



# INNOVATION AND TECH FORUM

*Enabling Environment for Youth and Women led Innovation Ventures*

## THE REPORT

## THE BIRTH AND HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FIRST INNOVATION AND TECH FORUM

*Enabling the Environment for Youth and  
Women led Innovation Ventures*



PRESENTED BY

Media  
Convergence

AUGUST 2021

*The Innovation and Tech forum was made possible by the Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH) through the BUNI Innovation Hub and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) through the Funguo program. The forum is coordinated by Media Convergence, governed by the Steering Committee and overseen by the Advisory Board.*

*All related content (video recordings, articles and pictures) can be found across social media (Twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram and Youtube) through hashtags of #InnoTechForum and some in #ImpactTechTZ*

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**#InnoTechForum**

# Acknowledgements

Media Convergency feels honoured, privileged and indebted to deliver that which it has started. We acknowledge and appreciate the Director General of Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH), Dr. Amos Nungu for being the guest of honour and for allowing the Innovation and Technology Forum (InnoTech Platform) to be supported by COSTECH through BUNI Innovation Hub guided by its great Innovative team

We extend special recognition to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for its support through the Funguo program which share the same vision with the InnoTech platform; of “Enabling the Environment for Youth and Women led Innovation Ventures”.

Sincere gratitude to our partners Mwananchi Communications through the Habari Innovation Hub and the pioneers of the innovation and tech ecosystem in the country who participated and supported the forum. It is on their shoulders we stand, and thus celebrate them.

Sincere thanks to all the start-ups who have been part of the promoting impact technology project. Last but not least, are to all players from the ecosystem who have been supportive in one way or another.

All the above mentioned acknowledged are all partly the reason Innovation and Technology forum was birthed on the 27th of August, 2021. We thank you.



~ STAKEHOLDERS OF THE FIRST INNOVATION AND TECH FORUM

BUNI Innovation Hub | COSTECH  
August 27th, 2021

#InnoTechForum | August 2021

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## A NOTE FROM THE CEO

Media Convergency with partners, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) through the Funguo program, COSTECH through the BUNI Innovation Hub and Mwananchi communications through the Habari Hub has joined forces to establish the Innovation and Tech forum. However its survival and reaching the goal of enabling the environment for Youth and Women led Innovation Ventures depends more on alliance of all the stakeholders from the ecosystem. This report, is the first of many to come, summarizing the establishment, approach, vision and highlights of the discussions that will guide to understanding what we need and the direction that we need to go especially for start-ups and small time innovators.

We implore and kindly request in advance for collaboration of any kind whenever we reach out to push the bigger agenda of the Innovation and Tech Platform. To ensure the sustainability of the Innovation and Tech forum, we have identified and collected advice from a variety of tech and innovation experts in the ecosystem on the best way for the platform to work, survive and have impact.

The recommendations were eventually summarized into two approaches that we have applied. The forum will be mentored by the five (5) expert advisors each strong in a different area with attributes that'll add value to the Innovation and Tech forum. And secondly, the steering committee that is made up of the small-time innovators and small-time tech champions in the developing stage have come together to collaborate in strategizing content, quality, impact and value for the platform to the ecosystem and overall goal. Both parties will be formally introduced in the publication summarizing today's content in the meeting. It is through this vision, that we share with you our report for the First Edition of the Innovation and Tech Forum Meeting Series. It was a highly interactive event that brought together insights and voices from across the Technology and Innovation ecosystem to share the latest thinking on nature of solutions needed to leverage technology for effective Innovations.

Our wish is that, is for the Innovation and Tech platforms to work out and grow into something permanent. We promise that we will give the forum our whole to make it permanent. I would like to thank, each and every one of you for accepting our invitation and being part of this great journey by attending the launch today. We are happy with the current development of having a governance body which are in three layers (Enablers, Steering Committee and Board of Advisers) as will be explained further in this report.

