TANZANIA YOUTH FORUM 2024

(TANZANIA YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FORUM 2024)

"Youth participation in leadership, Governance, and Digital Transformation for Economic Development"

"Ushiriki wa Vijana katika Uongozi na Utawala wa Kidigitali kwa Maendeleo ya Kiuchumi"

July 30th – 31st, 2024.

PSSSF Tower, Dodoma, Tanzania

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ABBREVIATIONS

AU: African Union.

CSOs: Civil Society Organization

DOYODO: Dodoma Youth Development Organization.

DPs: Development Partners.

EAC: East African Community

GoT: Government of Tanzania.

NGOs: Non-Governmental Organizations.

PMO-LYED Prime Minister Office Labour, Youth Employment and Disabilities

SADC Southern African Development Community.

TYF: Tanzania Youth Forum.

TYDF: Tanzania Youth Development Forum

SRH: Sexual Reproductive Health

FP: Family Planning

NYC: National Youth Council

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1.1 REMARKS FROM TYF 2024 CHAIRPERSON

Executive Director-DOYODO

Mr. Rajabu Juma Suleiman the Executive Director of DOYODO graciously assumed the role of host, extending a warm welcome to the esteemed guest of honor. He explained that, despite the enthusiasm and potential of youth-led NGOs, they often find themselves operating in isolation. These youth-oriented organizations are urging the government to provide financial grants that would bolster their programs and initiatives and enable targeted initiatives that comply with the Immediate youth needs rather than the focus of development partners



It was a terrific year for us as young people to have the opportunity to help coordinate the youth conference in Tanzania in 2023. I am overwhelmed with gratitude and want to thank everyone who helped us wraps up this important event, but most of all, I thank God for guiding us to a successful dime

I'd like to thank the government, particularly the PMO-LYED, Ministry of Health, and Ministry of CDGES, for their excellent cooperation with the coordination team led by Freedom House Tanzania, Dodoma Youth Development Organization (DOYODO), Pact Tanzania, Lm International, CBM, IRI, NDI, T-MARC Tanzania, EANNASO and other 30 partners.

All parties involved should know that the journey won't always be simple. Challenges will emerge, and barriers will stand in our way, but it is in these difficult circumstances that our true strength will shine. We have the potential to win, change, thrive, and do better each year to ensure our forum is of the best quality. We believe that the recommendations provided by more than 600 young people will be worked on by various ministries in order to bring productivity to the welfare of the country's young people's development. Recommendations have been able to focus on the participation and engagement of young people at the levels of decision-making, financial markets, health, and good governance.

"...the youth of our nation stand poised to play a vital role in advancing our country. We beseech the government to actively involve us in the developmental processes, specifically by extending support to youth-driven NGOs dedicated to addressing the challenges faced by both young individuals and communities at large."

Mr Rajabu Juma Suleiman, Executive Director; DOYODO

REMARKS FROM GOVERNMENT

Hon. Rosemary S. Senyamule

Dodoma Region Commissioner

Hon. Rosemary S. Senyamule Represented the Prime Minister of United Republic of Tanzania Hon Kassim Majaliwa (MP) Together with engaging in festivals, conferences, and various events, interacting with our elders who have gone ahead of us in the journey of leadership, many of us tend to sleep a lot because we don't push ourselves, as we have set average standards for ourselves and taken it for granted.



1.1.2 REMARKS FROM CHAIRPERSON FROM NGOs BOARD MWANTUMU MAHIZA



Mwantumu Mahiza, Chairperson of the Board of Non-Governmental Organizations, commended the forum for effectively bringing together youth and praised DOYODO for their excellent coordination of the event. She emphasized the importance of youth dedication and self-confidence in ensuring their active participation in various decision-making levels.

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3. ABOUT TANZANIA YOUTH FORUM

The Tanzania Youth Forum is a National platform established in 2022 with the main objective of creating sustainable coordination mechanism between the government and youth in Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar through policy and legal frameworks that facilitate an enabling environment for youth inclusion and participation in pioneering the youth agenda in economic, social, political and leadership development sectors.

Tanzania Youth Forum brings together youth led and focused organizations, young leaders, young political leaders, young entrepreneurs, youth from education institutions including higher learning institutions, representatives from government institutions, individual youth, young innovators and the private sector to connect, empower and engage youth in the decision-making process and development sectors. To serve as a bridge between the aspirations of young people and the policies and actions of governments and institutions, ultimately contributing to the development and progress of Tanzania

3.1 TANZANIA YOUTH FORUM 2024

Tanzania Youth Forum 2024 took place on the 30th and 31st of July 2024 at the PSSSF Tower in Dodoma with the theme *"Youth Participation in Leadership, Governance, and Digital Transformation for Economic Development",* stressing on the significance of youths' involvement in decision making and their economic growth. The 2024 forum mobilized more than 600 participants including government

representatives, Development Partners (DP), youth led/youth focused CSOs, inspirational youth leaders, youths in business, religious leaders, representatives from youth political wings, youths interested in international development issues, higher learning representative's youth, youth with disabilities and individual youth between the ages of 15 – 35 from all over Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar as well as few representatives from EAC Countries include Uganda. A panel discussion on the first day and led a break away session on the second day focusing on the topics tabled.

Tanzania Youth Forum 2024 opened by Dodoma Regional Commissioner **Hon. Rosemary Senyamule** on 30th July 2024 during her mountain moving speech she urged youth to be movers of their dreams and not shakers as they pursue their career and personal growth.

On day two the forum closed by Prime Minister's Office-Labour, Youth, Employment and Disability (PMO-LYED) **Hon. Ridhiwani Kikwete**.

Minister Ridhiwani Kikwete later on day two officially re-branded the event by launching a new name of Tanzania Youth Forum (TYF) into Tanzania youth Development Forum (TYDF). The Guest of Honor extended commendations to DOYODO for their outstanding coordination of the youth development forum. He acknowledged the forum's significant role in connecting youth and providing them with valuable opportunities to discuss their development. The Guest of Honor assured that the government remains committed to supporting the forum to ensure its continued sustainability and success. According to the speech, guest of Honor draw youth input into newly revised National Youth Development Policy, according to the source the revised policy is now final and is expected to get launched on August 12, 2024 duri On the second day of the forum, Hon. Ridhiwani Kikwete from the Prime Minister's Office - Labour, Youth, Employment, and Disability (PMO-LYED) closed the event. Minister Kikwete officially rebranded the event, renaming it from the Tanzania Youth Forum (TYF) to the Tanzania Youth Development Forum (TYDF). He commended DOYODO for their exceptional coordination of the forum, recognizing its critical role in connecting youth and providing valuable opportunities for dialogue on their development.

The Guest of Honor assured continued government support to ensure the forum's sustainability and success. In his speech, Minister Kikwete emphasized the inclusion of youth input into the newly revised National Youth Development Policy, which is set to be officially launched on August 12, 2024, during International Youth Day (IYD2024). He also addressed the process for establishing the National Youth Council, with plans to commence implementation by the end of 2024. Additionally, Minister Kikwete expressed the government's commitment to addressing youth employment issues, acknowledging the current challenges and promising to develop effective strategies to improve employment opportunities for youth.

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Hon. Ridhiwani Kikwete during closing remarks of TYF 2024

3.2 GOAL

i. To create a sustainable coordination mechanism between GoT, DP and Youth through policy and legal frameworks that facilitate an enabling environment for youth inclusion and participation in pioneering the youth agenda in economic, social, political and leadership development sectors.

