INNOVATION FOR A RESILIENT & INCLUSIVE DIGITAL ECONOMY

Innovation Week Tanzania-IWTz2021

INNOVATION WEEK TANZANIA 2021 (IWTz2021)

POST EVENT REPORT

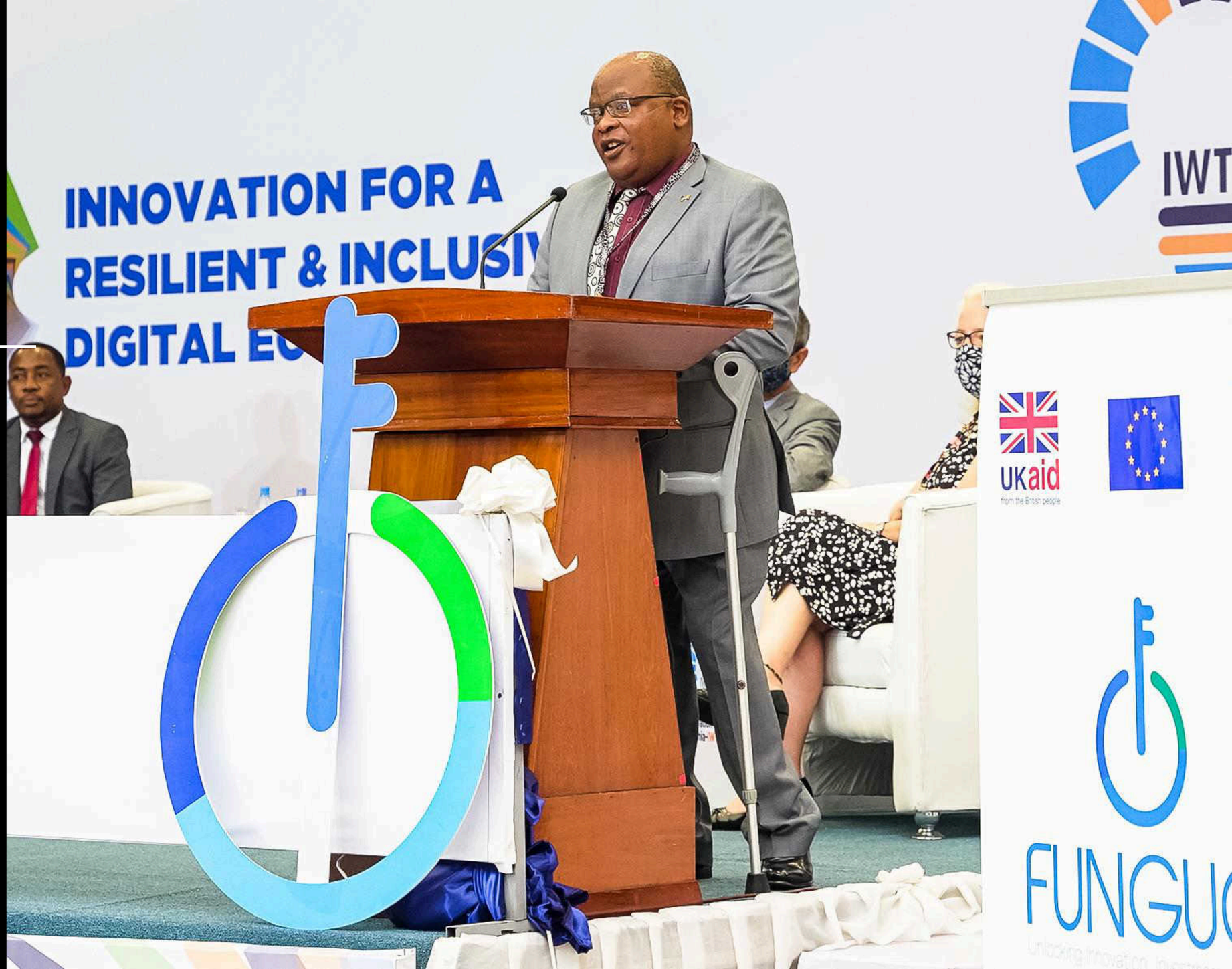
SPONSORS

PARTNERS

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Introduction: About Innovation Week Tanzania.

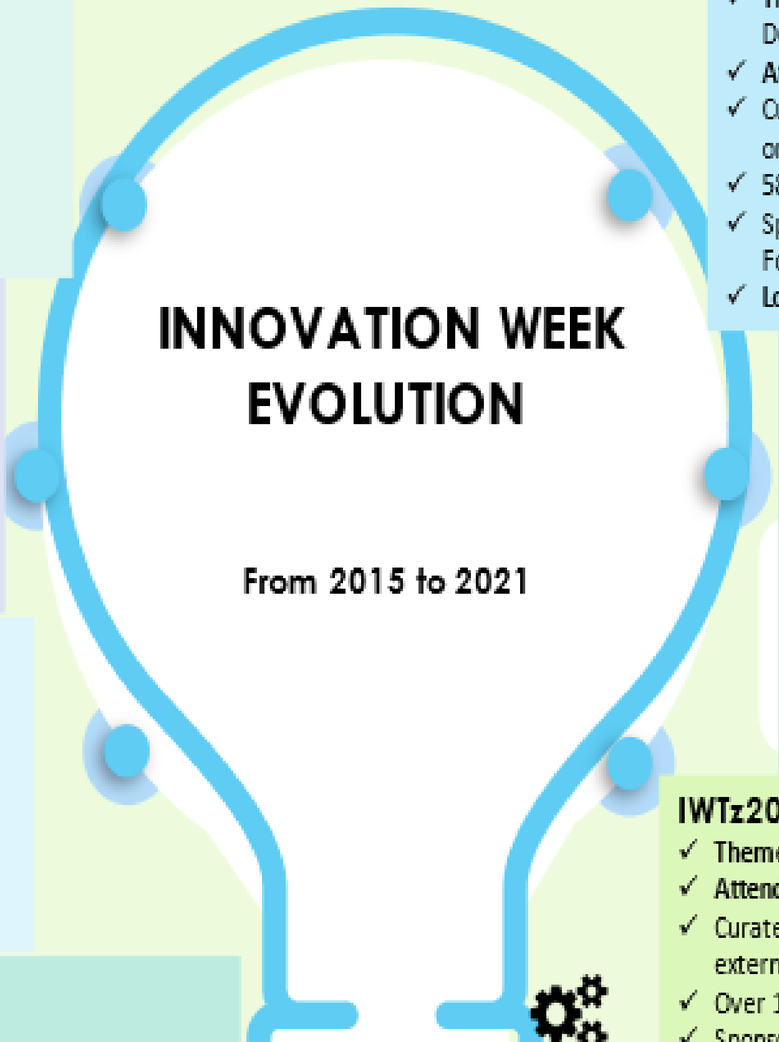
Innovation Week is a free platform that hosts a week-long series of collaborative events and exhibitions in Tanzania, curated by the Human Development Innovation Fund (HDIF), Commission of Science and Technology (COSTECH), in partnership with other innovation stakeholders, and with hitherto the support from the UKAid. This year, HDIF and COSTECH are joined by another strategic partner, UNDP, to bring to you another eventful and impactful week, and make the Innovation Week Tanzania as sustainable as it can be.

