

NIMR : A LEGACY OF HEALTH RESEARCH IN TANZANIA 1980-2012

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ESTABLISHMENT OF NIMR



- **NIMR was established by act of parliament No 23 of 1979 following break up of East African Community**
- **NIMR is a Parastatal service organization under the Ministry of Health & Social Welfare**

NIMR MANDATE



- **Carrying out medical research**
- **Carrying out research in traditional medicine**
- **Managing health research**
- **Coordinating research and promoting the use of research findings**

Core Values



NIMR

- **Innovation**
- **Service**
- **Commitment**
- **Excellence**

ORGANIZATIONS LINKED TO THE HEALTH RESEARCH SYSTEM



- **Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology**
- **Tanzania Food and Drug Authority**
- **Universities**
- **Civil Society Research Institutions**

Organization Structure



- **NIMR –Council**
- **Director General’s Office**
- **Coordinating Directorates :**
 - **Directorate of Finance, Human Resources and Planning**
 - **Directorate of Information Technology and Communication**
 - **Directorate of Research Coordination and Promotion**
- **NIMR Centers: Lead Directors**

NIMR CENTERS

- **AMANI Centre:** **Malaria-Vector biology & Ecology and control**
- **MWANZA Centre:** **HIV/AIDS & STDs**
- **MUHIMBILI Center:** **TB and TB/HIV Co-infections**
- **TABORA Center:** **Human African Trypanosomiasis**
- **TANGA Center:** **Malaria – Clinical Epidemiology & Clinical Trials**

NIMR CENTRES



- **MBEYA Centre: HIV/AIDS, TB**
- **NGONGONGARE Center for Alternative Medicine: Ethnobotanical Studies**
- **TUKUYU Center: NTD & NCD**
- **HEADQUARTERS: Coordination, Promotion, Health Systems Research, Environmental Health, GIS, Research in Traditional Medicine**