3.2.1 SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES OF THE TANZANIA YOUTH FORUM 2024

i. To produce policy advocacy analysis on identified youth challenges that hinder Tanzanian youth from seizing economic, social, and political development opportunities that exist at national level and in their respective regions.
ii. To bring together stakeholders from various sectors to forge partnerships and strengthen collaboration in addressing these challenges through programming.
iii. To establish a task force/committee that will implement the recommendations of the Tanzania Youth Forum in order to link Tanzanian youth with the existing opportunities. Members of the taskforce will include representatives from CSOs, NGOs, Government entities and the private sector.
iv. To strengthen the existing systems and regulatory framework to facilitate youth participation and engagement in decision-making and in the national development process.

4. TANZANIA YOUTH FORUM 2024 PROGRESS MADE

By providing youth themselves an opportunity to lead discussions and sessions from a distance and to adopt a youth-to-youth approach, the youth forum of 2024 has been able to be conducted in an innovative manner. The methods utilized were welcoming and allowed all young people to participate fully, while also providing a broad field for discussing various policies and values for the development of youthful people in the country. Panel discussions, capacity-building workshops, exhibition activities, policy brief presentations, keynote speakers, and breakout sessions comprise the approach.



4.1 INTERVENTIONS AND METHODOLOGIES FOR TYF 2024

Tanzania youth forum 2024 featured various activities include thematic discussions, exhibitions, direct provision of services and, panel discussion, break away session and knowledge transfer through organized evening storytelling events. The Tanzania Youth Forum 2024 activities and approaches were divided into General conference and breakout sessions.





5.0 GENERAL CONFERENCE

The general conference covered the following thematic areas.

5.1 Youth inclusion in economic opportunities

This thematic area addressed the critical role of youth in driving economic growth and sustainable development, exploring the multifaceted aspects of integrating young people into the economy. The session featured a keynote address from Brightus Titus from MYCN Tanzania, who highlighted the "Importance of Youth Participation in an Inclusive Economy for Job Creation." The discussions included various dimensions of youth economic engagement. Esteemed discussants from Brac Maendeleo, HELVETAS, and Youth Champions delved into topics such as employability and entrepreneurship skills, access to financial services, and the importance of supporting business startups. This panel generated actionable insights and recommendations to enhance youth participation in Tanzania's economic landscape, aligning with the broader objectives of Tanzania's Development Vision 2050.

The panel was effectively moderated by Ms. Tunufabiola James, who provided ample opportunity for the discussants to thoroughly explain the economic opportunities available to youth and allowed for substantive questions from the young audience.



The session provides a broader outcome to understand the following critical issues:

- *Youth Employability and entrepreneurship skills for economic development*
- *Youth access to financial services for economic empowerment*
- *Youth and Business Start Ups*
- *Cross Border Trade in East African Community (EAC), Southern African Development*

5.1.1 Tanzania Development vision 2050

The panel discussed the Development Vision 2025-2050, providing insights that enabled the youth to understand and offer significant input on the vision's direction. Key recommendations from the youth included:

1. **Consideration of Employability Needs**:
    - Addressing the current employment market demands.
    - Considering the loans from private sectors with conditions that are affordable and flexible for youth.
    - Encouraging youth involvement by providing easier access to funds for economic growth.
    - Creating opportunities for youth to integrate into regional frameworks such as the East African Community (EAC) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC).
2. **Uplifting Local Content**:

- Promoting the Swahili language across many nations to open economic opportunities for Tanzanian youth abroad.

5.1.2 Youth and Cross Border Trade (EAC, SADC and the AFCFTA).

During this session, Mr.David George (*Youth advocates*) elaborated on the significant relationships with regional organizations in promoting peace, security, and economic integration. She emphasized that youth should leverage these opportunities to expand their economic access in these countries.

Issues Raised by Youth Reflections:

Financial Constraints: Youth face significant barriers in accessing available opportunities in integrated regions due to financial limitations.

Low Innovation Involvement: There is a low level of youth involvement in innovation, which hinders their ability to create unique products and take advantage of market opportunities.

Recommended Actions:

1. **Flexibility and Information Utilization**:
   - Tanzanian youth should be adaptable and invest time in using social platforms to understand global economic opportunities.
2. **Capacity Building on Innovation**:
   - Enhance youth capacity in innovation to create diverse products and capitalize on market opportunities within regional integrations.
3. **Support from NGOs, CSOs, and CBOs**:
   - Strengthen youth capacity in developing business ideas to exploit regional economic benefits.
   - The government and NGOs should intensify efforts in educating youth about the benefits of available opportunities in regional integrations.
   - Promote the spread of the Swahili language in regional markets to overcome language barriers, facilitating easier access to market information for Tanzanian youth.

5.1.3 Youth and Access to Financial Services – Lending Policies and practices.

Ms. Asia Botea from Brac Maendeleo Tanzania elaborated on youth access to financial services from both public and private sectors:

- **Public Sector**: Each council allocates 10% of its funds specifically for women and youth.
- **Private Sector**: Financial institutions like equity banks offer loans at lower interest rates to support local communities.

Challenges Raised:

- **Lack of Financial Education**: Many youth lack adequate financial education, essential for managing loans and financial planning.
- **High Loan Interest Rate**: The stringent requirements to access loans, including high collateral demands, pose a barrier, especially for graduates.

Recommendations:

1. **Framework for Financial Institutions**:
    - The government should establish a framework guiding financial institutions to offer loans to youth under specific terms and at low-interest rates.
    - Use minimal requirements such as NIDA identification and other basic information that does not incur a cost.
2. **Graduate Loan Initiative**:
    - The government should provide at least TZS 3,000,000 to each final-year graduate from universities.
    - This financial support would help them start economic activities immediately after completing their studies, reducing unemployment and post-graduation uncertainty.

5.1.4 Youth and Business Startups

Mr. Abraham Mtogole, YES Project Lead from HELVETAS, highlighted the role of stakeholders in supporting youth business startups. He cited the HELVETAS YES Project as an example, which has provided opportunities for youth to access economic startups.

Recommendations:

1. **Soft Skills Development**:
    - Partners, in collaboration with the government, should offer various soft skills training to youth. This includes digital skills and how to conduct online business to meet economic startup and marketing needs.
2. **Easing Access to Funds**:
    - The requirements for accessing funds from private and public sectors should be minimal, such as requiring only NIDA identification and some basic information from Village officers. This will make it easier for youth to obtain loans.
3. **Financial Management Education**:
    - Provide appropriate financial management education to enable youth to access and maintain funds obtained from financial sectors.

5.1.5 Youth Employability and entrepreneurship skills for economic development

Presented by: Ms. Upendo Daud, BRAC Maendeleo, she highlighted Key Opportunities in Entrepreneurship, Encouraged youth to identify unique business opportunities, Discussed funding options like microloans and grants, Highlighted the importance of mentorship programs, Emphasized understanding and accessing local and international markets,

Challenges raised;

- **Limited Resources:** Issues with accessing financial resources and market information.
- **Regulatory Barriers:** Bureaucratic challenges hindering business operations.
- **Skill Gaps:** Need for improved education and training programs.

Support from Government and NGOs:

- **Policy Support:** Called for enabling government policies.
- **Collaborative Efforts:** Encouraged partnerships to support youth initiatives.