The purpose of Innovation Week is to provide space for innovators, policymakers, funders, researchers, and other players in the innovation ecosystem to share what they have been working on, learn from and inspire each other, collaborate across sectors, and transform Tanzania through the scaling of innovation. The Week aims at inspiring the current and future leaders in Tanzania to take risks on new ideas, collaborate across sectors, and transform Tanzania using innovation. We have constantly seen that when stakeholders come together, formidable partnerships can be formed and positively impact innovators and the innovation ecosystem.

The Innovation Week as a platform has steadily grown from the modest start in 2015 with around 500 attendees to 2021 with over 7,500 and a more national outlook. The event has provided a platform to many innovators to be seen, more stakeholders to forge meaningful partnerships, a lot of knowledge to be shared, numerous innovative initiatives to be showcased and key policy related issues to be discussed. In short, it has been a powerful and very popular event in the Tanzanian Innovation Ecosystem. The following diagrams depict the steady growth of the innovation week in numbers, scope and depth..



INNOVATION WEEK TANZANIA



IW2018:
- ✓ **Theme**: Innovation into Action
- ✓ **Attendance** : 2163 participants (48% female)
- ✓ Curated by Costech , Ukaid and HDIF
- ✓ 33 events organized by 32 event organisers
- ✓ 41 articles, 46 TV stories, and 19 Radio stories
- ✓ **Location** : Dar es Salaam (at COSTECH)

IW2017:
- ✓ **Theme**: exploring innovation in research, development, entrepreneurship, technology and design
- ✓ **Attendance** : 1054 participants (55% female)
- ✓ 18 partners
- ✓ 16 events
- ✓ **Location** : Dar es Salaam (at COSTECH)

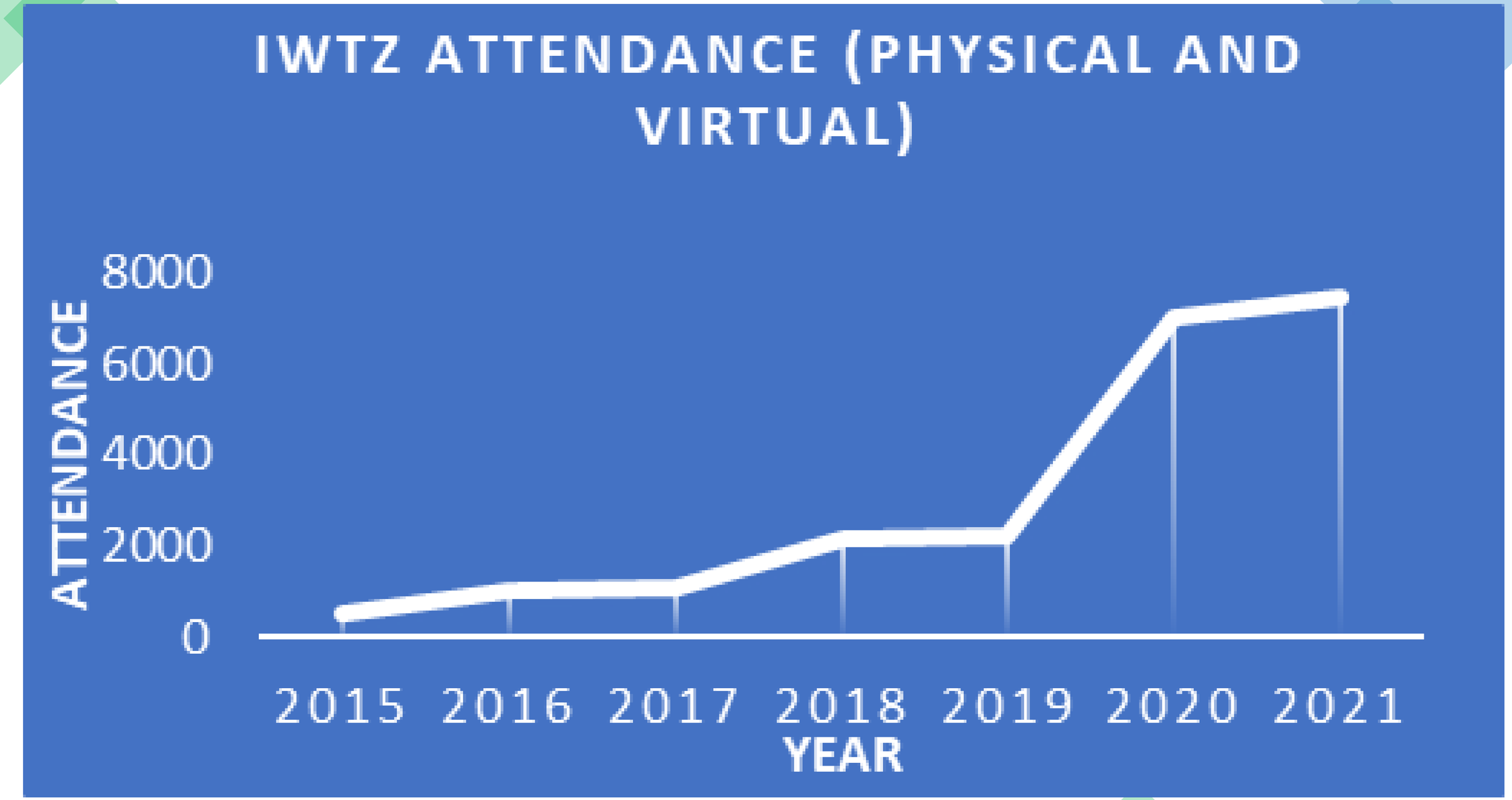
IW2016:
- ✓ **Theme**: exploring innovation in research, development, entrepreneurship, technology and design
- ✓ **Attendance** : 1000 participants (40% female)
- ✓ 16 partners (new: Finnish Embassy and TZ renewable Energy Incubator)
- ✓ 14 events
- ✓ **Location** : Dar es Salaam (at COSTECH)

IW2015:
- ✓ **Theme**: Inspire – Collaborate – Transform.

IW2019:
- ✓ **Theme**: Scaling & Sustaining Innovations for Human Development
- ✓ **Attendance** : 2237 participants (45% female)
- ✓ Curated by Costech , Ukaid and HDIF with an external organizing committee
- ✓ 58 events and 29 exhibitions
- ✓ Sponsors: Digital Impact Alliance (DIAL), Vodacom Foundation, dLab, FastHub, and Swiss Embassy.
- ✓ **Location** : Dar, Iringa and Arusha

IW2020:
- ✓ **Theme**: Innovate For Impact!
- ✓ **Attendance** : 7000 participants
- ✓ Curated by Costech , UNDP and HDIF with an external event manager.
- ✓ 101 events and 29 exhibitions
- ✓ Sponsors: Vodacom, UNDP, UNCDF, ESRF, UNICEF, UN Women, Clouds Media, Segal Family Foundation, The Embassy of the Netherlands, and Exim Bank. .
- ✓ **Location** : Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Dodoma (MAKISATU), Mbeya, Iringa, and Zanzibar.