**~ ASHA D. ABINALLAH**  
CEO | Media Convergency





## MESSAGE FROM THE GUEST OF HONOUR

I am glad to be meeting here today, and I have been informed that the Innovation and Technology forum are going to be a continuation of these meetings. The three years I have been in COSTECH we have had a challenge that sometimes there is funding, but the Innovators and the startups we have fail to consume these funding for they cannot meet the bar. The bar is usually low compared to the required high bar of the funding.

The role of COSTECH is to facilitate and create a good and friendly environment from which it will allow start-ups to not just be innovators but also grow into multi millions worth of businesses and large companies. The discussions are healthy for the ecosystem, and we at COSTECH, are tasked in creating conducive environment which help into transforming innovators and help them grow into business.

The forum will be meeting bi-monthly to enable close conversation follow-ups which will enable start-ups to benefit and share challenges to and how they can be solved. Reports show that start-ups face numerous challenges including lack of exposure,

accessing finance and human resources among others. I am hoping that this forum will also focus at building new partnerships and share ideas on how to deliver creativity as a product to market instead of having a lot of ideas that which cannot enter the market. This forum should bring together innovation and technology stakeholders to exchange experiences, to discuss with start-ups how they are going to build an industrial economy.

We are happy that these conversations and bi-monthly meetings will be hosted here, at the BUN I Innovation Hub so as to enable close follow-ups on the process, opportunities and challenges facing startups. We will be following up closely and share support whenever possible.

There are those who have been in the ecosystem for a long time and I am glad to see seasoned experts in this room, some have been a product of the BUN I Innovation Hub and they are doing wonderful things out there. We need more of those out there, and that is only possible through collaborative efforts of all stakeholders to nourish the new innovations and startups.

**~ DR. AMOS NUNGU**  
Director General | COSTECH



## ABOUT THE INNOVATION AND TECH FORUM

The Innovation and Tech forum was launched on August 27, 2021 at BUNI Innovation Hub. Media Convergency with partners, COSTECH through BUNI Innovation Hub, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Tanzania through Funguo Programme and Mwananchi Communications through Habari Innovation Hub joined forces to collaboratively establish the #InnoTechForum.

The Forum is designed to establish a consistent platform for small time innovators and small-time tech champions to meet with the seasoned players of the ecosystem from the private sector, public sector, respective authorities and stakeholders so as to learn, share, network, publish and have access to available opportunities from the ecosystem.

The forum will provide a venue for facilitating interaction, establishment of networks between start-up innovators with successful tech innovators, and multi-stakeholder partnerships in order to identify and examine ecosystem gaps for start-ups and harness the potentials of technology and innovation in the Tanzanian

Community towards solving different challenges by applying technological powered innovations. Among identified needs of the players from the field is a common aspiration to have a consistent platform to meet and network in a productive development-oriented approach and mutually acquire mutual opportunities in a variety of forms in one way or another.

The meetings will be bi-monthly with each event will have thematic topic to which there will be a report publication released digitally every four weeks after the forum discussions. The report will collect and contain expert insights, highlights, raised queries and other contributions.

### Goal

The Innovation and Tech Forum will create a bridge from the “seasoned” players and stakeholders with small time innovative startups and Tech-Change Champions “new in the game” so as to network, learn, share frustrations, access opportunities, collect feedback and challenges from the ecosystem and submit to respective bodies and authorities

### Vision

Institute sustainable and vibrant Innovation and Tech platforms for small time innovative startups and Tech-Change Champions in 6 key regions in Tanzania by end of 2023.





## OBJECTIVES, SUSTAINABILITY AND STRATEGY COMPONENTS

1. Promoting small time innovators and small-time tech champions in the country
2. Promoting women and girls vested in and interested in innovation and technology.
3. Create a trajectory and focus from media houses toward innovation and tech impact.
4. Ensure respective authorities in the government get feedback of the conversations that raised matters or issues from government institutions.
5. The Innovation and Tech to sustainably run itself independently at-least in two or three years.
6. In 18 months' time from January, 2022 to have similar branches/platforms in Zanzibar, Arusha, Mwanza, Tanga, Iringa and Dodoma.