Case Studies: Shared local success stories as inspiration from Barc Maendeleo Projects

Additional Considerations:

- *Linking entrepreneurship with SDGs*
- *Ensuring equal opportunities for young women.*
- *Addressing social issues through business.*
- *Platforms for idea-sharing and collaboration.*
- *Support for navigating export processes.*
- *Importance of managing businesses sustainably.*

5.2 Youth Inclusion, Participation in Leadership and Decision Making

The Tanzania Youth Forum panel on "Youth Inclusion, Participation in Leadership, and Decision-Making Spaces" focused on the critical role of youth in leadership and decision-making processes. This session included a keynote address on "Overcoming Challenges and Seizing Opportunities for Youth Participation in Leadership and Decision-Making Processes," and covered topics such as youth involvement in democratic processes, engagement in political bodies, and the inclusion of marginalized groups like young women and youth with disabilities.

The discussion also highlighted the importance of capacity building for youth organizations in civic education. The goal was to enhance understanding of how to improve youth leadership and participation in decision-making, promoting more inclusive governance and societal development.

Moderated by Fredrick Fussi, the panel featured Elizabeth Masihimba, Mallyawatu, Atham, and Oliva Leah, winners of the Ideathon 2024 contest organized by IRI under the USAID Tushiriki Pamoja Project. Nyangubu, the 2023 Ideathon winner, and her organization HER URAIA CLICKERS shared their success stories and the implementation of their goals supported by IRI under USAID. Additionally, Charles Ruben from DOYODO Tanzania, part of the USAID Kijana Nahodha Program, discussed youth involvement in civic education.

The panelists engaged in discussions about challenges and recommendations on the following topics:

1. Youth Participation and Democratic Processes
2. Youth Engagement in Local Government and Elections
3. Inclusion of Young Women and People with Disabilities in Decision-Making Levels
4. Capacity Building of Youth Organizations on Civic Education

We, the youth, identified several challenges within these areas and proposed concrete resolutions to address them.

5.2.1 Youth Participation in Democratic Processes

Challenges:

1. **Economic Pressure:** Economic pressures often diminish interest in political matters, which are perceived as less beneficial.
2. **Financial Weakness and Lack of Support from Parties and Society:** There is a lack of financial support from political parties and society, often due to perceptions of disloyalty or preference for other candidates.
3. **Lack of Leadership Education:** Many young people lack understanding of leadership roles, benefits, and responsibilities, which affects their motivation to pursue leadership positions.

Recommendations:

1. **Establishment of a National Youth Council:** Create a national youth council to ensure youth representation in parliament.
2. **Quota Representation:** Implement quota systems to ensure youth representation in both local and general elections.
3. **Age Limitations for Presidential Candidates:** Reduce age limitations for presidential candidates to enable more youth participation.
4. **Terms Limits and Youth Representation:** Address how the lack of term limits in elections impacts youth representation.
5. **Youth Political Wings:** Develop and support youth political wings to enhance engagement.
6. **Capacity Building for Youth Organizations:** Strengthen capacity building for youth organizations in civic education, with a focus on early engagement in local government meetings and boards through USAID Kijana Nahodha Project.

Specific Recommendations:

1. **Leadership Training Programs:** Government and non-governmental organizations should establish leadership training programs, including seminars, workshops, and practical training to build youth capacity and motivation for leadership roles.
2. **Formal Support Systems in Political Parties:** Political parties should create formal support systems, such as financial funds and strategies to encourage community support for dedicated and ethical youth candidates.
3. **Financial Assistance Programs:** The government, private sector, and civil society should offer financial assistance programs like low-interest loans for entrepreneurial youths and provide entrepreneurship training and employment opportunities.
4. **Inclusion of Youth Contributions in Policies:** Incorporate input and recommendations from youth analysts supported by the USAID Tushiriki Pamoja project managed by IRI into government policies and legislation.

5.2.2 Youth Engagement in Local Government and Elections

Challenges:

1. **Lack of Trust from Higher Levels and Society:** Young people often face distrust and are quickly dismissed in leadership selection processes within political parties. This mistrust is compounded by the misconduct of previous or current young leaders.
2. **Non-Participation in Local Government Meetings and Activities:** Many aspiring young leaders do not engage in local government meetings or community activities, such as development projects and infrastructure building.

Recommendations:

1. **Awareness Campaigns and Incentives:** Local governments should launch awareness campaigns and provide incentives to encourage youth participation in community meetings and activities. Special opportunities should be created for youth to engage in local development plans, helping them understand the importance and benefits of their involvement.
2. **Integrity Programs for Young Leaders:** To restore trust in young leaders, integrity programs should be established. Political parties need to implement transparent and equitable selection processes for young candidates, ensuring equal opportunities for participation and expression.

5.2.2 Engaging Young Women and Youth with Disability in Decision Making Bodies

Challenges:

1. **Lack of Funds and Sexual Bribery:** Young women often face the challenge of being perceived as unable to attain leadership positions without offering sexual bribes, which undermines their leadership potential and opportunities.
2. **Societal and Cultural Perceptions:** Societal and cultural beliefs frequently hinder young women's advancement into leadership roles. This issue is further compounded by inadequate preparation and support for leadership roles from an early age.
3. **Stigma and Lack of Confidence Among People with Disabilities:** People with disabilities experience stigma and discrimination within political parties, with assumptions that they lack the necessary abilities for leadership roles. This stigma undermines their confidence and willingness to pursue leadership positions.



Recommendations:

1. **Strict Policies Against Sexual Bribery:** Establish stringent policies and transparent procedures to combat sexual bribery. Enhance financial support programs for young women interested in politics and create safe platforms for reporting bribery incidents. Additionally, educate the community on the importance of women's leadership and challenge the notion that success in leadership requires offering sexual bribes.

2. **Gender Sensitization Campaigns:** Launch gender sensitization campaigns to promote gender equality and empower women to engage in leadership roles. Develop programs that offer leadership training and skill development for young girls from an early age to overcome cultural barriers and build capacity.
3. **Role Models and Mentoring Programs:** Involve successful women and leaders with disabilities in meetings and workshops to provide positive role models for young women and people with disabilities. These leaders can share their experiences and inspire others. Establish mentoring programs where these successful figures guide and support aspiring young leaders, helping them navigate and succeed in leadership roles.

5.2.4 Capacity Building of Youth Organizations on Civic Education

Speaker: Charles Ruben from DOYODO, Representative from USAID Kijana Nahodha

Discussion Points:

1. **Civic Education and Youth Leadership:**
    - Civic education helps individuals understand their rights and responsibilities within their communities. Young people should aspire to leadership positions or elect leaders who will drive positive change. Many hesitate to pursue leadership roles, mistakenly believing these positions are meant for older individuals. By stepping up, young people can ensure their contributions and ideas are integrated into their communities.
2. **Issues Identified;**
    - Fear: Many youths are intimidated and lack the confidence to pursue leadership roles.
    - Lack of Awareness: There is a widespread lack of awareness regarding rights and responsibilities among young people.
    - Negative Mindset: Some believe that leadership roles are reserved for certain people or groups.
3. **Recommendations:**



    - Term Limits: Implement term limits for leadership positions to bring in new perspectives and ideas.
    - Increase Awareness: Raise awareness among youth about their rights and responsibilities.
    - Overcome Fear: Encourage young people to overcome their fears and believe in their capabilities.
    - Active Participation: Promote active engagement of youth in community development activities.