IWTz2021:
- ✓ **Theme**: Innovation for a Resilient & Inclusive Digital Economy
- ✓ **Attendance** 7500 participants
- ✓ Curated by Costech , UNDP, UkAid and HDIF and organized by an external event manager
- ✓ Over 130 physical and 40 virtual events (exhibitions outside Dar)
- ✓ Sponsors : Vodacom, The European Union, NMB, UN Women


IWTZ ATTENDANCE (PHYSICAL AND VIRTUAL)
ATTENDANCE
8000
6000
4000
2000
0
2015
2016
2017
2018
2019
2020
2021
YEAR

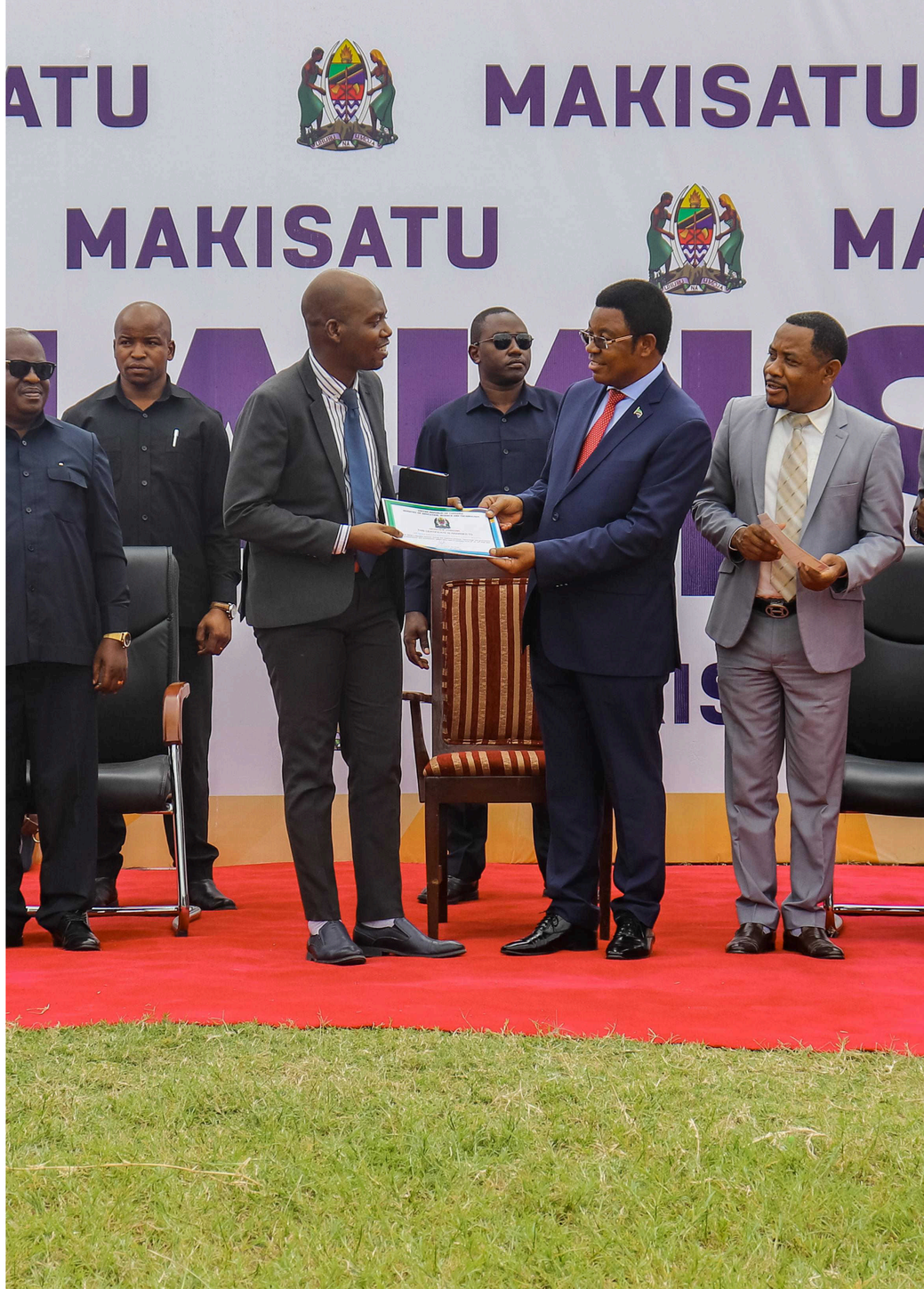
Innovation Week Tanzania 2021

IWTz2021 hosted a week-long series of collaborative events and exhibitions in 9 regions, starting with Dodoma edition from 6th May to 11th May with the climax of the National Competition for Science, Technology and Innovation (MAKISATU) and the followed by various events in Dar es Salaam and regional editions from 17th to 22nd May.

This year the event brought together over 7500 participants in all regions, including virtual attendees. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, 20% of all events were conducted online across all the nine regions. All events and activities had a controlled management strategy to limit participation in accordance with WHO and Government of Tanzania guidelines for events and meetings.

The main theme of the week was *"Innovation For A Resilient And Inclusive Economy"* and the subthemes were as follows:

- Building a vibrant and resilient national innovation ecosystem
- Emerging technologies for a digital economy
- Supporting and linking grassroot innovations to the economic development agenda
- Skills, research & Development for a resilient digital economy
- Making Innovation Work Better for Women & Girls
- Green Innovations for a resilient economy



Key Numbers

IW2020

IWTz2021numbers

177 (101)
Events

265 (139)
Exhibitors

15 (10)
Sponsors

7,500 (6,439)
Attendees

45% (45%)
Female attendees


INNOVATION FOR A
RESILIENT & INCLUSIVE
DIGITAL ECONOMY
IWTz
Innovation Week
Tanzania-IWTz2021
Plus
TELEVISION
Partners
Innovation Week Tanzania 2021
#IWTz2021

Partners

Organizers

The IWTz2021 was put together by UKAID's HDIF programme in partnership with UNDP Tanzania and the Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH). From the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, the coordination was assumed by the Department of Science, Technology and Innovation (DSTI).

Sponsors

This year's IWTz2021 attracted more diverse sponsors, including more sponsors from the corporate sector led by VODACOM Tanzania as the main sponsor who were joined by NMB, CRDB Bank, and TIGO. Other sponsors included the UN agencies such as UNCDF, UNICEF, UN Women, as well as Development Partners - the European Union, The Dutch Embassy in Tanzania, Swiss Embassy through Ifakara Innovation Hub, and Segal Family Foundation.

Media Partners

Due to COVID19, the IWTz2021 communication strategy focused on reaching more people through different media platforms, and this called for partnership with three media houses, The Clouds Media Group (CMG), The Citizen newspaper and Plus TV.

Regional IWTz2021 Organizers

Regional organizers are key ecosystem players that led the planning and execution of IWTz2021 events in regions other than Dar es Salaam. Such partners are Anza Entrepreneurs (IWTz2021 in Arusha), University of Capital Space (IWTz2021 in Dodoma), Mbeya University of Science and Technology (IWTz2021 in Mbeya), Kiota Hub and Rlabs (IWTz2021 in Iringa), Cube Innovation Hub (IWTz2021 in Zanzibar), Ennovate Hub and SAUT Mwanza (IWTz2021 Mwanza) and Project Inspire (IWTz2021 Tanga).