The approach of sustainability of the platform has been after several consultative meetings from the experts in the tech ecosystem on recommendations on the best way that the forum may be sustainable and self-running after a period of time. Such similar platforms have been present in the past and thus the learnings have been applied to being a step ahead of identified weaknesses from the lesson learned. A conclusive determinant that was key to survival and growth was strong governance of the forum.

The Forum has three levels of oversight,

### 1st THE ENABLERS

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The enablers consists of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) through Funguo and COSTECH through BUNI Innovation Hub. Overall accountability of coordination and facilitated held accountable by Media Convergency as lead coordinator.

### 2nd THE ADVISORY BOARD

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Governance of superior level at five (5) positions of Advisory level with seasoned expert members identified in this report; oversees the overall existence of the platform in the lines of vision and objectives of the Innovation and Tech Forum as applied and governed by the Steering Committee.

### 3rd THE STEERING COMMITTEE

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Governance that is comprised of the steering committee at a number of eight (8) members. The Innovation and Tech Forum Steering Committee (ITSC) is immediately responsible for the administering of the forum. The committee members, eight (8) dedicated members representing startup organisations as identified later in this report. The committee will collaborate to strategise content, quality, impact and value for the overall goal.





## Enabling the Environment for Youth and Women led Innovation Ventures

*"We wish the platform to work out and grow into something permanent; while we acknowledge it is not guaranteed, we guarantee that we will give it our whole to try and make it permanent"*

~ Media Convergency

### PARTICIPANTS

● Female  
21 Participants



40.38%

**A total of 52 participants attended the #InnoTechForum in August 2021 the event lasted for almost five hours**

● Male  
31 Participants



59.62%

# THE FIRST INNOVATION AND TECH FORUM



## PART ONE: DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS



# PANEL DISCUSSION (A)

## TOPIC:

"Unlocking Growth and Prosperity of New Startups in the Tech Ecosystem"

The panel discussion involved startup founders in the early stage of business development with Vanessa Kisowile, the Founder of SheFound as the event facilitator.

## SPEAKERS

**Margaret Simalenga**

Founder | Emjey Couriers

**Prince Tillya**

Co-Founder | Fix Chap

**Baraka Chijenga**

Co-Founder | Kilimo Fresh

**Iddy John**

Co-Founder | Safari Wallet





# "STARTUPS COLLABORATION" AS A KEY FOR SUCCESS

Startups need to bank on collaboration with other startups by determining how they can mutually benefit from each other and what they can bring on the table to add value upon one another. Strategic partnerships save a lot of energy in a range of ways such as; non-repetition of same mistakes others had incurred before and complementing each other in identified gaps of need. Most newly established startups face an increasing range of obstacles; some of them, the same as faced by previously established startups which either ended up dormant, stagnant or progressed.

Margareth Simalenga, the founder of Emjey Courier explains, "When we started, we were more of ourselves, operating like in an island and we really struggled in the first years of our business, everything you need you do by yourself and its hard to get the best Talent because you don't have money to pay for it." She further adds, "It has been easier, for recently we have fellow startups collaborating with us; I wish I knew like-minded peers who we could sit together, think together and work together on our businesses and challenges while sharing our resources together like we are doing right now".

Also, "Talent Partnership" was mentioned and emphasized that there is a need to change approach of acquiring talent by channeling in skills and experience into building startups that can embrace a hybrid working modal which drives at results and impact of the innovative solutions in mutually beneficial ways for startups. Prince Tillya the Co-Forunder of FixChap Tanzania highlights on the matter explaining, "I think there has to be mindset change in terms of the talent; we have to shift our mind from cash-based salary payment and sometimes accept equity payments or a share of both – but you need to find talent that really believes in the idea, for them to actually be part of it."

# "INFORMAL SET-UP" VERSUS "FORMAL SET-UP" FOR A NEW STARTUP

Startups require more than Innovation and Technology, it requires effective strategy, applicable solutions, research of the target market, securing funds, human capital and a lot more. Registering the startup for the Tanzanian context requires more than what it takes, because upon registration you are considered the same as a big company. You are to comply with all the requirements imposed by respective authorities, and there is no startup directory of the requirements. In the first year of establishment for any startup new unforeseen compliance requirements arise by the day.

