



CIDRZ

for a healthy Zambia

Newsletter

Quarter 4 FY 2024

VOL. 26



ACHIEVING SUCCESS IN PUBLIC HEALTH THROUGH TEAMWORK

Table of Contents

A Message from the CEO's Office	1
CIDRZ Talent Development Hub.....	2
CIDRZ Celebrates Corporate Soccer League Victory with Trophy Handover to CEO.....	3
Ministry of Health Launches the National Multi-Pathogen Diagnostic Programme.....	4
CIDRZ Hosts Focus Group Discussion for the Deaf Community	5
CIDRZ Donates Mobile Clinic Caravan to Eastern Province Health Office.....	6
CIDRZ's TBLON Project Empowers Ipusukilo Leaders to Combat Tuberculosis Myths.....	6
Measles Vaccination Campaign Sees Increased Male Involvement.....	7
Zambia Commemorates National HIV Testing, Counseling, and Treatment Day.....	7
MOH Launches Health Data Governance Framework.....	8
CIDRZ Supports Roll out of SmartCare Pro to 58 DFZ Health Facilities.....	9
CIDRZ Host Boys to Men Conference to Empower Adolescents.....	9
CIDRZ hosts thrilling Diabetes Camp for Type 1 Patients.....	10

Editor's Note

Dear Esteemed Readers,

As we officially close the 2023/2024 financial year, I express my deepest gratitude to all the projects and teams collaborating with the Communications Department. Your partnership and commitment have been instrumental in helping us amplify the incredible impact of the organisation

Through our joint efforts, we have continued to make a lasting impression on our social media platforms, reaching wider audiences and telling stories that resonate deeply with the communities we serve. The success of our communication efforts is proof to the transformative work happening on the ground and how these narratives touch lives, inspire hope, and drive positive change. As we transition into the new quarter, we look forward to even greater collaboration and innovation in sharing the impactful stories that emerge from our projects. Together, we will continue highlighting the life-changing research, interventions, and successes that define CIDRZ.

Thank you once again for your continued support. We look forward to collaborating with all the projects, sharing success stories, and making history together.

Warm regards,

Editorial Team: Moses Nsunge, Ginah Mudenda, Jill Morse and Saboi Songiso

A message from CEO

Dear CIDRZ Team,

It feels like yesterday that I penned my address to you in the last quarterly newsletter. Time is flying by so fast, as it does when one is engrossed in something impactful and a joy to do. For the most part, I, like so many others, have been settling down in our new office building and trying to meet all year-end deliverables and provide crucial services across Zambia, supporting the Ministry of Health's vision of a nation of healthy and productive people.

I am incredibly proud of the CIDRZ team for our outstanding work in the final quarter of FY24. Through our work, we proved once again that CIDRZ is a reliable partner of the Ministry of Health in implementing vital public health interventions and supporting its mission of providing equitable access to cost-effective, quality healthcare services as close to the family as possible.

During the last quarter, CIDRZ provided critical technical support and was involved in direct service delivery, ensuring that society's most vulnerable populations receive the best possible support. Our continued partnership with the Ministry of Health and other partners led to the launch of the National Multi-Pathogen Diagnostic Programme (NMPDP) under the CIDRZ Trails Project to enhance patient-centred care through improved molecular and microbiology diagnostics in Zambia. The Strategic Information unit, working with the Ministry of Health and other local partners, developed the Health Data Governance Framework that the Ministry launched on 20th September 2024. This framework provides a blueprint for safeguarding patient privacy, ensuring information accuracy, and promoting the responsible use of health data. These two crucial achievements will further improve and strengthen health service provision in Zambia.



We have continued to increase awareness and improve men's engagement with health services by providing mentorship to Ministry of Health staff working in Men's Clinics and raising community awareness of men's and boys' health issues and available preventive services. I commend the CIDRZ Gavi programme for supporting the recently conducted Measles Rubella Vaccination campaign, ensuring every child was vaccinated, immunised, and protected from what could be a debilitating disease.

Lastly, I am so proud of our CIDRZ soccer team for scooping the 2024 Zed Corporate Soccer League for the Lusaka Division. Their winning spirit clearly represents CIDRZ's culture of excellence in whatever we do. I urge us all to bring the principles demonstrated on the field into our everyday work and personal experiences, which will ensure that we succeed in everything we do.

Best regards,

Dr Izukanji Sikazwe
Chief Executive Officer

CIDRZ TALENT DEVELOPMENT HUB

Driving our everyday behaviours: Conflict Resolution

Dear Colleagues,

I hope this message finds you well and in great spirits. As we continue to grow and evolve as an organisation, I want to express my heartfelt appreciation for your dedication, hard work, and unwavering commitment. Your invaluable contributions are the foundation of our success, and we deeply value the unique talents and perspectives that each of you brings to the broader CIDRZ team.