SPONSORS


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Segal Family Foundation
UNCDF
Unlocking Public and Private Finance for the Poor
CRDB BANK
unicef
NL Netherlands
Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra
Ifakara Innovation Hub
Beyond creativity
tigo
PARTNERS
Plus TELEVISION
Clouds MEDIA GROUP
THE CITIZEN

Delivery and logistics

- The organizers enlisted the services of local service providers, most of them start-ups, in delivering the various aspects and components of the logistical delivery chain. The key ones included:
  - The event setup, décor and management, a crucial and delicate task that was successfully delivered by Cornerstone Solutions Limited - https://www.instagram.com/cornerstone_tz/?hl=en
  - Photography, videography and design – successfully delivered by Kumi Media. The link https://www.flickr.com/photos/157470390@N02/albums shows the company's work in pictures. All the design and branding work can also be seen through the HDIF social media accounts: https://twitter.com/HDIFtz ; https://web.facebook.com/pg/HDIFtanzania/photos/
  - The livestreaming part of the week was handled by In Focus Studio Limited https://www.instagram.com/infocusstudios/?hl=en
  - Online participants registration and identification platform (https://timetickets.co.tz) that was delivered by TiME Tickets Co. Ltd
  - MCs and moderators for the whole week were Austin Makani from Capital TV and Khalila (Kellz) Mbowe, Founder and CEO of Unleashed Africa.
- All the outsourced work was well executed and delivered as per agreed terms and conditions.









Events Highlights

Innovation Week Tanzania 2021

#IWTz2021

IWTz2021 Dodoma & MAKISATU2021

- The climax of the National Competition for Science, Technology and Innovation (MAKISATU2021) has for the past 3 years been the highlight of the Dodoma edition of the Innovation Week, and this year was no different. MAKISATU brought together various stakeholders to see innovations that were sourced from innovators from all over the country.
- The opening ceremony was graced by Prof. Joyce Ndalichako, Minister for Education, Science and Technology.
- The Dodoma edition provided a platform for innovators, entrepreneurs, and innovation ecosystem players in Dodoma to showcase over 70 innovations and to discuss, learn and explore the opportunities for innovations and connect with each other to during the eight events.
- Among the key highlights of the IWTz2021 Dodoma edition featured the launch of the **E-Fahamu** platform by Vodacom Tanzania, a joint session between Vodacom and CRDB Bank on how the financial sector should respond in 2021, a workshop for regulatory agencies on their role to lift Tanzania in global innovation ranking organized by COSTECH and many more.
- The IWTz2021 Dodoma closing ceremony was officiated by the Prime Minister Hon. Majaliwa Kassim Majaliwa, who declared this platform as a national occurrence with activities, exhibitions, competitions, and other events even at the district level beginning next year.







IWTz2021 Media Symposium

- The media symposium was held just before the climax of Innovation Week Tanzania 2021 (IWTz2021) in Dar es Salaam
- Given the crucial role that the media fraternity plays in growing the innovation, showcasing innovations, catalyzing dialogues and contextualizing innovation and the impact of innovation on economic development and the development of Tanzania, it was given an exclusive chance to understand the theme and to meet and interact with the institutions behind the event.
- The symposium allowed the media to interact with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology and its allied institutions, the organizers of Innovation Week Tanzania 2021 and all the sponsors.
- It was also an opportunity to discuss the IWTz2021 theme and subthemes and out them into context, in order to prepare the public for the following week.
- The symposium was recorded and broadcast the following day by Clouds TV.
- It was jointly moderated by Babie Kabae of Clouds Media Group and Evance Bukuku of East Africa Radio.







IWTz2021 Dar Opening Ceremony & Launch of FUNGUO Innovation Ecosystem Support Programme

- The key highlight of the IWTz2021 Dar opening ceremony was the launch of the FUNGUO Innovation Ecosystem support programme, a programme designed to sustain the HDIF legacy. The launch was officiated by Hon. Juma Omar Kipanga, Deputy Minister for Education, Science and Technology who was the Guest of Honor. He was flanked by Prof. James, Mdoe (Deputy PS – MoEST), Dr. Jim Yonaz (Deputy PS – Ministry of Comms & IT), Dr. Amos Nungu (Director General – COSTECH); Ms Christine Musisi (UNDP Resident Representative); HE. Manfredo Fanti (EU Ambassador to Tanzania); Ms Jane Miller (then Development Director at FCDO) and Mr. Joseph Manirakiza (HDIF Country Director).
- There were a series of keynote addresses and speeches, mainly from Hisham Hendi (MD Vodacom) who spoke about the role of telcos in driving digital transformation in Tanzania, followed by Ms. Jane Miller, Ms. Christine Musisi, Ms. Nancy Sumari Founder, Jenga Hub and HE. Manfredo Fanti.
- Other key events included a panel discussion on building a vibrant and resilient national innovation ecosystem to reap the benefits of the digital economy in Tanzania which was moderated by Bakari Machumu, MD Mwananchi Communications Ltd with Dr. Jim Yonaz Ms. Rosalyn Mworia (Director Corporate Affairs, Vodacom Tanzania); Ms Lulu Ngwanakilala (Deputy Chairperson, Tanzania Startup Association) and Eng. Thabita Etutu (Assistant Director MOEST - DSTI) as panelists.
- After welcome speeches by Mr. Joseph Manirakiza and Dr. Amos Nungu, the opening ceremony was kicked off by a fireside chat with a discussion on going back to the early days and prospects for the future moderated by Miss Khalila Mbowe and speakers such as Jumanne Mtambalike, Faraja Nyalandu and Johnpaul Barretto; with Dr. Flora Ismail and David McGinty joining virtually from Namibia and The Netherlands respectively.









IWTz2021 Northern Zone – Arusha & Kilimanjaro

- The IWTz2021 in Arusha brought together innovators, policymakers, founders, researchers, and other players in the Arusha & Moshi innovation ecosystem to share what they have been working on, learn from and inspire each other, and collaborate across sectors. Also, it was made up of activities such as exhibitions, workshops, and panel discussions both designed to provide useful content and memorable experience for the Arusha & Moshi innovators to share, learn, inspire and collaborate their innovative ideas and solutions.
- The IWTz2021 Arusha edition gave chance to 15 innovators from the Arusha ecosystem to share their innovations and creative solutions to various challenges facing our communities. A competition organized by ANZA, TWENDE, OBUNTU was first held online, and innovators uploaded their innovations pitches through the YouTube channel. The physical pitching session was conducted on the 21st May and the innovators addressed the uniqueness, and market viability of their solutions.
- For the first time, IWTz2021 went to Innovation Ecosystem in Kilimanjaro region. The events were organized by the Kilimanjaro chapter of Startup Grind with support from Anza Entrepreneurs. The Kilimanjaro event included exhibitions and panel discussion sessions that aimed to support the innovation ecosystem of Kilimanjaro coming together to learn, inspire and collaborate with each other.
- Key Numbers:
  - 579 participants in Arusha and 57 in Moshi
  - 10 events and 15 exhibitors
  - 8 partners