Baraka Chijenga, the Co-Founder of Kilimo Fresh African Foods Limited shares their experience explaining that, "We launched Kilimo Fresh as a pilot in 2018, we didn't register for all we wanted was to learn about the market and see whether our idea was viable, we put effort on quality and customer satisfaction", Baraka further postulates that, "It was when we got a big tender and the client wanted our company details, when we decided to comply to the registration process"

Informal operations of a startup manifested an added advantage for the Tanzanian context because it had less costs of operations and thus minimizing the business challenges targeting at sustainability out of a working solution offered to the community. In the first year, it is unlikely that most startups are knowledgeable about running a business and thus need focus more on growth, absorbing important information and how to build a sustainable startup without worrying about the pressures of compliances.

# "INVESTOR-READY" STARTUPS IN THE ECOSYSTEM

In order to create a solid base of an influx of startup investment, the internal innovation infrastructure and setup, quality of services (such as user experience and user interface), a solid strategic plan, clear investment structure all at a precise international level. For a startup to attain this they need to understand their own ecosystem, similar initiatives at local, regional or international level as well as their competition. Most investors are foreign, and thus have a wide network of startup businesses they can invest in. All these require not only knowledge and education, networking on regional and international platforms adds value to what founders can apply to their businesses.

Prince explains, "As a start-up there's a lot of things that you think you know but you actually don't so, through networking with fellow founders and participating in different accelerator training programs and mentorship has given us a lot of insights that has been very helpful to actually help our situation." Answering to how he could characterize something that he would have loved to see facilitate talent acquisition for startups for growth, Baraka answers that, "We have most people who are educated but are not exposed and because of this they are still doing things in a very old-fashioned way. I have been fortunate to participate in International platforms in the globe where I have collected exposures and networks to apply to our startup".

While all funding is key to the growth of a startups, the exposure helps the startup founder(s) to know that investors are no different from lenders; invested money is repaid with interest and sometimes with restrictions while partly owning your business. When as a startup you understand and know what you want, you are aware of what to expect from an investor.



# STARTUP CAPITAL FOR STARTUPS

These discussants had one thing in common in terms of funding when establishing their startups. They had all applied the bootstrapping approach. Bootstrapping has been identified as one of the ways to test if your idea works while containing the control of the direction of the solution/service intended to offer. The founders are keener and more sensitive of the solution because it is their own money.

Nevertheless, all admitted to a need and ease which seed money and angel investors bring through their funds. It works best during the informal establishment of a startup. In regards to when it's the best time for a startup to be invested in, Iddy John the CEO of Safari Wallet explains that, "I think for me I won't say there is kind of timing when a start-up is supposed to receive investment capital, I can say it's needed at any stage if the start-up is within the environment that is actually structured."



From the left is, the speakers of the session, Prince Tillya the Co-Founder of Fix Chap, Margaret Simalenga, the founder of Emjey Couriers, Baraka Chijenga, the Co-Founder of Kilimo Fresh and Iddy John the Co-Founder of Safari Wallet

## PANEL DISCUSSION (B)

### TOPIC:

"Catching the Technological Waves:  
Sustenance of the new with the old Startups"

The second panel discussion consisted of seasoned experts from the field with a combined experience of not less than thirty years put together.

### SPEAKERS

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**Wilmore Mihayo**

Partner | Habari Hub

**Jumanne Mtambalike**

CEO | Sahara Ventures

**Theresia Busagara**

Academia | University of DSM

**Joseph Manirakiza**

Head of Funguo Program



# UNDERSTANDING A "START-UP"

The elite group of the gurus painted an immaculate picture of how it can sometimes be confusing to identify who and what a startup is. Explaining on the matter, Joseph Manirakiza, the Funguo Country Manager, explained that “We are sometimes so obsessed with the categorization - which I don’t have a problem with; to me as long as you deliver what you really want to deliver it doesn’t really matter what people call you or what you call yourself, the only people who matter are those who are buying your product ...”.