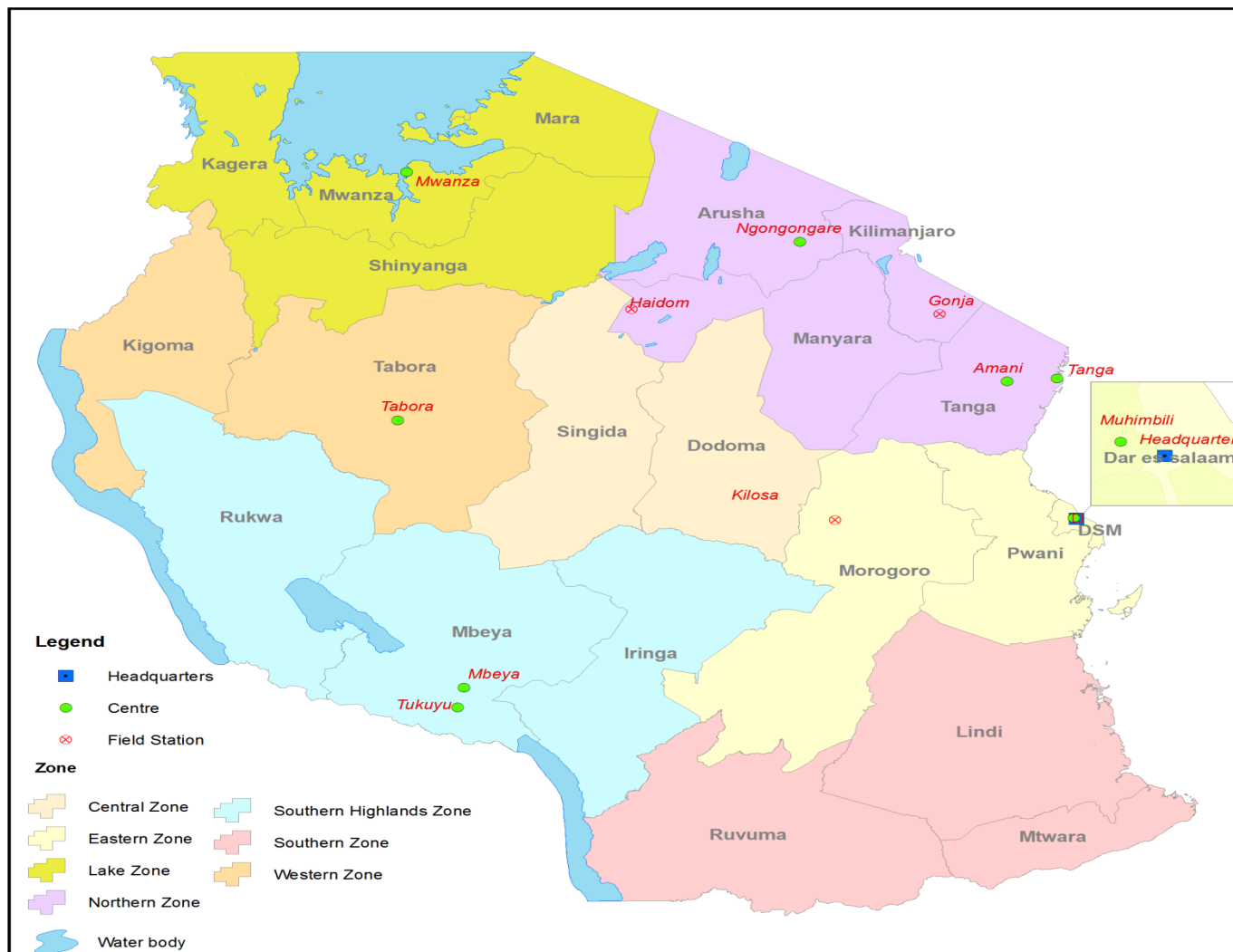
RESEARCH STATIONS

- **KOROGWE RESEARCH STATION**
- **HANDENI FIELD STATION**
- **HAYDOM FIELD STATION**
- **KILOSA**
- **GONJA FIELD STATION-MALARIA**
- **NGONGONGARE**
- **AMANI HILL**

NIMR Centers and Stations



NIMR





*Objective 1:
NIMR
Organizational
Capacity
Strengthened*

VISION

**A Tanzania Where
People Enjoy Quality
Health and Well-being**

*Objective 2: Health
Research to alleviate
disease burden and
improve the health
status of Tanzanians*

MISSION

**To Conduct, Coordinate Regulate and
Promote Scientifically and Ethically Sound,
High Quality Health Research in Order to
Deliver Evidence-Based Information that is
Responsive to the Broader Needs of the
Tanzanian Community**

**Objective 3:
Health Research
promotion,
coordination,
control and
monitoring.**

**Objective 5:
Promotion and
utilization of
research findings**

**Objective 4:
Commercializati
on of research
products**

STAFF PROFILE

- 698 Permanent & Pensionable
- **221 SCIENTISTS**
- **477 OTHERS**

- **38 PhD HOLDERS**
- **87 MSC/MPhil/MA HOLDERS**
- **51 Bachelor HOLDERS**
- **45 LABORATORY TECHNOLOGISTS**

NIMR HEADQUARTERS & NATIONAL HIV QUALITY ASSURANCE LAB



NIMR



GCLP COMPLIANT LABS WITHIN HOSPITAL VICINITY AT BOTH KOROGWE AND TANGA

- **AMBRELA Next to Bombo Hospital has Facilities to Support Clinical Research and Advanced Biomedical and Basic Research**
- **Korogwe Lab at Korogwe Hospital has Facilities to Primarily Support Clinical Research and Drug/Vaccine Trials**
- **Tanga Centre' s Strategy is for the 2 Labs to Complement each other**



LABORATORY CAPACITY

- **Two P2 Level Laboratories In Dar-es-salaam**
- **One P3 Level Lab in Mwanza: Mwanza Intervention Trials Unit**
- **One P2 Level Lab in Tanga: Amani Biomedical Research Laboratory**
- **One P3 Level Laboratory in Mbeya: HIV Vaccine Research**
- **Center For Traditional Medicine Research: To Be Completed this Year**
- **Smaller Research Station with Extraction Facilities for Natural Products**

HEALTH RESEARCH PRIORITIES



NIMR

BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH		HEALTH SYSTEMS RESEARCH	
H	Communicable Diseases, Major	H	Human Resources for Health
H	Communicable Diseases, “Neglected”	H	Reproductive and Child Health
H	Maternal and Child Health	H	Health Service Delivery
M	Disease Control	H	HIV/AIDS
M	Non-Communicable Diseases	H	Health Financing
M	Nutrition	M	Drugs and Medical Supplies
M	Basic Research	M	Health Information
L	Environmental Health	M	Health Policy
L	Product Development	M	Essential Health Interventions Packages
L	Gender	M	Decentralisation
L	Traditional and Alternative Medicine	L	Inter-sectoral Collaboration
L	Occupational Health	L	Public Private Partnership
		L	International Funding Initiatives

SOCIO-CULTURAL AND DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH

Strategic Plan (2008-2012): Strategic Objectives

- **Organizational Capacity Strengthened;**
- **Health Research to alleviate disease burden and improve the health status of Tanzanians carried out;**
- **Health Research promotion, coordination, control and monitoring enhanced;**
- **Commercialization of research products carried out;**
- **Promotion and utilisation and research findings carried out**

Current Research Programs (1)

- **Basic and Biomedical research**
- **Capacity Strengthening Programme**
- **Clinical and epidemiology research program**
- **Diagnostics and Laboratory Sciences**
- **Health Interventions Advocacy and Dissemination**
- **Health Statistics, Bioinformatics, Information Technology and Documentation**
- **Health Systems and Policy Research**

Current Research Programs (2)