IWTz2021 Tanga Edition

- This was the first-time organizing Innovation Week in Tanga region. The opening ceremony was graced by the Tanga District Commissioner Hon. Tobias Mwilapywa, , on 18th, May 2021. The guest of honor was accompanied by other guests from, Tanga city council, Chumbageni ward councilor and ward executive officers, Foundation Botnar and NMB Bank.
- The focus for this event was to spark a regional interest in the innovation ecosystem by bringing together innovators, experts, private sector companies, institutions, investors, entrepreneurs' and donors to share knowledge from their projects, learn and inspire each other. The emphasis in most events was on collaboration across sectors and using Innovation to transform Tanga. All the events happened at newly opened STEM Park, a collaboration initiative between Project Inspire and Tanga City Council, funded by Foundation Botnar. Key Numbers:
  - 350 participants
  - 12 events
  - 35 exhibitors

IWTz2021 Iringa Edition

- THis was the third time for Iringa ecosystem to host and coordinate IWTz activities in the region with different key innovation stakeholders.
- This edition was organized and executed by Kiota Hub from University of Iringa, RLabs Tanzania, Agriedo, SFEO, the Open University Tanzania-Iringa Campus, Meltores Professional and other partners including the government.
- The event targeted innovators around the Iringa region to participate in physical and virtual components. There was 130 participants who attended the Iringa Innovation Partnership for Impact and Launch Party on 18th May. The guest of honor for this session was Hon Nusrat Hanje, Member of Parliament who was accompanied by the then Iringa District Commissioner, Richard Kasesela.
- The event had a total of 732 participants and the majority was youths working in health sectors, Agri-preneurs, digital marketers, private organizations, start-ups, university students, teachers, and entrepreneurs from Iringa and other regions.
- The last event was an agriculture hackathon where six groups of 10 innovators each came up with solutions for proposed but the Agriedo Hub and pitched on 4th June 2021.
- The Iringa edition was covered in 3 radio interviews with Ebony and Nuru FM whose coverage reaches to Iringa town and rural, Mbeya, Dar-es-salaam, Morogoro and Njombe.
- Key Numbers;
  - 13 events and 59 exhibitors
  - 732 participants



IWTz2021 Mbeya Edition

- This was the 3rd time for Mbeya University of science and technology (MUST) to organize the IWTz2021 from 17th to 21st May 2021. Apart from MUST, IWTZ2021 in Mbeya region had other event partners like VAHACA innovation hub from Njombe, Mbeya Connection in Biashara (MCIB), Business Innovation & Technology HUB, SANDC Technology ltd, ELIMISHA Foundation and Rlabs from Iringa.
- There was 36 hybrid (physical and virtual) activities which included workshops, panel discussions, Girls IT Boot camp, Trainings, Research seminars, hackathons, thematic conferences, innovations exhibition, pitching, cooking competitions, networking sessions and exhibitions. The week commenced with a panel discussion on the role of hubs / innovation space in building an innovation ecosystem. In this event and throughout the week, participants discussed the challenges and opportunities surrounding the southern highland regions innovation ecosystem and what should be done to speed up its growth.
- The closing ceremony was graced by the Mbeya Regional Commissioner as a guest of honor on his first day at the office as RC. The RC committed to providing opportunities for youth start-ups and invited innovation groups to apply for soft loans from his office. Key Numbers:
  - 782 participants (679 physical, 103 virtual)
  - 36 hybrid events and 16 exhibitors

IWTz2021 Mwanza Edition

- Mwanza also saw IWTz hosted there for the first time. This event was organized by Ennovate Hub, MITz Kits, SIDO, and St Augustine University of Tanzania (SAUT). The guest of honour, for the opening ceremony was the Regional Administrative Secretary (RAS) who was represented by the Mwanza Chief Medical Officer Dr Thomas Rutachunzibwa.
- For the closing ceremony, the guest of honor Mr Mzava, Ilemela District Administrative secretary who represented the Regional Commissioner expressed the enthusiasm of his office to support young innovators in the region.
- To event hosts this positive reception and engagement from stakeholders reflects the readiness of the Mwanza innovation ecosystem to contribute heavily to the development agenda of Mwanza region and Tanzania.
- This edition saw over 1200 participants across over 15 events. 68% of these participants were women and girls. Other record participants' profiles included corporates, academicians and students. Apart from innovation exhibitions and attending to some events, most participant played a major role in organizing the activities and showcasing innovation throughout the week.
- **Key Numbers**:
  - 15 events
  - 5 media partners
  - 1200 participants (677 physical and 523 virtual participants
  - 12 volunteers

IWTz2021 Zanzibar Edition

- In Zanzibar, IWTz2021 was coordinated by Cube Zanzibar in collaboration with Pamoja Youth Initiative, MECCI Foundation, Vema Academy, ADViMPACT, Zanzibar University Research and Consultancy (ZURCC), Milele Zanzibar Foundation, STEAMAX, Refasha Product, ZanRobotics and the State University of Zanzibar (SUZA).
- The event was held from 17th to 22nd of May 2021 at Cube Zanzibar Innovation Hub - Stone Town.
- There were 13 events which cut across all sub-themes and the events were hosted by 12 partners.
- A total of 472 people participated in the IWTz2021 in Zanzibar, whereby 45% were female and 55% were male. During the closing ceremony 2 hackathon winners and best exhibitors were given cash awards.
- Key Numbers:
  - 472 participants
  - 13 events
  - 5 exhibitors

IWTz2021 Morogoro (Ifakara) Edition

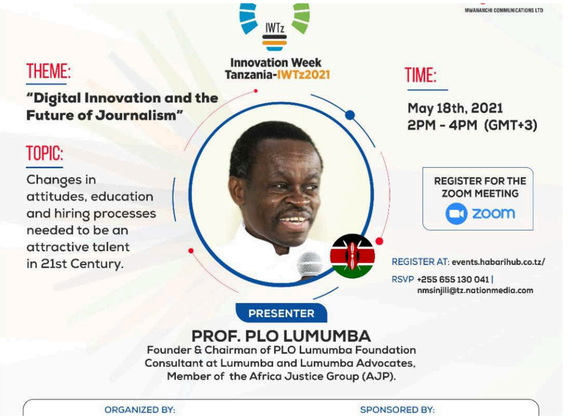
- IWTz2021 in Morogoro region was coordinated by Ifakara Innovation Hub and other organizations and individuals who included Jenga Hub, Finish Missionary Society (FELM), Tanganyika Christian Refugee Service, ELCT and FINGO. Together, they organized and hosted four events.
- Ifakara Innovation Hub organised a 4-days innovation challenge (Ifakara Hackathon) from 17th to 21st of May. This hackathon was attended by 23 innovators and entrepreneurs who were then trained on basic human centred design approaches. The innovators came up with five solutions that addressed issues in renewable and clean energy, recycling, financial linkage to famers as well as innovative farming and aquaponics. These ideas were pitched, and three solutions were awarded membership to Ifakara Innovation Hub Incubation programme together with seed funds of USD 2,800.00 (approx. TZS 6,000,000.00) for them to be realized into minimum viable products to be tested later.
- Other events included The microbit challenge by Jenga Hub, Innovate for access to clean water workshop and a one-day exhibition that provided a local marketplace for rural ideas, products and inventions from youth, women and innovators from Kilombero valley and Morogoro region. The exhibition hosted at least 6 booths that accommodate 12 exhibitors and was attended by more than 100 participants.
- Key Numbers:
  - 150 participants
  - 4 events, 12 exhibitions