This discussion panel, highlighted that there was significant confusion when it came to identifying a startup and small business. It was emphasized that a startup does not have to be technologically focused for it to qualify as a startup; it was also emphasized that the startup is usually designed to grow very fast. Jumanne Mtambalike the CEO of Sahara Ventures explained, “If you are doing something in an untested market and their business model is not proven and it has a potential to grow exponentially then basically you are startup.”

The overall conclusion of the matter on the discussion was for the so called or not called startups need to focus more on scalable and impactful business model, product prototype and client base irrespective of what to call or identify oneself.





# INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS FROM A LOCAL CONTEXT

Innovation was identified as significant to any impactful working solution. However, it was emphasized that when Innovation is firmly considered within identified need of a target group in a community by exploring relevance, usefulness and attended to gaps it ripples to impact and contributes to the development of the country. Addressing applying technology to Innovation and how the tech and entrepreneurship ecosystem can accelerate further growth,

Mihayo Wilmore, an Independent Digital Consultant at Habari Hub, explained that, “Our country has experienced some innovations including the use of the internet, telephones and even transformation of buildings from what we had in the 1990s “, he further added for emphasis, “Have we made progress? we have made massive progress. Can we do better? Yes, we can do better but we need to coordinate ourselves and take advantage of opportunities” he concluded.

Pathways of Innovation were touched upon in this session in line with solving challenges at local context. It was postulated that it is important to use and adopt specific technologically innovative solutions that are created within the contexts in which they are adopted, in an impactful way which when introduced to the target client, they would relate to it and feel it was necessary for them. To this, Jumanne explained that, “I think we copy quite a lot which is fine as a developing world; we tend to copy their practices and their vocabulary; their lingua are Angel investing venture capital -that’s why there’s been quite a lot of talk about how can we design our own innovative financing mechanisms which can be suitable for the kind of businesses that we have”.

This session reflected on the needs of reflecting the challenges addressed and not addressed, the modalities of startups, the nature of funding and how all these can be localized in a manner that best fits the local needs of the ecosystem by attempting to do things that could create types of infrastructure that are essential to local innovation systems.

# UNLOCKING OPPORTUNITIES FOR STARTUPS

This session generally identified entrepreneurial opportunities for establishing innovative startups in the ecosystem. Not all innovative ideas work, are effective or lasts as a result of a variety of reasons among them identified because of internal constraints and gaps. Responding to what he felt Funguo and other players can actually serve, to such, Manirakiza responded that, "The name 'Funguo' was actually chosen purposely, Funguo is a Swahili word meaning Key; it is about unlocking and not filling the gap, because Funguo being under Development-partners and the way it's designed cannot provide for equity".

Emphasis was also placed on local Tanzanian investors in the innovation and tech ecosystem. There is an identified gap to acquire, adapt and understand the tech ecosystem and critical requirements to the Tanzanian locals wealthy enough to heavily invest in innovative technological solutions. Startups have been challenged to find solutions that they could offer to large businesses which are doing very well by identifying strategic gaps to stimulate interest and demand of the innovative technologies.

Jumanne adding on the matter explained that, "Start-ups should not only look at solving challenges by designing new products, but they should try on creating strategic partnerships with already developed companies and fellow startups so that they can be able to collaborate and develop strong ideas and products", further adding that, "this current mindset that believes in getting money from Angel investors or the venture capital is killing Africa's innovative minds."



# “SYNERGIES” THE ROLE OF UNIVERSITIES IN FOSTERING THE TECH-ECOSYSTEM

Having common married objectives imposes collaboration of respective sectors. In the case of the Innovation and technological ecosystem, the gaps in synergies have not only been identified as a challenger but something that requires immediate attention and a need of a holistic framework as a foundation for alignment within the ecosystem and between different ecosystems. It was stressed that universities have evolved from simply being “Knowledge/Skill providers” and were supposed to embrace their new role of “Drivers of Change” by enhancing influence of synergies and banking on them.