- Early Education: Integrate civic education into the school curriculum from an early age.
- Self-Confidence: Foster confidence in youth by educating them about the "4Rs" (Reconciliation, Resilience, Reform, and Rebuild) as emphasized by the President of the United Republic of Tanzania.
- Encouragement: Motivate young people to aspire to leadership roles, even if it seems late.
- Influence Organizations: Encourage NGOs, CSOs, and CBOs to provide civic education, particularly before elections, to enhance electoral outcomes.
- Build Leadership Spirit: Develop a new generation with a strong leadership spirit, preparing them to confidently seize leadership opportunities as they grow.

5.3 National Coordination of Youth Development Initiatives;

Mr. Charles Ruben, Programs Manager from DOYODO Tanzania, moderated the panel, creating an opportunity for youth to explore existing gaps and challenges in the coordination and linkage of youth development initiatives. The issues discussed included:

1. **Experiences from Uganda National Youth Council:** Insights into how Uganda has successfully managed and coordinated youth development initiatives.
2. **Coordination of Youth-led CSOs/NGOs and CBOs:** Exploring the coordination between youth-led organizations and community-based organizations.
3. **Private Sector and Financial Institutions:** The role of the private sector and institutions in supporting youth initiatives.
4. **Government Initiatives:** Coordination of various government initiatives aimed at supporting youth development.

These discussions aim to address existing gaps and challenges in coordinating and linking youth development initiatives across different sectors.

5.3.1 Experiences from Uganda National Youth Council

The insights from Mr. Alex Wamakota on Uganda's National Youth Council are quite valuable for the operationalization of the Tanzanian National Youth Council. Here’s a summary of the key points and issues raised:

Successes of the Uganda National Youth Council:

1. **Leadership Opportunities:** 40% of Uganda's parliamentarians come from the National Youth Council, providing significant opportunities for youth engagement in leadership roles.
2. **Regional Interaction:** The Council facilitates interaction among young people across East Africa, making it easier to address cross-cutting youth issues collaboratively.
3. **Scholarship Opportunities:** Many youth have accessed scholarships through the National Youth Council, which could be a model for enhancing scholarship access and feedback mechanisms in Tanzania.

Issues Raised:

1. **Revised National Youth Development Policy:** The Tanzanian government is finalizing a revised policy that will soon be launched, aiming to stimulate the implementation of the National Youth Council.
2. **Formulation of the National Youth Council:** After the policy launch, the government will start formulating the National Youth Council.

These points provide a solid foundation for shaping the Tanzanian National Youth Council, leveraging successful strategies from Uganda while addressing local needs and contexts.

5.3.2 Coordination of Youth-led CSOs/NGOs

Discussion: Ms. Francisca Mboya from NaCoNGO, spoke on the role of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), emphasizing their importance in inspiring young people to establish CSOs as a strategy for achieving community service goals.

Issues Raised:

- Lack of awareness among youth about the benefits and functions of CSOs.
- Challenges in accessing resources and support for establishing CSOs.
- Difficulty in maintaining effective coordination and collaboration among CSOs.

Recommendations:

- Increase awareness and training programs on the benefits and operations of CSOs.
- Facilitate access to resources and support for youth-led CSOs.
- Enhance coordination mechanisms and collaborative efforts among existing CSOs

5.3.3 Coordination of Government Initiatives in supporting youth development ventures

Discussion: Mr. Eliakim Mtawa outlined the government efforts in coordinating youth development issues and informed that the government is working on establishing a framework for coordinating youth development programs in the country.

Issues Raised:

- **Fragmented Approach:** Existing youth development programs are not well-integrated, leading to inefficiencies and duplicated efforts.
- **Lack of Clear Guidelines:** Absence of a standardized framework for coordinating youth development initiatives.
- **Limited Stakeholder Engagement:** Insufficient involvement of key stakeholders, including youth-led organizations, in the planning and implementation phases.

Recommendations:

- **Develop a Comprehensive Framework:** Create a clear, unified framework for coordinating youth development programs to improve integration and efficiency.
- **Enhance Stakeholder Engagement:** Involve a broader range of stakeholders, including youth-led organizations, in the development and execution of youth initiatives.
- **Streamline Coordination Efforts:** Improve mechanisms for coordinating among different government departments and external partners involved in youth development.

5.3.4 Private Sector and Financial Institutions: The role of the private sector and institutions in supporting youth initiatives.

Discussion: The Marketing Manager from Equity Bank Tanzania at Dodoma Branch, discussed economic empowerment opportunities for youth, including affordable loan options available to them.

Issues Raised:

1. **Barriers to Accessing Financial Services:**
    - **Lack of Credit History:** Many young people lack established credit histories, making it difficult to secure loans.
    - **Insufficient Collateral:** Youth often do not have assets to use as collateral for loans.
    - **Limited Financial Literacy:** A lack of understanding about financial products and services hampers effective use of financial resources.
2. **Encouraging Financial Institutions to Develop Tailored Products:**
    - **Incentives for Product Development:** Financial institutions need incentives to create products specifically designed for young entrepreneurs.
    - **Engagement with Youth:** Institutions should actively seek input from young people to better understand their needs and preferences.
3. **Successful Models and Replication:**
    - **Existing Models:** Successful models include microfinance programs and youth-focused loan schemes in other countries.
    - **Replication in Tanzania:** Adapt and implement these models by creating similar programs tailored to the local context, ensuring they address the specific barriers faced by Tanzanian youth.

Recommendations:



- **Improve Access to Credit:** Develop alternative credit assessment methods and offer unsecured loans to youth.
- **Increase Financial Literacy:** Implement training and educational programs to enhance financial knowledge among young people.
- **Incentivize Product Innovation:** Provide incentives for financial institutions to design and offer products tailored to youth needs.

- **Adopt Successful Models:** Study and adapt successful international models for increasing youth access to financial services to fit the Tanzanian context.

5.3 Sexual and Reproductive Health and Youth Wellbeing

Moderated by Denis Bwana, SRHR Officer from EANNASO, this panel provided an extensive discussion on Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) and overall well-being among youth. The session aimed to offer a comprehensive overview of youth health, addressing critical issues and generating actionable insights and recommendations to enhance the health and well-being of youth in Tanzania. The panel covered:

- **Access to Youth-Friendly Services:** Evaluating the availability and accessibility of services tailored for young people.
- **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion:** Focusing on gender issues and ensuring equitable access to health resources.
- **Health Initiatives:** Examining programs that promote adolescent and youth well-being.
- **Access to SRH for Adolescent Girls and Young Women:** Assessing the availability of SRH services for these groups.
- **Youth Mental Health and Parenting:** Addressing mental health challenges and support for young parents.

Keynote Address by Dr. Gerald Kihwele, Ministry of Health:

Dr. Kihwele provided an update on SRH in Tanzania, highlighting several positive developments:

- **Increased Access to Youth-Friendly Services:** 67% of youth now have access to services designed for their needs.
- **Expansion of One-Stop Centers:** The number of one-stop centers has increased to 29 across Tanzania mainland, offering both psychological support and medical treatment.
- **Future Plans:** The Ministry of Health aims to establish a one-stop center in every regional referral hospital by 2025, aligning with the Health Policy of 2007, which guarantees free access to health services for all.