As we embark on our journey for FY2024/2025, I want to remind everyone of the importance of open communication, teamwork, and mutual respect in our daily operations. These core values strengthen our team cohesion, enhance our workplace culture, and empower us to achieve our collective goals more effectively. I encourage you to resolve conflicts within your teams amicably. Conflict is normal and, when managed productively, can lead to positive solutions. It's essential that all voices are heard in a respectful and safe space. Supervisors, please foster this within your teams, and I urge everyone to make use of our CIDRZ Talent Development Hub, which offers valuable resources to help manage workplace conflict professionally.

I would also like to extend my gratitude to all staff who have embraced continuous learning through our online platform launched last financial year. The CIDRZ Talent Development Hub provides access to a wealth of educational resources, from technical expertise to leadership and soft skills. Your commitment to personal and professional growth is commendable, and I congratulate those who have completed their assignments.

Looking ahead, let us continue expanding our knowledge base to enhance our work. October will be a self-directed learning month, during which no specific learning courses will be assigned. Instead, I encourage you to explore the Talent Development Hub and select two courses that align with your interests and career aspirations. This is a great opportunity to tailor your learning journey.



As we officially close FY2023/2024, it is time for our End-of-Year Performance Evaluations. This process is a valuable opportunity to reflect on our achievements and assess our performance against last year's objectives. The system for End-of-Year scoring is open from 1 October to 31 October 2024. I encourage everyone to complete their reviews thoroughly and on time, so we can swiftly move into setting new objectives for FY2024/2025. Aligning our Performance Management process with our calendar is key to ensuring smooth transitions between financial years.

Lastly, I wish you all a joyous Independence Day as Zambia celebrates 60 years of freedom. Let us come together and celebrate in style on Thursday, 17 October 2024, at 14:30hrs. I look forward to seeing everyone dressed in vibrant traditional attire to mark this special occasion.

Thank you again for your continued dedication, and here is to a happy and productive October!

Best regards,

Mwansa Lombe
Director Human Resource

CIDRZ Celebrates Corporate Soccer League Victory with Trophy Handover to CEO Dr Izukanji Sikazwe

The recently won corporate soccer league trophy has been officially presented to CIDRZ CEO Dr Izukanji Sikazwe, adding to CIDRZ's growing collection of excellence awards.

In his handover remarks, CIDRZ Coach David Tembo praised the team for their tremendous effort, emphasizing that their unity and collective play were key to bringing the cup home. [Read More...](#)



CIDRZ CEO Dr. Izukanji Sikazwe shares a light moment with Captain Paul Somwe (left) and Coach David Tembo during the trophy presentation



Ministry of Health Launches the National Multi-Pathogen Diagnostic Programme



Health Minister Dr Elijah Muchima launches the NMPDP Programme



CIDRZ CEO Dr Izukanji Sikazwe during the launch

The Ministry of Health has launched the National Multi-Pathogen Diagnostic Programme (NMPDP) designed to enhance the diagnostic capabilities of Zambia's public health laboratories.

Minister of Health Dr. Elijah Muchima, who launched the programme at Livingstone University Teaching Hospital in Southern Province, said the NMPDP will address significant gaps in the current diagnostic landscape by leveraging advanced molecular and microbiology techniques, such as open PCR and Genomic sequencing. [Read More...](#)





CIDRZ's DREAMS team during a focus group discussion at Lusaka's Munali Secondary School Special Unit

CIDRZ Hosts Focus Group Discussion for the Deaf Community

As we commemorate the International Week of Deaf people 2024, the Centre for Infectious Disease Research in Zambia (CIDRZ), through its CHEKUP 1 (DREAMS) program supported by USAID, held a focus group discussion at Lusaka's

Munali Secondary School Special Unit, to assess the impact of the programme on Deaf students' access to sexual reproductive health services and information.

[Read More...](#)



CIDRZ Donates Mobile Clinic Caravan to Eastern Province Health Office



CIDRZ's Bertha Makumba hands over the Mobile Clinic Caravan to Eastern Province Minister Honourable Peter Phiri

The Centre for Infectious Disease Research in Zambia (CIDRZ) has donated a mobile clinic caravan to the Eastern Province Health Office (EPHO) to strengthen its community health service delivery in the province. Speaking when he received the caravan on behalf of EPHO, Eastern Province Minister, Honourable Peter Phiri, said the caravan will aid government's efforts to strengthen Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision (VMMC) services, which have been identified as one of the key strategies to attain HIV epidemic control.