Responding to whether the universities understand and play an active role into fostering the Innovation and Tech ecosystem, Theresia Busagara, a lecturer at the University of Dar es Salaam, responded that, “We're in the confusion probably, but from this particular aspect from the particular moment is where maybe we shall come up with the solutions – the vision is we wish to have moved very fast, and we have to accept that we're not moving as fast as we're supposed to.”

It was emphasized that the universities are bodies that has key influence on sustainable development across all sectors let alone the innovation and tech ecosystem to which Jumanne cemented by his comment that, “The responsibility of our universities is to operate as a third-generation universities, incorporate innovation, technology and entrepreneurship so that you can create pipeline for me to support people who understand what it actually takes to build a business”.

The nature of interactions and synergies between Universities, government institutions and agencies, private institutions and other public entities in the innovation ecosystem is supposed to be intertwined as a well-in-sync multi-influencing approach entities; and this requires fast tracking in pace with technology initiatives, working and applicable programs and



strategically directed tactics. This translates to the need of universities to adapt to systemic challenge-driven innovative-paradigms while fostering synergies from the ecosystem in an impactful manner.

The nature of interactions and synergies between Universities, government institutions and agencies, private institutions and other public entities in the innovation ecosystem is supposed to be intertwined as a well-in-sync multi-influencing approach entities; and this requires fast tracking in pace with technology initiatives, working and applicable programs and strategically directed tactics. This translates to the need of universities to adapt to systemic challenge-driven innovative-paradigms while fostering synergies from the ecosystem in an impactful manner.

Adding to this, the Theresia admitted that, “As a nation what we’re missing out is the right national business-strategy that we are supposed to adapt; the paradigm is shifting so instead of expecting universities to provide everything then there should be collaboration between universities and the ecosystem sharing a vision in what is to be done to bridge the split out.” Mihayo added to the matter explicating that, “We have to change the thinking that I’m going to school so as I can get employed; we should adapt that I’m going to school so that I can be able to create my own employment. Tanzania should be comfortable enough for us to continue to want to live in.”

At the end of the session it was clear that there is a need for radical transformations which will enhance going with the pace of the current global technological pace. With the increasing demand for innovation, it’s role as the primary knowledge when it comes with demands and expectations that presuppose the fourth-generation industrial revolution



From the right is Joseph Manirakiza the Head of Funguo Program, Jumanne Mtambalike the CEO of Sahara Ventures, Theresia Busagara a UDBS lecturer from the University of Dar es Salaam and Wilmore Mihayo an Independent Consultant at Habari Innovative Hub

# THE FIRST INNOVATION AND TECH FORUM



## PART TWO: FORUM GOVERNANCE THE STEERING COMMITTEE





**Asha D. Abinallah**

Asha D. Abinallah is the founder and CEO of Media Convergency Company. She is an internationally certified Digital Trainer, Certified Media Expert and Researcher with a Masters of Digital Practices in New Media. She is an expert with more than eleven years working at the intersection of Information, Innovation, Technology and Digital Practices in New Media - having worked with local and International partners/stakeholders. .Abinallah is also the project lead of the Women at Web East African regional project passionate about Information, Innovation, Technology and internet governance.



**Prince Tillya**

Prince Tillya is the co-founder of FixChap, where he deals with the overall management of the company on bridging the trust gap between home/office owners with handymen. He has over five years of experience in Business and Entrepreneurship with a focus on manufacturing, IT, product development and marketing.



**Neema Magimba**

Neema Magimba is a co-founder and the Head of Legal for Sheria Kiganjani, a platform that provides easily accessible and affordable legal services through mobile phones. Magimba is a practicing Advocate in Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar majoring in Intellectual Property Law. She is also passionate about legal-tech and leveraging it to bridge the justice gap in Tanzania.