Current Challenges in Youth Health and Well-being:

- **Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs)**
- **HIV/AIDS:** HIV prevalence was 4.6% aged 15-49
- **Teenage Pregnancy:** 22% prevalence rate in Tanzania
- **Gender-Based Violence (GBV):** in Tanzania 40% of all women aged 15-49 experience physical violence, while 17% have experienced sexual violence. Women aged 15-49, 44% have experience either physical or sexual violence by intimate partner

5.4 Access to Youth Friendly Services

During the discussion on **Access to Youth-Friendly Services**, led by Gloria Chagama from EANNASO, the importance of providing health services tailored to the needs of young people was

emphasized. Key challenges were identified, including the inadequate availability of youth-friendly health services, the shortage of service providers equipped with the necessary skills to cater to the youth, and prevalent misconceptions among parents. The participants also offered recommendations aimed at improving the accessibility and quality of these essential services.

Key Issues Raised:

1. **Inadequate Availability of Youth-Friendly Health Services:**
    - Many young people face difficulties accessing health services specifically designed for them. This scarcity often forces them to rely on general health services that may not adequately address their unique needs.
2. **Lack of Skilled Service Providers:**
    - There is a significant shortage of healthcare providers trained to deliver youth-friendly services. This gap results in a lack of appropriate guidance, support, and care for young people seeking health services.
3. **Misconceptions Among Parents:**
    - Many parents hold misconceptions about youth-friendly health services, often viewing them as unnecessary or inappropriate. This attitude can lead to resistance in supporting their children in accessing these services, further hindering the effectiveness of health interventions for youth.
4. **Lack of Government Prioritization of Family Planning and Reproductive Health (FPRH):**
    - The government's insufficient prioritization of Family Planning and Reproductive Health (FPRH) has led to an inadequate budget allocation for these services. This financial shortfall further exacerbates the challenges in providing comprehensive and accessible youth-friendly health services.

Youth Recommendations:

1. **Increase Accessibility of Youth-Friendly Services:**
    - Participants recommended that efforts be made to increase the availability and accessibility of health services that cater specifically to young people. This could involve establishing more youth-friendly clinics and integrating youth services within existing healthcare facilities.

2. **Enhance Training for Service Providers:**
    - There is a need for specialized training programs for healthcare providers to equip them with the skills required to offer youth-friendly services. This training should focus on understanding the unique needs of young people and delivering care in a manner that is both respectful and effective.
3. **Engage Parents in Awareness Programs:**
    - To address misconceptions, it was recommended that targeted awareness programs be conducted for parents. These programs should aim to educate parents about the

importance of youth-friendly services, helping to shift their perceptions and encouraging them to support their children in accessing these services.

4. **Strengthen Community Engagement:**
    - The participants suggested that community-based initiatives be developed to raise awareness about the importance of youth-friendly health services. Engaging community leaders and influencers in these efforts could help to normalize the use of such services and reduce stigma.
5. **Advocate for Increased FPRH Budget Allocation:**
    - It was recommended that advocacy efforts be intensified to urge the government to prioritize Family Planning and Reproductive Health (FPRH). This includes lobbying for increased budget allocation to ensure that youth-friendly services are adequately funded and accessible to all young people.

5.4.2 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Mr. Abubakari Rehani from T-Marc Tanzania emphasized the importance of recognizing and valuing the differences among individuals, including aspects such as gender, ethnicity, age, religion, and socio-economic background. He highlighted that diversity is a critical asset that can enhance creativity, innovation, and problem-solving within organizations and communities.



1. **Promoting Equity:**
    - The discussion addressed the need to ensure that everyone has access to the same opportunities, resources, and treatment, regardless of their background. Equity was distinguished from equality, with a focus on the need to understand and address the systemic barriers that different groups may face, ensuring that all individuals can achieve their full potential.

2. **Inclusion in Practice:**
    - Inclusion was defined as the active, intentional, and ongoing engagement with diversity to create an environment where everyone feels welcomed, respected, and valued. Mr. Rehani stressed that inclusion goes beyond simply having diverse groups represented; it involves creating a culture where all individuals feel empowered to contribute and participate fully.
3. **Challenges in Implementing DEI:**
    - The discussion also touched on the challenges in promoting Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) within organizations and communities. These challenges include unconscious bias, resistance to change, and a lack of understanding or commitment from leadership. Mr. Rehani encouraged participants to be proactive in addressing these challenges by fostering open dialogue, providing education and training, and implementing DEI policies and practices.

4. **Youth Engagement in DEI:**
    - The importance of involving young people in DEI efforts was emphasized, recognizing that youth are key drivers of social change. Mr. Rehani called for the inclusion of youth perspectives in DEI strategies and for creating spaces where young people can lead and advocate for more inclusive practices.

Recommendations:

1. **Implement DEI Training Programs:**
    - It was recommended that organizations and communities develop and implement comprehensive DEI training programs to build awareness and skills around diversity, equity, and inclusion. These programs should target all levels of an organization, including leadership.
2. **Develop Inclusive Policies:**
    - Organizations should create and enforce policies that promote diversity, equity, and inclusion. This includes adopting practices that address systemic inequalities and ensure that all individuals, regardless of their background, have equal access to opportunities and resources.
3. **Foster a Culture of Belonging:**
    - The discussion highlighted the importance of creating a culture where everyone feels a sense of belonging. This involves not only including diverse voices but also actively valuing and leveraging the unique perspectives that each individual brings to the table.
4. **Youth Leadership in DEI Initiatives:**
    - Youth should be encouraged and supported to take on leadership roles in DEI initiatives. Providing mentorship and resources for young people to lead these efforts was seen as essential for fostering a more inclusive and equitable society.

5.4.1 Health Initiatives

The discussion on **Health Initiatives**, led by Maries stopes, focused on examining various programs designed to promote the well-being of adolescents and youth. He explained the different health initiatives that contribute to enhancing the overall health and well-being of

Key Issues Raised:

1. **Limited Access to Health Services:**
    - One of the primary concerns highlighted was the limited access that adolescents and youth have to essential health services. This includes a lack of youth-friendly clinics, long distances to healthcare facilities, and the financial barriers that prevent young people from seeking care.
2. **Lack of Comprehensive Sexual and Reproductive Health Education:**
    - The discussion also pointed out the inadequate provision of comprehensive sexual and reproductive health (SRH) education. Many young people are not equipped with the necessary knowledge to make informed decisions about their health, leading to increased rates of sexually transmitted infections (STIs), unintended pregnancies, and unsafe practices.
3. **Mental Health Challenges:**
    - Mental health was identified as a critical yet often overlooked aspect of adolescent and youth well-being. The stigma surrounding mental health issues, coupled with a lack of mental health services and resources, has left many young people without the support they need.
4. **Inconsistent Implementation of Health Initiatives:**
    - Participants expressed concerns over the inconsistent implementation of health programs across different regions. While some areas benefit from well-established health initiatives, others lack the necessary infrastructure, leading to disparities in health outcomes for youth.

Recommendations:

1. **Expand Access to Youth-Friendly Health Services:**
    - It was recommended that efforts be intensified to expand access to youth-friendly health services. This could involve establishing more clinics specifically designed to cater to the needs of young people, offering services at low or no cost, and ensuring that these facilities are easily accessible.
2. **Enhance Sexual and Reproductive Health Education:**
    - There is a need to strengthen sexual and reproductive health education programs in schools and communities. The content should be comprehensive, age-appropriate, and culturally sensitive, ensuring that young people are well-informed about their health and rights.
3. **Increase Mental Health Support for Youth:**
    - Participants called for greater focus on mental health by integrating mental health services into existing health initiatives. This includes training healthcare providers to recognize and address mental health issues and creating safe spaces where young people can seek support without fear of stigma.
4. **Ensure Consistent Implementation of Health Programs:**

- To address regional disparities, it was recommended that health initiatives be consistently implemented across all regions. This requires coordinated efforts from government agencies, NGOs, and community organizations to ensure that all adolescents and youth have equal access to health services.