Virtual and other key Events

- A number of factors made IWTz2021 quite unique: the diverse and large number of active partners, the COVID19 pandemic which, consequently, dictated at a larger extent, the format and the type of events that were hosted, as well as the technology and tools.
- IWTz2021 was heavily influenced by use of technology and use of digital media to facilitate the engagement and reach more people.
- Almost 50% of all the events were fully virtual while the rest were hybrid (both physical and virtual).
- It is also worth noting that, unlike in the previous years, more sponsors and partners were actively engaged during the week, curating and organizing strategic events, rather than being passive supporters. The following can be highlighted as examples:
  - Mwananchi Communications Ltd, through their Habari Hub, curated a number of impactful virtual events for over 3 days. These included discussions on “Key technologies of the Fourth Industrial Revolution and how they will impact our world today”; “Digital Innovations and Future of Journalism”, “Changes in attitudes, education, and hiring processes needed to be an attractive talent in the 21st Century” among others.
  - Vodacom Tanzania organized a series of Hybrid events, including a discussion titled “The Future of Connected Agriculture” showcasing their M-Kulima app; a fire side chat on Africa.Connect and many more.
  - NMB hosted a week-long hackathon aimed at crowdsourcing viable ideas to ideas to improve their digital offering;
  - UNDP hosted a series of virtual events on impact of emerging technologies on development, discussion on building a vibrant innovation ecosystem, crowdfunding as an alternative financing mechanism for innovative SMEs and startups; etc.
  - Tigo Tanzania hosted an event on impact of technological advancement on business efficiency.







IWTz2021 Closing Ceremony

- The closing ceremony on 22nd May, was also officiated by Hon. Joyce Nalichako as the Guest of Honor who was accompanied by Prof. Makenya Maboko (COSTECH Board Chairman); Dr. Amos Nungu and almost all representatives from sponsoring organizations.
- The event was marked by speeches from key partners and awards giving to volunteers, and sponsors as well as certificates of service and appreciation to all vendors.
- Key speeches were given by Mr. Simon Karikari, Tigo Tanzania CEO; Ms Rosalyn Mworia from Vodacom, UNDP's Christine Musisi, British High Commissioner's Natalie Smith to name but a few.
- All speakers thanked organizers, sponsors and all partners, and the Government committed to continuing supporting all efforts geared towards strengthening the Tanzanian innovation ecosystem.
- Through FUNGUO, UNDP and partners vowed to continue working with the Government to continue the good work from where HDIF has left it.
- All sponsors who spoke offered to continue supporting the innovation week as they believe it is an impactful platform for all innovation ecosystem actors in Tanzania.
- The closing ceremony was kicked off by a panel discussion on "COVID19 Recovery and Resilience Challenge", a joint initiative by HDIF, UNDP and the Dutch Embassy that was implemented by Ndoto Hub and SeedSpace Dar. The discussion featured 5 of the challenge winners, moderated by Iku Lazaro, with brief remarks from Innocent Mallya and Faraja Nyalandu.









Media

ation Week Tanzania 2021

202



849 number of online stories



131 stories were in Print



74 stories were in Radio



48 stories were in Television


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E


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Michuzi blog
issamichuzi.blogspot.com


Radio5

COSTECH Habari

TOLEO NO: 007 — ALHAMISI, 20 Mei 2021

COSTECH YASHIRIKI KATIKAMJADALA WA KUANGALIA NAMNA BORA YAKUUNGANISHA UCHUMI WA KIDIGITALI KWA NCHI ZINAZOENDELEA

Dar Es Salaam, Jumanne 18 Mei, 2021



Mkurugenzi Mkuu COSTECH, Dkt. Amos Nungu ameungana na kuwa sehemu ya wazungumzaji saba (7) kujadili namna bora ya kuunganisha nchi zinazoendelea katika Uchumi wa kidigitali, ikiwa ni sehemu ya mijadala inayoendelea katika wiki ya Ubunifu, kumbi za LAPF, Makumbusho - Dar Es Salaam



Sehemu ya washiriki wakifuatilia mjadala wa namna bora ya kuunganisha nchi zinazoendelea katika Uchumi wa kidigitali, ikiwa ni sehemu ya mijadala inayoendelea katika wiki ya ubunifu, kumbi za LAPF, Makumbusho, Dar Es Salaam.

Dar Es Salaam, Jumatano 19 Mei, 2021



MJADALA:"Nini Jukumu na Wajibu wa Ubunifu katika kuimarisha na kulinda Uandishi wa Habari kwa maslahi ya Umma"

Waandishi wa Habari wakifuatilia mjadala wa namna bora ya kutumia ubunifu katika kazi zao, uliofanyika Jumatano tarehe 19 Mei, 2021 katika ukumbi wa Kibo, Jengo la LAPF Makumbusho Dar Es Salaam. ikiwa ni sehemu ya mijadala inayoendelea katika wiki ya ubunifu Tanzania 2021.



Waziri wa Elimu, Sayansi na Teknolojia, Mhe. Prof. Joyce L. Ndalichako (Mb), anategemewa kuhitimisha kilele cha wiki ya Ubunifu Tanzania 2021, Jumamosi ya Tarehe 22 Mei, 2021, Ukumbi wa Mtana, Jengo la LAPF Makumbusho, Dar Es Salaam.

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Imeandaliwa na Idara ya Menejimenti ya Maarifa - Tume ya Taifa ya Sayansi na Teknolojia - COSTECH

INVESTMENT Entrepreneurs who have ventured into starting companies in the country show that attracting investors with capital is still an uphill struggle

Why Tanzania must nurture startups to end joblessness

Angel-cum-seed investors and venture capital are largely missing in the Tanzanian business environment, thus hampering growth of startups

By Josephine Christopher
@JocfineQ
jchristopher@ftz.natiomedia.com

Dar es Salaam. Tanzanians have increasingly been engaging more and more in entrepreneurial activities seeking to improve their financial fortunes and hence built the country's economy.

However, the mostly young entrepreneurs say they often come across hurdles, especially when it comes to government support through policy expertise, and how to access low-interest loans for capital.

Those looking into venture capital or 'angel' financing for the first time face a more bleak landscape, as one of the key challenges that small businesses face today.

Entrepreneurs who spoke to *The Citizen* revealed that there was no single solution when it comes to addressing the numerous challenges facing start ups.

Access to investment

The startup community feels that there is a need for the government to put in place conducive policies and environment for both domestic and foreign investors to inject funds into promising startups.

Mr Shilton Ulomi, founder and chief executive of MyHI (My Health Insurance) said other countries have created a good environment to recognize startups and facilitate fund-rising through inviting interested investors.

"The government should be a link between startups and investors by providing a secure linkage and easing the business environment," he said.