**Kemi Kalikawe**

Kemi Kalikawe is a fashion designer and founder of Naledi Dream Center, a fashion hub based in Tanzania, dedicated to inspiring leaders in the industry, exploring technological advancements in fashion and sharing knowledge to build a supportive ecosystem for designs to achieve professional excellence. With this goal in mind, she organized and facilitated a training with Clo3D's brunch in Germany to teach 8 East African Designers to create virtual, garment designs using cutting-edge simulation technologies

**Grayson Julius**

Grayson Julius is a Software Engineer passionate about software development, innovation & user experience design. I co founded iPF Softwares to build impactful digital solutions for businesses in Africa. IPF Softwares is an award winning company which focuses on designing, developing and innovating digital solutions for impact-oriented businesses and initiatives that link people with social and economic opportunities in Africa.

**Jemima Michael**

Jemima Michael is an Innovation and Social Entrepreneurship expert with experience in cross-cultural communications, leadership, strategic planning, project management, market research and assessing growth strategies for small and medium sized enterprises. Adept at responding to shifting business needs and priorities in systematic and effective way. Proven history of improving processes and boosting business operations through strategic leadership.

**Lulu S. Amier**

Lulu S. Ameir is the founder of Bela vendor (sanitary napkins vending machines)Tanzania and an IT graduate. She's an entrepreneur but also an activist feminist who aims to support a lot of less privileged young girls & women by means of technology.



# THE FIRST INNOVATION AND TECH FORUM



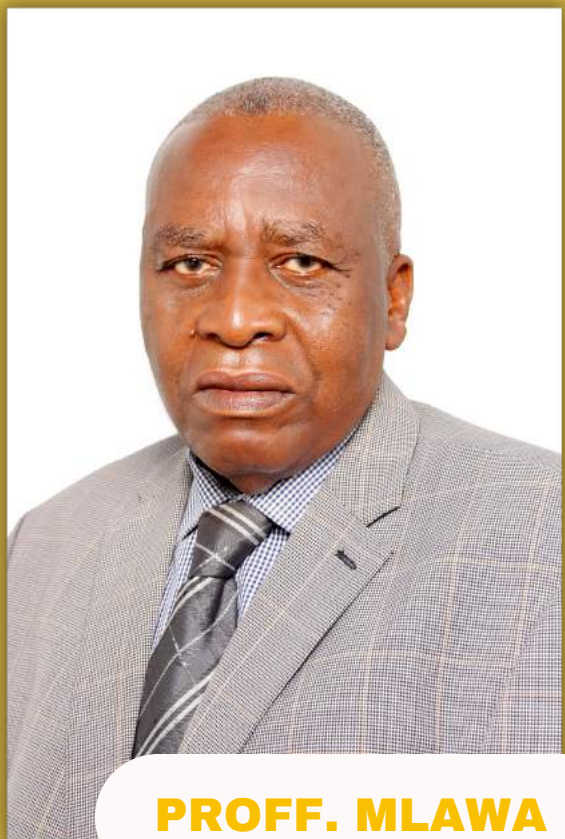
## PART THREE: FORUM GOVERNANCE THE ADVISORY BOARD



## INTRODUCING TO YOU THE INNOVATION AND TECH FORUM ADVISORY BOARD



### PROFESSOR HASA MLAWA



**PROFF. MLAWA**

Hasa Mlawi is Professor of Innovation and Technology Management at the Institute of Development Studies - University of Dar es Salaam where he has been teaching and doing research for the past 47 years in the area of technology, technology transfer, technological capability, innovation and development. Hasa had the opportunity of leading a technology policy research network in Eastern Africa (EATPS) covering 14 countries in sub Saharan Africa during the period August 1989 to January 1994. Hasa has published a number of articles in internationally recognized peer reviewed journals. He has also authored and co authored several books in the area of technology, technology transfer, innovation and development. Hasa has, over the years, been involved in various capacities in Boards of Directors of various public and private entities within and outside Tanzania. Currently, he chairs the Governing Council of APRM - Tanzania chapter. APRM - Tanzania is an AU affiliate body that oversees governance structures and practices for development in Tanzania.