5. **Involve Youth in Health Program Design and Implementation:**
    - The discussion emphasized the importance of involving young people in the design and implementation of health programs. By engaging youth as active participants rather than just beneficiaries, programs can be more responsive to their needs and more likely to succeed.

5.4.4 Access to SRH for Adolescent Girls and Young Women

Said Kulwa highlighted several barriers that adolescent girls and young women (AGYW) face in accessing Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) services. These barriers include cultural norms and stigma surrounding SRH, limited availability of youth-friendly services, and a lack of awareness and education about SRH rights and services among AGYW.

1. **Limited Availability of SRH Services:**
    - The discussion pointed out that in many areas, there is a scarcity of SRH services tailored specifically to the needs of AGYW. This lack of accessible services makes it difficult for young women to seek the care and support they need.
2. **Stigma and Discrimination:**
    - AGYW often encounter stigma and discrimination when seeking SRH services. This can deter them from accessing essential health services, leading to negative health outcomes, such as unintended pregnancies, sexually transmitted infections (STIs), and other reproductive health issues.
3. **Inadequate SRH Education:**
    - The discussion also raised concerns about the inadequate provision of SRH education for AGYW. Without comprehensive and accurate information, young women are less likely to make informed decisions regarding their sexual and reproductive health.

Recommendations:

1. **Improve Accessibility of SRH Services:**
    - It was recommended that efforts be made to increase the availability of SRH services for AGYW. This could involve establishing more youth-friendly clinics, mobile outreach programs, and integrating SRH services into existing health facilities.
2. **Enhance SRH Education for AGYW:**
    - The discussion emphasized the need for improved SRH education, both in schools and communities. Providing AGYW with accurate and comprehensive information about their SRH rights and services is crucial for empowering them to make informed decisions.
3. **Combat Stigma and Discrimination:**
    - To address the stigma and discrimination faced by AGYW, participants suggested implementing awareness campaigns aimed at changing societal attitudes towards SRH. These campaigns should target not only young women but also their families, communities, and service providers.
4. **Engage Community Leaders and Influencers:**

- Engaging community leaders and influencers was recommended as a strategy to promote SRH for AGYW. By involving respected figures in the community, efforts to improve SRH services and education can gain greater acceptance and support.

5. **Policy Advocacy for SRH:**
    - The discussion concluded with a call for stronger policy advocacy to ensure that SRH for AGYW is prioritized at all levels of government. This includes advocating for increased budget allocations, the implementation of supportive policies, and the enforcement of laws that protect the SRH rights of AGYW.

5.4.5 Youth Mental Health and Parenting In the discussion on **Youth Mental Health and Parenting**, led by Dr. Francis Mbwilo, From UMATI Tanzania, key issues raised included the mental health challenges faced by young parents, such as stress, anxiety, and depression, compounded by the lack of adequate support systems. The implications of these challenges are significant, potentially affecting both the well-being of the parents and the development of their children. Youth recommendations focused on increasing access to mental health services, providing targeted support programs for young parents, and integrating mental health education into parenting programs to equip young parents with the tools they need to manage their mental health effectively.

5.4 Climate Change and Just Transition

The National Youth Forum addressed urgent and critical issues surrounding climate change and the concept of a just transition. The panel, led by ActionAid, explored both global and local trends of climate change, the energy transition, and the crucial role of youth in advocating for climate justice. Discussions covered the current state of climate change and its impact on sustainable economic growth in Tanzania, as well as the relevant policies, legal frameworks, and government initiatives. Additionally, the panel delved into the energy transition, youth engagement in climate justice, and innovations in combating climate change. The goal of the panel was to generate actionable insights and recommendations to enhance youth involvement in addressing climate change and supporting a just transition.



5.5.1Trend of Climate Change Worldwide, Current Situation and How That Trend Does Threatens Sustainable Economic Growth in Tanzania. Policies and Legal Framework on Climate Change and Current Initiatives by The Government of Tanzania

Global Climate Change Trends:

- **Rising Temperatures:** Average global temperatures have been steadily increasing due to greenhouse gas emissions from human activities, including fossil fuel combustion, deforestation, and industrial processes. This trend contributes to extreme weather events, sea level rise, and disruptions in ecosystems.
- **Ocean Acidification:** The absorption of increased CO2 by oceans has led to acidification, which adversely affects marine life, particularly coral reefs and shellfish. This phenomenon threatens biodiversity and the livelihoods of communities' dependent on marine resources.

Impact on Tanzania: The effects of global climate change pose significant threats to sustainable economic growth in Tanzania. These include reduced agricultural productivity, water scarcity, and increased frequency of natural disasters, all of which can undermine economic stability and development efforts.

Policies and Legal Framework on Climate Change in Tanzania:

- **National Climate Change Strategy (NCCS 2012):**
  - The NCCS aims to enhance Tanzania's adaptive capacity to climate change, reduce vulnerability, and contribute to global efforts to mitigate climate change. It focuses on building resilience in key sectors such as agriculture, water, and energy.
- **National Adaptation Program of Action (NAPA 2007):**
  - NAPA identifies and prioritizes urgent and immediate needs for adaptation to climate change. It implements community-based adaptation projects in vulnerable areas to enhance resilience and reduce risks associated with climate change.
- **National Environment Policy (1997, revised in 2021):**

- The policy ensures sustainable development through sound environmental management. It integrates environmental considerations into development planning, promotes public awareness, and enhances capacity for environmental management to mitigate the impact of climate change.

5.5.2 Overview of the Energy Transition in Tanzania, Regional and Global Context, and Opportunities for Youth

Energy Transition in Tanzania:Mr.Justine Mponda from African Youth Transformation explained about **t**he energy transition in Tanzania; Energy transition is part of a broader effort to shift the country's energy mix towards more sustainable and renewable sources. Currently, Tanzania relies heavily on hydropower, which accounts for about 40% of its electricity generation, and natural gas, which contributes around 50%. While these sources provide a significant portion of the country's energy needs, the transition to renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, and geothermal is seen as crucial for long-term sustainability and energy security.

Regional and Global Context: Globally, the energy transition is being driven by the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and combat climate change. Countries are increasingly investing in renewable energy technologies to diversify their energy sources, reduce dependence on fossil fuels, and move towards a low-carbon economy. In the regional context, East African countries, including Tanzania, are exploring opportunities to harness their abundant renewable energy resources to support economic growth and improve energy access.

Challenges:

- **Infrastructure Development:** One of the primary challenges in the energy transition is the need for significant investment in infrastructure to support renewable energy projects.
- **Technical and Financial Constraints:** Limited technical expertise and financial resources can hinder the development and deployment of renewable energy technologies.
- **Regulatory and Policy Barriers:** Inadequate regulatory frameworks and policies may slow down the adoption of renewable energy solutions.