Mr Ulomi opined that having an investor supporting an innovation especially in the technology industry, which he operates, is crucial in terms of forming connections and a network, access to training, and mentorship.

"Running a startup is different from running a normal business. So, founders need continuous training and coaching on how to successfully run the venture," he said.

Online tutoring platform 'SmartClass' cofounder Adam Duma expressed his concerns that even politics affect the start-ups in Tanzania because, at some point, investors hesitate to provide funds as a result of the political environment surrounding the business sector.

"Before injecting their money, most investors analyse the political situation of the country and if there are no conducive policies then it becomes a challenge to endorse startups in that particular country," he said.

He said proper investment policies are important to attract investment and facilitate the growth of startups.

"In Kenya and other African countries like Nigeria, startups attract a lot of money. But, here in Tanzania, there are a few to none," he said.

Mr Duma added that there was also a lack of angel investors and venture capital or domestic firms which were willing to support the startup ecosystem.

Compliance

Mr Ulomi whose MyHI was one of the three winners of last year's Vodacom Digital Accelerator Programme said another struggle entrepreneurs face is in the initial process of registering the company where there is a burden of costs and a heavy bureaucracy.

He said the government should formulate a policy or rather soften the procedure by exempting startups from the costs such as registration and legal fees.

"There are multiple entrepreneurs who have failed to start operating because they have not met the requirements to open the business and this is due to the costs," he said.

"If it was possible to loan youth who join higher education then the government can even allocate funds to lend some ideas to run businesses considering the unemployment rate that is in the country," Mr Ulomi added.

Hubs

Mr Duma said that the country also lacks committed and promising incubators or hubs to raise talented entrepreneurs.

"Most of the entrepreneurs are building their businesses from scratch. So, they need a mentorship platform that would guide them in what problems their innovation is going to solve, the market size and how to approach it," he said. According to him, the existing hubs in the country are not beneficial to entrepreneurs, because there are no successful entrepreneurs coming as result of the training or support from the existing hubs.

"These hubs have so far provided theoretical inputs which most entrepreneurs learnt from schools," he said.

"They are not teaching upcoming entrepreneurs on the challenges of starting or running a business. Despite having a lot of incubators which failed to produce successful entrepreneurs, there are a lot of lies and politics which are not really helpful," he said.

Mr Duma said poor knowledge and skills among start-up entrepreneurs can also be one of the limitations to grow.

"No real content. A huge problem exists with founders who do not have proper knowledge to search and look for opportunities to grow either from investment firms or commercial banks," he said.

According to him, this provides an opportunity for local organizations or institutions to initiate programmes to support start-ups which align with their course of business.

He said, for example, last year Vodacom Tanzania started the accelerator programme of which Smart Class became a winner, helping it to grow its margin into a successful enterprise.

Government reacts

Industry and Trade deputy minister Exaud Kigahe told *The Citizen* that although their impact in the startup ecosystem was still minimal, there were efforts going on by the government through the existing institutions.

He mentioned initiatives under the Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (Costech) and the Small Industries Development Organisation (Sido).

"At least we have something in place to support start-ups, micro, small and middle enterprises in the country. We have been also advocating for the commercial banks in the country to ease loans for the small businesses," he said.

The deputy minister said the government has also initiated programmes to support women, the disabled and youth.

"What we recommend is that they should have an association or a group which will make it easier for them to have dialogue with the government and air their grievances," he said.

Govt in new plan to reduce lending rates, boost local liquidity

Continued from page 1

that interest rates go down for Tanzanians to afford loans.

"The President wants to see more money in circulation. My ministry and the Bank of Tanzania (BoT) will dialogue with financial institutions to identify areas that were discouraging people from going for bank loans. This is one way of boosting liquidity," he said.

He was responding to a call by Arusha Urban lawmaker Mrisho Gambo who wanted the BoT to revisit its policies with a view to bringing interest rates down.

"If the finance ministry can bring that in Parliament, we will support it because it is what Tanzanians need to prosper," said Mr Gambo amid applause from over 700 CRDB Bank shareholders participating in a financial literacy seminar at the Arusha International Conference Centre (AICC) yesterday.

Mr Gambo posed a challenge to the BoT after the Deputy Governor (Financial Stability and Deepening), Dr Benard Kibesse, called upon banks to consider lowering their interest rates further in line with the aspirations of Tanzanians.

In the past few months, the commercial banks announced cutting their lending rates, particularly on personal loans. For instance, in June last year (2020), the CRDB Bank cut interest rates on loans to workers to 14 percent.



Finance and Planning minister Mwigulu Nchemba speaks at the annual general meeting of CRDB Bank Plc shareholders in Arusha yesterday. PHOTO|CORRESPONDENT

Prior to that, the bank had on May 11, 2018 cut its lending rate from 22 to 17 percent. A few days later, it cut the rate on personal loans to 16 percent - and, finally, cut it further to 14 percent.

Yesterday, Dr Nchemba said the government will look into all aspects that prevent the commercial banks from reducing their lending rates - and what can be done for the private sector to employ more Tanzanians.

"If, for instance, a corporate entity asks us to reduce corporate tax so that it employs say ten Tanzanians, we will not hesitate to do it," he said.

Commercial banks, he said, must also look beyond Tanzania's boundaries if they were to capitalize on the country's reputable history in the independence struggles for a number of countries in Africa as well as its strategic logistical location.

"I am glad that CRDB has a branch in Burundi. But, why can't we also have branches in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Zambia, Malawi, Zimbabwe - and even in South Sudan where we sell our maize?" enquired Dr Nchemba.

He said that, with its rich history, he found no country in the region that would not readily allow a Tanzanian corporate entity to set up a subsidiary there.

"We also have major sea ports. It makes sense if someone in the DRC, Zambia, Malawi and Zimbabwe among others can simply make all their payments - via a Tanzanian bank – right there and only come to Dar es Salaam to pick up their goods," he said.

On this, he also urged the Central Bank to think of facilitating and be lenient with its usual regulatory approach.

"That is also how we can benefit from the colossal sums of money that we pay to regional blocs like the East African Community (EAC) and the Southern African Development Community (Sadc)," he said.

In his remarks, the CRDB Bank managing director, Abdulmajid Nsekela, said the government - which owns a 21 percent stake in the bank - should anticipate improved dividends this year, thanks to an increase in the bank's net profits for the 2020 calendar year.

"Last year, the government received Sh16 billion in dividend from our 2019 profit. That sum was more than the Sh10 billion which the government received in 2019 from our 2018 profit. This year, the amount will rise further," he said.

COSTECH Habari

TOLEO NO: 006 — JUMANNE, 18 Mei 2021



Naibu Waziri wa Elimu Sayansi na Teknolojia Mhe. Juma O. Kipanga (Mb) afungua rasmi Wiki ya Ubunifu Tanzania (IWTz2021), Jumatatu ya tarehe 17 Mei 2021. Mtana-Hall, LAPF- Dar es salaam. Wiki ya ubunifu Tanzania itafikia kilele Jumamosi tarehe 22 Mei 2021. Imeandaliwa na HDIF kwa kushirikiana na COSTECH pamoja na UNDP.