[Read More...](#)

CIDRZ's TBLON Project Empowers Ipusukilo Leaders to Combat Tuberculosis Myths

Community members of Ipusukilo compound in Kitwe, Copperbelt Province, are pleased with the efforts of the Centre for Infectious Disease Research in Zambia (CIDRZ) through its USAID Zambia -funded Tuberculosis Local Organisation Network (TBLON) project for effectively engaging local leaders in the fight against tuberculosis (TB).

Sylvester Manembo, a prominent community leader, highlighted that educating community leaders on TB will enable them to disseminate accurate information, helping to break down the barriers that hinder the treatment of TB in the communities. [Read More...](#)



CIDRZ's USAID TBLON Community Coordinator Hachintu Makomo addresses community members of Ipusukilo compound in Kitwe District

Measles Vaccination Campaign Sees Increased Male Involvement

A child's well-being requires dedicated responsibility and involvement from both parents. The ongoing measles vaccination campaign fulfils this requirement, as we have seen increasing male participation in bringing their children for vaccination. [Read More...](#)



A health worker vaccinates Daniel Mukwashi's daughter at Railway Urban Clinic in Kafue for the measles-rubella vaccine

Zambia Commemorates National HIV Testing, Counseling, and Treatment Day



CIDRZ Staff at the 2024 HTCT commemoration in Chongwe

The Centre for Infectious Disease Research in Zambia (CIDRZ) proudly participated in the National HIV Testing, Counselling, and Treatment Day, celebrated under the theme: "Free Your Mind! Test for HIV Today! Secure Your Future."

The event, held in Chongwe District, Lusaka Province, featured a vibrant display of efforts to combat HIV, with CIDRZ's CDC Zambia PROUD-Z and USAID Zambia Empowered Children and Adolescents Program (ECAP III) projects taking centre stage. [Read More...](#)

MOH Launches Health Data Governance Framework



CIDRZ CEO Dr Izukanji Sikazwe delivers her speech at the launch

The Ministry of Health, with support from CDC Zambia and the Centre for Infectious Disease Research in Zambia (CIDRZ), has launched the Health Data Governance Framework, which aims to enhance the integrity, transparency, and accountability of health data management.

Ministry of Health Permanent Secretary for Administration, Professor Christopher Simoonga, said the launch of the health data framework will empower healthcare providers to make informed decisions, ultimately leading to better health outcomes for the community.



Acting CDC Country Director Dr Dalila Zachary delivers her speech

Professor Simoonga emphasised that accurate, timely and comprehensive health data is the backbone of an effective health system. "This framework we are launching today provides a blueprint for how we, as stewards of this vital resource, will safeguard patient privacy, ensure the accuracy of information, and promote the responsible use of data for strengthening our health system," he said. [Read More...](#)



CIDRZ team and various stakeholders during the launch at Mulungushi International Conference Centre

CIDRZ Supports Roll out of SmartCare Pro to 58 DFZ Health Facilities

The Centre for Infectious Disease Research in Zambia (CIDRZ), in partnership with the Defence Force of Zambia (DFZ), held a two-day high-level meeting to review processes and obtain concurrence on the rollout of SmartCare Pro across 58 DFZ health facilities nationwide.

Speaking at the event, Defence Force Medical Services Director Brig. Gen. (Dr) Jackson Kasela emphasised the significance of this milestone in enhancing healthcare within DFZ.

Brig. Gen. (Dr) Kasela said SmartCare Pro promises to improve the quality of health services and efficiency of healthcare delivery through enhanced data-based decision-making, thus improving health outcomes. [Read More...](#)



CIDRZ's DOD/DFPP Project Director, Dr Mwangelwa Mubiana-Mbewe during the high-level meeting in Ndola



Stakeholders during the high-Level meeting

CIDRZ Host Boys to Men Conference to Empower Adolescents

The Centre for Infectious Disease Research in Zambia (CIDRZ), in partnership with ViiV Healthcare and the Ministry of Health, recently hosted a Boys to Men Conference as part of its Pregnant Parenting Girls (P2G) project. This initiative aimed to empower adolescent boys with essential skills to overcome challenges, make informed decisions, and play constructive roles in their families and communities as they transition into adulthood. [Read More...](#)



P2G Programme Manager Brenda Kayumba, addresses adolescents during the Boys to Men Conference