Opportunities for Youth and the Country:

- **Job Creation:** The energy transition offers substantial opportunities for job creation in the renewable energy sector, particularly for youth. This includes roles in technology development, project management, installation, maintenance, and research.
- **Entrepreneurship:** Youth can engage in entrepreneurship by starting businesses that provide innovative energy solutions, such as solar power systems, energy-efficient appliances, and other green technologies.
- **Capacity Building:** There are opportunities for youth to develop skills in renewable energy technologies, which can enhance their employability and contribute to the country's energy goals.
- **Sustainable Development:** The transition to renewable energy can support Tanzania's sustainable development by reducing reliance on fossil fuels, lowering greenhouse gas emissions, and improving energy security.

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5.5.3 Meaningful Youth engagements and participation to advocate for climate justice in Tanzania to international spaces.

Mr. David Kasungu from VSO emphasized the importance of meaningful youth engagement and participation in advocating for climate justice both within Tanzania and on international platforms. He highlighted how empowering young people to take active roles in climate advocacy not only strengthens the climate justice movement but also ensures that the voices of the youth, who are most affected by climate change, are heard and acted upon. Kasungu pointed out the need for creating more opportunities for youth to engage in policy-making processes, participate in global climate discussions, and lead local initiatives that contribute to climate resilience and sustainability.

5.5.4 Climate Change Innovations

Youth Recommendations on Innovations in Climate Change:

1. **Foster Climate Adaptability:** Youth should be empowered to build resilience against climate change through targeted training and education programs that enhance their adaptability.
2. **Promote Climate Awareness:** Increase efforts to raise awareness among young people about climate change and encourage them to develop innovative solutions that also offer economic opportunities.
3. **Enhance International Collaboration:** Support initiatives that combine efforts with other countries to address climate change more effectively and reduce its impacts globally.
4. **Ensure Affordable Alternative Energy:** Advocate for policies that maintain the affordability of alternative energy sources, such as cooking gas, to facilitate their widespread use.
5. **Develop Rural Infrastructure:** Prioritize the improvement of infrastructure in rural areas to support sustainable development and alleviate pressure on urban areas.
6. **Educate on Ecological Agriculture:** Implement educational programs for farmers on ecological agriculture practices to protect the environment and enhance agricultural sustainability.

5.6 Youth in Digital Transformation, Innovation and Creativity Youth access to digital opportunities and Technology innovation

Madam Gloria Mafole (Country Director Lm International), delved into the critical role of youth in driving digital transformation, innovation, and creativity. The discussion focused on various aspects of youth engagement with digital opportunities and technology innovation, providing a comprehensive analysis of the benefits and challenges faced by young people in the digital age.

Key Points Discussed:

- **Opportunities for Youth:**

    - **Online Learning Platforms:** Youth have access to platforms like Coursera, edX, and Udemy, which offer courses in coding, digital marketing, data science, and other digital skills essential for careers in the tech industry.
    - **Startup Incubators and Accelerators:** Initiatives such as the Tanzanian Start-Up Association (TSA) and the Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH) provide mentorship, funding, and networking opportunities to help young entrepreneurs launch and grow their businesses.
    - **Tech Hubs:** Spaces like the Dar Technorama Business Incubator (DTBi) offer resources, support, and a collaborative environment for tech startups, fostering innovation and creativity.
- **Challenges and Recommendations:**
    - **Digital Skills Gap:** Address the gap in digital skills among youth through targeted training programs and increased access to educational resources.
    - **Cybersecurity Awareness:** Emphasize the importance of cybersecurity and provide education on best practices to protect personal and professional data in the digital landscape.
    - **Support for Startups:** Enhance support for young entrepreneurs by improving access to funding, mentorship, and networking opportunities.
    - **Infrastructure Development:** Invest in digital infrastructure to ensure broader access to technology and online platforms, particularly in underserved areas.

5.6.1 Harnessing Innovation and Creativity

Ms. Marietha Thomas highlighted crucial factors that foster innovation and creativity among youth.

Key Factors:

- **Access to Resources:** Ensuring that youth have access to essential tools, funding, and mentorship is fundamental for driving innovation. This includes providing resources that enable young people to develop and implement their creative ideas.
- **Supportive Ecosystem:** A community that fosters a culture of risk-taking and experimentation is vital. This supportive environment encourages young innovators to explore new ideas and approaches without fear of failure.
- **Education and Training:** Programs that focus on teaching creative thinking and problem-solving skills are critical. These educational initiatives equip youth with the capabilities needed to develop innovative solutions and tackle complex challenges.

These factors collectively contribute to a dynamic environment where youth can thrive as innovators and creators, driving progress and addressing pressing issues through their unique perspectives and skills.

5.6.2 Challenges and Opportunity for Digital Transformation

Mr. Tryphone Mwinuka discussed various challenges and opportunities associated with digital transformation in Tanzania, emphasizing the potential benefits for youth and the broader community.

Challenges:

- **Infrastructure Limitations:** Inadequate digital infrastructure, particularly in rural areas, hinders widespread access to technology and internet services.
- **Skills Gap:** A lack of digital literacy and technical skills among the youth affects their ability to fully engage with and benefit from digital technologies.
- **Regulatory Barriers:** Outdated or restrictive regulations can impede the growth of digital innovations and limit the potential of technology-driven solutions.

Opportunities:

- **Mobile Technology Innovations:** The adaptation of successful innovations like M-Pesa in Tanzania has revolutionized mobile banking and financial inclusion.
- **Health Technology:** Initiatives such as Jamii Africa, which offers affordable health insurance through mobile technology, demonstrate the transformative impact of digital solutions on access to essential services.
- **Water Management Solutions:** Innovations like the Eco-Water system show how digital technology can improve resource management and address environmental challenges.

These examples illustrate how digital transformation can provide significant opportunities for youth-led innovations and contribute to economic and social development in Tanzania

5.6.3 The Importance of Cyber Security in the Age of Digital Transformation

Mr. Samwel Mazota discussed the critical importance of cybersecurity in the context of digital transformation, focusing on the following key aspects:

Key Issues:

- **Protection of Data:** Safeguarding personal and business information from cyber threats is essential to prevent data breaches and maintain privacy.
- **Trust Building:** Ensuring user trust in digital services and platforms is crucial for widespread adoption and engagement with digital technologies.
- **Compliance:** Adhering to legal and regulatory requirements helps organizations and individuals avoid legal issues and ensure the secure handling of information.

Best Practices for Cybersecurity:

- **Education and Awareness:** Conduct regular training programs to educate individuals and organizations about cybersecurity best practices and emerging threats.
- **Robust Security Measures:** Implement strong security measures, including firewalls, encryption, and secure authentication methods, to protect against cyber attacks.
- **Incident Response Plans:** Develop and establish protocols for responding swiftly and effectively to cybersecurity breaches to minimize damage and recovery time.
- **Curriculum Integration:** Incorporate cybersecurity education into school and university programs to prepare the next generation for the challenges of the digital age.

These strategies are crucial for creating a secure digital environment and ensuring that digital transformation can proceed safely and effectively.

5.6.4 Government Effort in Advancing to Digital Transformation

The representative from TCRA outlined several key government initiatives aimed at advancing digital transformation:

- **Educating Youth on Cybersecurity:** Implementing programs to educate young people about cybersecurity to enhance their awareness and skills in protecting digital information.
- **Infrastructure Development:** Investing in improving internet connectivity, particularly in rural areas, to ensure that all citizens have equal access to digital resources.
- **Affordable Devices:** Providing subsidies or financing options for purchasing digital devices, making technology more accessible to youth in underserved areas.
- **Educational Reforms:** Integrating digital literacy into school curriculums from an early age to ensure that students develop basic digital skills essential for the modern workforce.
- **Workshops and Seminars:** Organizing regular workshops and seminars by the government and technology companies to provide training and updates on digital skills and cybersecurity.
- **Online Resources:** Offering access to online courses and tutorials on cybersecurity to enable self-learning and skill enhancement in a flexible manner.

