San Francisco and the University of California Berkeley. The certificate program aims to build Tanzania's capacity to lead policy-relevant implementation science research to benefit



AGYW and beyond. The implementation of the program will further develop the capacity of emerging health professionals, researchers, government officials, and policymakers by equipping them with the skills necessary to transform scientific knowledge into impactful, sustainable health interventions and policies.

Mzumbe University has a 12-year track record of working with The University of California San Francisco's Institute for Global Health Sciences where it supported the development of a [Master of Science in Health Monitoring and Evaluation](#) with funding from the CDC and progressed to the development of the [Mzumbe University Centre of Excellence in Health Monitoring and Evaluation](#) and the [East African Journal of Applied Health Monitoring and Evaluation](#).

This NIH grant is critical for strengthening academic and scientific collaboration between Mzumbe University and the University of California, San Francisco, and the University of California, Berkeley to address local capacity research gaps in Tanzania. The technical project team from Mzumbe University includes Mackfallen Anasel (Principal Investigator); Henry Mollel (Co-Investigator); Godfrey Kacholi (Co-Investigator); Idda Lyatonga (Co-Investigator); Paul Amani (Implementation Science Faculty); Lawrence Mushi (Implementation Science Faculty) and Mujungu Wajama (Grants Manager).