Type 1 diabetic patients during a Diabetes Boot Camp in Chibombo



CIDRZ hosts thrilling Diabetes Camp for Type 1 Patients

A recently concluded Diabetes Boot Camp hosted by CIDRZ's PEN-Plus in collaboration with the Diabetic Association of Zambia (DAZ) and the Sonia Nabeta Foundation (SNF) of Uganda was nothing short of a thrilling four-day adventure for Type 1 diabetic patients drawn from the Mwachinsopola, Kapiri Mposhi, and Matero first-level hospitals PEN-Plus clinics. [Read More...](#)



With colorful hands and determined spirits, Type 1 diabetic patients are beaming with excitement at the camp

Selected Pictures From Other CIDRZ Activities



CIDRZ's Dr Theodora Savory (far left) following proceedings of a recently held stakeholder engagement meeting for the Tuberculosis Mixed Method Evaluation of the multi-month dispensation of Anti-TB therapy in Zambia (TB MEDZ)



CIDRZ HR staff Ngoza and Tamara ready to cheer on the CIDRZ Soccer team during the Zed Corporate Soccer League



CIDRZ's DREAMS team during the commemoration of World Contraception Day



CIDRZ's CEO Dr Izukanji Sikazwe and Staff during the International Workshop on Adolescence, SRHR, & HIV 2024 in Kenya



CIDRZ Health Systems Strengthening Nurse, Barbara Miti leads a review meeting with ART-in-Charges organised by CIDRZ in collaboration with Lusaka Provincial Health Office

Selected Pictures From Other CIDRZ Activities



CIDRZ TRAILS Project Chief of Party Mr Powell Choonga addresses participants during a stakeholder engagement meeting for the National Multi-Pathogen Diagnostic Programme



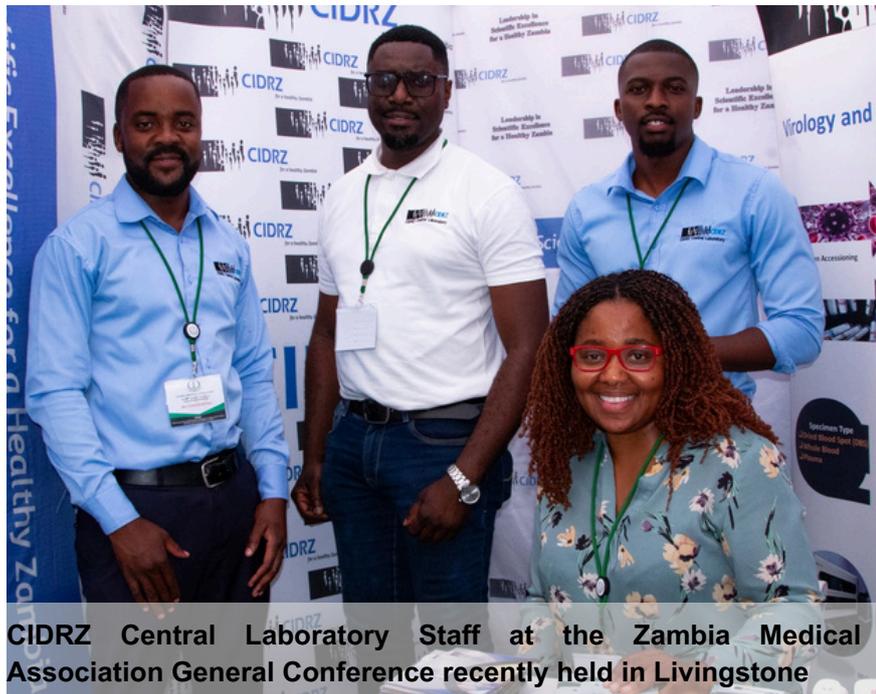
CIDRZ's Kaluba Musonda talks to a mother during the measles immunisation campaign



CIDRZ's Bwalya Mushiki (c) with some members of the deaf community during a hands on baking session in Chawama recently



CIDRZ's Yasa Bwalya stresses a point during a pioneering ICT Organisational Assessment for the Ministry of Health



CIDRZ Central Laboratory Staff at the Zambia Medical Association General Conference recently held in Livingstone



Republic of Zambia

Ministry of Health

Find out more about your health **NOW**



Scan for more information



Men's health matters, action immediately.

For more information contact the nearest health facility



Our Vision

A Zambia, and a region, in which all people have access to quality healthcare and enjoy the best possible health.

Our Mission

To improve access to quality healthcare in Zambia through innovative capacity development, exceptional implementation science and research, and impactful and sustainable public health programmes.

Copyright © 2024 CIDRZ, All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

Centre for Infectious Disease Research in Zambia

Stand #F/378A/15, Main Street, Ibex,

P.O Box 34681

Lusaka, Zambia

Email: info@cidrz.org

Website: www.cidrz.org