**SALUM AWADH**

Salum Awadh is a corporate advisor, Investment banker, Public speaker, Author, Angel Investor, VC, and Entrepreneur. He is the CEO of SSC Capital, an investment banking and financial services firm. The firm offers services in Strategy Advisory, Investment Banking, Private Equity and Venture Capital, Training, and Financial Services Salum also founded Mbadala Impact Fund, Tanzania Venture Capital Network, Tanzania Angel Investors Network, and Wengi Equity Crowdfunding He holds an MBA in Finance, Chartered Global Investment Analyst (CGIA), USA, and certification in Islamic finance and banking with Chartered Institute of Management of Accountant -UK, Professional Certificate In Capital Investment Techniques with Metropolitan School of Business and Management UK, Securing investment returns in the long run by University of Geneva, and Innovation Finance from University of Cape Town.


**ATIYA SUMAR**

Ms. Atiya Sumar is a multiple award-winning Leadership and International Development expert. In 2019, she was recognized as the top 50 Women in Management, Tanzania. In 2020, She received Africa's Woman Leaders Award and Top 100 Sheroes Tanzania award. Ms Sumar has 10+ years of experience, local and international, in identifying and leveraging high profile and complex partnerships and contracts across mixed funding streams and business models. She has extensive experience in leading humanitarian and development programs and is particularly skilled at building and strengthening relationships, strategizing, and leading cross-functional teams to bring about fundamental change and improvement in strategy, process, and profitability. Ms Sumar is the Director of Programmes and Partnerships at the British Council in Tanzania.



**JUMANNE MTAMBALIKE**

Jumanne Mtambalike is the Chief Executive Officer of Sahara Ventures, the parent company of Sahara Sparks event, Africa's largest event on innovation and technology entrepreneurship, Sahara Accelerator, a corporate-sponsored and venture-backed accelerator. He is mainly known in Tanzania as the first hub manager of Buni Innovation Hub and the champion of Silicon Dar. In 2014, Mr. Jumanne was selected by GeSCI as the best participant of the program Africa Leadership in ICT, a program that involved experts from across the African continent. He is also a blogger focusing on innovation, technology entrepreneurship and the future of Africa. Besides, Mr. Mtambalike is a technology blogger. Noted online publications launched by Jumanne Mtambalike include: "Tanzania Innovation Ecosystem", "What you need to know about Tanzania Innovation Ecosystem. Why are we the fastest?", and "Hub Manager's Diary to name a few.

**DOREEN SINARE**

Ms. Doreen Anthony Sinare is the Chief Executive Officer and Copyright Administrator of the Copyright Society of Tanzania (COSOTA) since 2013 and Advocate since 2008 (currently not Practicing) with 2004 LLB from Tumaini University Iringa, Tanzania and 2012 Masters in Intellectual Property and Competition Law, from Munich Intellectual Property Law Center (MIPLC), Germany Since Joining COSOTA in 2009 to date, Ms Sinare has among others, played part to strengthen COSOTA, coordinate and increase the membership base, COSOTA income, COSOTA and anti-piracy activities. She has played a huge role in Strengthening cooperation with stakeholders (Artists, Producers, Authors, Composers, Associations, WIPO, ARIPO, CISAC and IFPI and others).



# THE FIRST INNOVATION AND TECH FORUM



**PART FOUR:**  
**REPORT END**





Highlights  
in pictures

#InnoTechForum  
August 27th, 2021







**Highlights  
in pictures**

**#InnoTechForum  
August 27th, 2021**







## CONCLUSION

There are abundant opportunities in the innovation and tech ecosystem and that is because there are numerous gaps that need to be field to go in pace with the fourth industrial revolution in an economy where digital is no longer an option. We believe and intend that the forum will add value to the process. Through this first report, We have tried our best to ascertain that it has carried all key information which creates base and direction of the next forum meetings and reports. We have strived as much as we could to reflect the significance of what we wish to convey in establishing the Innovation and Tech Forum, as well as highlighting the long term plans of the forum.

We need as many partners, support and collaborations as possible. We have yet to perfect the processes of enabling and guaranteeing impact through value creation and aside from the forum steering committee and board of advisers we look for more interest from others from the ecosystem. The reports will be released as bi-monthly as the forum meetings. We look forward to having each one of you in one way or another to be ambassadors or advocate towards enabling the environment for Youth and Women led Innovation Ventures.

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