- **Non Communicable Disease Research and Control**
- **One Health and Zoonotic Disease Research and Control**
- **Parasitic Diseases Research and Control**
- **Product Development and Evaluation**
- **Sexual & Reproductive Health and HIV/AIDS**
- **Vector Biology, Ecology & Control**
- **Environmental Issues**

Capacity Strengthening: Student Exchange



- **The institute has student exchange program with the following Universities:**
 - **Georgetown University**
 - **Morehouse College**

Teaching and Supervision of Students

- **Local Universities: Established**
 - Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Collage (KCM Collage)
 - Building Strong University (KCMC-NIMR-Copenhagen Universities)
 - Muhimbili University of Health Sciences (MUHAS)
 - Involved in the Field Epidemiology and Laboratory Training Program
 - Bugando University Collage of Health Sciences (BUCHS)
 - Supervision of students from different high learning Institutions upon request

Teaching and Supervision of Students

- **Universities Abroad: Established**
 - George Town
 - More house
 - London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
- **Universities Abroad: Prospective**
 - Medical University of South Carolina
 - Developing Tailor Made courses
 - Research Methodology
 - University of Notre Dame

Capacity strengthening

- **Lecturer buy-outs**
 - **Under African Research Consortium for Ecosystem and Population Health Consortium**
 - Research sabbaticals
 - Teaching

Capacity Strengthening: Tailor made courses

- **International Training on Mosquito Ecology and Vector Control**
- **Training of District Personnel on Operational Research**
- **Training on Malaria and IMCI for Regions and Districts**
- **GCLP course**
- **Research methodology Course**



Capacity strengthening

- **Planned:**
- **NIMR Fellows**
 - Fellowship program
 - Undergraduate
 - Postgraduate

ACHEIVEMENTS

- **Training of Several Scientists to Masters and PhD Levels**
- **High Retention Rate Over 90%**
- **Infrastructure Development: High Quality GCLP Compliant Laboratories**
- **Conducting High Quality Research**
- **Expansion of Research Agenda**
- **Focus on “Implementation” Research**
- **Several Collaborative Programs and Projects**

Production of Value Added Herbal Drugs (1)

- TMS 2001: Malaria treatment
- Warburgistat: Treatment of opportunistic infections
- Hepacure: Treatment of herbal disorders
- Persivin: Treatment of prostate hypertrophy in men
- Persican: Treatment of diabetes



Production of Value Added Herbal Drugs

- **Mundex:** Treatment of erectile dysfunction in men
- **NIMREX:** Herbal chest, cold and cough remedy
- **NIMREVIT:** Health drink
- **Fukuza Mbu:** Herbal mosquito repellent
- **Kiluwicide:** Mosquito larvicide



ACHEIVEMENTS



- **Formation of the Tanzania Health Research Forum**
- **Formation of the Health Research Users Trust Fund to Support Evidence Based Research**
- **Support for Disease Control Programs**
- **Support for National Integrated Disease Surveillance**

ACHEIVEMENTS

- **Collaborative Workshops- National and Regional**
- **Support of Several Regional Networks**
- **Close Working Relationship with CHMTs**
- **Capacity Building for CHMTs**

Achievements

- **Journal:**
 - Tanzania Journal of Health Research (1997)
 - Published quarterly
- **Annual Joint Scientific Conference (1983)**
 - April 15-19, 2012

COLLABORATIONS



Internal partners

- **Ministries of Health and Social Welfare**
- **Ifakara Health Institute**
- **Sokoine University of Agriculture**
- **African Medical Research Foundation,**
- **Bugando University College of Health Sciences/BMC**
- **Muhimbili Univ. of Health and Allied Sciences**
- **Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre/KMC College**
- **Tanzania Essential Strategies against HIV/AIDS**
- **East African Community**

COLLABORATIONS



External partners:

- **Uganda Virus Research Institute,**
- **London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine**
- **DBL-Centre for Health Research and Development, DK**
- **University of Copenhagen /CMP, Denmark**
- **Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, UK**
- **Centre for International Health, Norway**
- **Wageningen University and Research Centre, NL**
- **Dukes University, USA/University of Minnesota**
- **World Health Organization**

CHALLENGES

- **Funding**
- **Human Resource for specialized areas**
- **Infrastructure and equipment**
- **Research translation to policy: Capacity**
- **Slow pace of commercialization**
- **Dissemination**

OPPORTUNITIES

- **Increase in critical mass of researchers**
- **High retention rate over 90%**
- **Increased focus on innovation.**
- **State of the art Laboratories and equipment**
- **Engaging more actively with institutions of higher learning**
- **Political will to put research high on the development agenda**
- **Clinical and Laboratory Research Network**
- **Established sites for research**

H.E President Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete of Tanzania

- ❑ Commitment to increase the amount going to research from less the 0.3% to 1% of National GDP





NIMR

Thank you for listening