Dar Es Salaam, Jumatatu 17 Mei, 2021



Uzinduzi wa FUNGUO Innovation Programme.

Uzinduzi rasmi wa **FUNGUO Innovation Programme** iliyofanywa na Naibu Waziri wa Elimu, Sayansi na Teknolojia, Mhe. Omary Kipanga (katikati) katika Wiki ya Ubunifu Tanzania 2021 (IWTz2021), Mtana Hall, LAPF Kijitonyama, Dar es salaam

WIKI YA UBUNIFU 2021 - DAR ES SALAAM



Ufunguzi wa Wiki ya Ubunifu 2021 Dar Es Salaam.

Akitoa salamu za ufunguzi Jumatatu tarehe 17 Mei 2021, Dkt Amos M. Nungu, Mkurugenzi Mkuu wa Tume ya Taifa ya Sayansi na Teknolojia (COSTECH), alisema Serikali kupitia COSTECH inajukumu la kuwezesha ubunifu nchini kwa kuweka mazingira wezeshi hivyo COSTECH itaendelea kushirikiana na wadau wengine kuhakikisha tunaisaidia kwa wingi.

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Imeandaliwa na Idara ya Menejimenti ya Maarifa - Tume ya Taifa ya Sayansi na Teknolojia - COSTECH

IWTz2021 funding

Many partners joined UKAID/HDIF, UNDP and COSTECH to fund the innovation week platform, a sign that its impact is now visible to everyone.



























LOOKING AHEAD

Innovation Week Tanzania 2022

#IWTz2021

- IWTz2021 was the last to be co-curated and facilitated by the Human Development Innovation Fund, as the latter comes to end this July 2021. However, as a platform, it had already grown beyond HDIF and other partners have joined hands in making it sustainable. The Government already committed in making Innovation Week Tanzania a recognized annual occurrence, and directed organizers, led by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, to scale it to the district level.

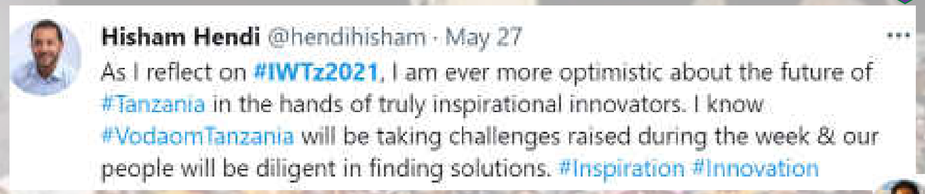
- It is also encouraging to see that many stakeholders have committed to continue supporting the platform as they have seen its impact. The coordinating role that HDIF had been playing will now be played by the new FUNGUO initiative which will be under UNDP's umbrella. Therefore, even after HDIF, Innovation Week Tanzania will live on.

TESTIMONIALS

Nitahakikisha vikundi vya vijana wabunifu na wafanyabiashara wanapata mikopo toka ofisi ya Mkoa ili kukuza bunifu au biashara zao. DC Mbeya

“A great and well-organized event, packed with different community members, students and youths”. Mr. Mbogoro (Foundation Bortnar, Tanga edition)

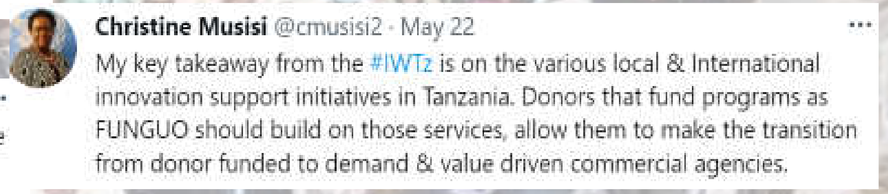
“This year's innovation week was an opportunity to open up Zanzibar's innovation ecosystem. It is very promising to see that actors and stakeholders in the ecosystem came together to organize a number of innovation events”. Mustafa Sharif – CEO and Co-founder, ADViMPACT





“This is such a great initiative, hongereni sana, continue to be part of innovation Iringa '' Hon. Kasesela, then DC, Iringa District





‘I have seen a number of young people coming from almost only two major University which are IFM and St Augustine University to come and learn their present and future. The organizers can kindly reach more universities, colleagues, VETA and informal educational centres so that many young people can catch up with this flying airplane of innovation week.’ Mr Yohana Kayowele , Nyakato VTC principal

I appreciated the hybrid model and involvement of media partners which meant we were able to reach more people. The location posed a challenge as we had to adhere to covid restrictions also we had "incidences" of the lifts not working. – Christina Murimi, Vodacom Tanzania

“From my perspective the event went well. It has improved from last year's event. The side events were more organized and the engagement between different players in the Dodoma ecosystem has improved. I believe moving forward the event will get better and better. ~ Jumanne R. Mtambalike (CEO Sahara Ventures, Dodoma edition)

APPRECIATION

It's been a good 7 years (almost 8 actually!) and I am quite satisfied in what we have achieved as far as catalyzing the innovation ecosystem through Innovation Week Tanzania is concerned. On behalf of co-organizers - HDIF**,** United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and The Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (*COSTECH*) - I would therefore like to take this opportunity to heartily thank everyone for being part of it and for making this impactful platform a great success.

A great initiative like this could not have become this big and successful without the support of many other partners. Let me take this chance to thank the IWTz2021 sponsors, starting with **Vodacom Tanzania** who has been supporting the initiative, this being the 3rd time in a row as the main sponsor. I would like to also thank other corporates such as **NMB Bank**, **CRDB Bank** and **Tigo Tanzania**; the UN Agencies - **UNWOMEN**, **UNCDF**, **UNICEF**; Development partners like the **European Union**, the **Dutch Embassy**, the Swiss Embassy **through the** Ifakara Innovation Hub and the **Segal Family Foundation**. ASANTENI SANA!

I also thank the media partners, **Mwananchi Communications Ltd** for having been actively engaged, not just through writing a lot of stories on innovation and reporting the week's proceedings, but also by organizing several impactful sessions to prepare the media to be ready to thrive through the digital economy. A big thank also to **Plus TV** and **Clouds Media Group** for keeping us updated and engaging the citizens in conversations about innovation, technology and inclusive and resilient digital economy, which was the main theme of this year. I should not forget all service providers who were there to support our respective teams. Last but not least, the *HDIF dream team!* No words are enough to express how grateful I am and how fun it has been working with everyone!

Some of our proudest moments that crowned the IWTz2021 include these two :

- The launch of FUNGUO Innovation Ecosystem support programme, under UNDP's coordination, with support from the European Union (EU), British Government (UKaid) and the Tanzanian Government through MOEST and COSTECH.
- The Declaration by the Prime Minister, Hon. Kassim Majaliwa that Innovation Week Tanzania will now officially become an annual event was another reason for celebration. Hon Majaliwa made that statement on May 11, 2021, while officiating the closing ceremony of the National Competition of Science, Technology and Innovation (MAKISATU).

With the above, I am assured that the journey we modestly started back in 2015 will not end with the completion of the HDIF Programme. I am looking forward to continuing supporting this platform in other capacities.

Yours,

Joseph E. Manirakiza

Outgoing HDIF Country Director.