These efforts are designed to foster a more digitally inclusive society and empower youth with the skills and resources needed to thrive in the digital age.

At the National Youth Forum, participants engaged in breakout sessions organized around five key thematic areas. These sessions aimed to enhance youth capabilities and generate actionable recommendations for their well-being. The themes of the breakout sessions were:

1. **Youth Inclusion, Participation in Leadership, and Decision-Making Spaces**
2. **Inclusive Economic Opportunities**
3. **Sexual and Reproductive Health and Youth Wellbeing**
4. **Climate Change and Just Transition**
5. **Youth in Digital Transformation, Innovation, and Creativity**

Breakout Session Structure:

Each breakout session followed a structured approach:

1. **Deep-Diving:** Participants explored specific issues, challenges, opportunities, and solutions related to the theme discussed on the first day of the forum.
2. **Youth Reform Secretariat:** Teams were nominated or selected to coordinate advocacy efforts and engage with the Government of Tanzania (GoT) and Parliament.
3. **Action Plan:** Each session produced a detailed action plan for implementing forum resolutions and ensuring post-forum engagement with stakeholders, including civil society organizations (CSOs), government entities, and the private sector.

General Tanzania Youth Forum Action Plan

. 1. Youth Inclusion, Participation in Leadership, and Decision-Making Spaces

1. **Advocacy and Engagement:**
    - **Form Youth Reform Secretariat:** Establish a team to advocate for increased youth representation in leadership and decision-making spaces.
    - **Engage with GoT and Parliament:** Schedule meetings with government officials and legislators to discuss strategies for enhancing youth inclusion.
2. **Capacity Building:**
    - **Leadership Training Programs:** Develop and implement training programs focused on leadership skills, public speaking, and decision-making.
3. **Policy Recommendations:**
    - **Policy awareness:** To improve youth inclusion and participation at various levels of government and organization through creating awareness on Tanzania Youth Development policy 2007, Version 2024
4. **Monitoring and Evaluation:**
    - **Set Up Tracking Mechanisms:** Develop tools to monitor progress and assess the impact of advocacy efforts and policy implementations.

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2. Inclusive Economic Opportunities

1. **Economic Advocacy:**
    - **Youth Reform Secretariat:** Appoint a team to advocate for inclusive economic policies and job creation strategies.
    - **Policy Dialogues:** Organize forums and dialogues with policymakers to discuss youth economic challenges and opportunities.
2. **Entrepreneurship Support:**
    - **Mentorship Programs:** Establish mentorship and training programs for youth entrepreneurs.
    - **Access to Funding:** Advocate for improved access to financial resources and subsidies for youth-led businesses.
3. **Skills Development:**
    - **Vocational Training:** Collaborate with Government to Develop vocational training programs aligned with market demands to enhance youth employability.
4. **Partnerships:**
    - **Collaborate with Private Sector:** Forge partnerships with businesses to create job opportunities and internships for youth.

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3. Sexual and Reproductive Health and Youth Wellbeing

1. **Health Advocacy:**
    - **Youth Reform Secretariat:** Create a team to advocate for improved access to sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services.

- **Policy Engagement:** Work with health authorities to address gaps in SRH services and funding.

2. **Education and Awareness:**
   - **SRH Education Programs:** Develop educational campaigns to increase awareness about sexual and reproductive health among youth.
   - **Training for Healthcare Providers:** Advocate for training programs to improve the skills of health professionals serving youth.
3. **Service Improvement:**
   - **Enhance Service Delivery:** Propose strategies to improve the accessibility and quality of SRH services in both urban and rural areas.
4. **Monitoring and Reporting:**
   - **Create Feedback Mechanisms:** Establish systems to gather feedback from youth on SRH services and use this data to drive improvements.

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4. Climate Change and Just Transition

1. **Climate Advocacy:**
   - **Youth Reform Secretariat:** Form a team to lead advocacy efforts on climate action and just transition policies.
   - **Policy Recommendations:** advocate for the availability of climate policies that emphasize sustainability and equitable transitions.
2. **Innovation and Solutions:**
   - **Support Climate Innovations:** Promote and support youth-led climate solutions and green technologies.
   - **Community Projects:** Initiate community-based projects focused on climate adaptation and resilience.
3. **Awareness and Education:**
   - **Climate Education Programs:** Launch educational programs to raise awareness about climate change and its impacts.
   - **Public Campaigns:** Organize campaigns to engage the public and policymakers on climate action.
4. **Partnerships:**
   - **Collaborate with NGOs:** Partner with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and international bodies to support climate initiatives and funding.

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5. Youth in Digital Transformation, Innovation, and Creativity

1. **Digital Advocacy:**
   - **Youth Reform Secretariat:** Establish a team to advocate for policies that support digital innovation and access to technology.
   - **Policy Dialogues:** Engage with policymakers to address digital divide issues and promote technology access.
2. **Skills and Education:**
   - **Digital Skills Training:** Develop and implement training programs to enhance digital literacy and technical skills among youth.

- **Support Tech Startups:** Provide resources and support for youth-led tech startups and innovative projects.

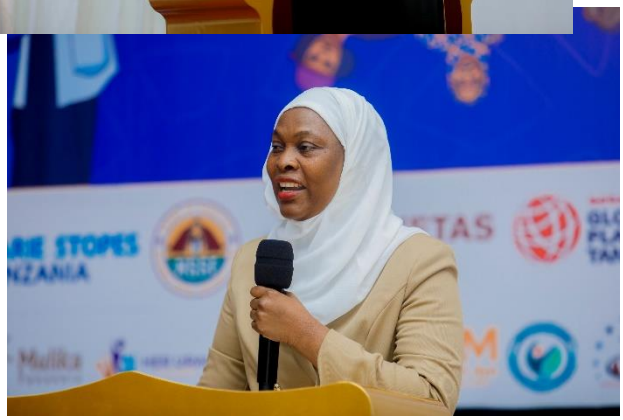
3. **Cybersecurity Awareness:**
   - **Cybersecurity Training:** Implement programs to educate youth on cybersecurity best practices and digital safety.
   - **Collaborate with Tech Companies:** Work with tech companies to provide resources and workshops on cybersecurity.
4. **Infrastructure Development:**
   - **Advocate for Better Infrastructure:** Promote investments in digital infrastructure to improve connectivity and access, especially in underserved areas.

Each action plan is designed to address specific challenges and opportunities within the thematic areas, promoting effective implementation and post-forum engagement with relevant stakeholders.

6.0 Tanzania Youth Development Sustainability



Mr. Adam Alingson, Specialist in the Office of Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), extended his heartfelt congratulations to DOYODO for organizing this significant event. He assured that USAID will continue to support this youth development platform in Tanzania, recognizing its critical role in providing opportunities for young people to engage in discussions about their development, particularly in leadership.



Dr. Tulia Tulli, Chief of Party for the USAID Kijana Nahodha Project at T-MARC Tanzania, commended the exemplary leadership demonstrated by the youth in guiding the forum. She highlighted how the platform has provided invaluable opportunities for young people to discuss various surrounding opportunities, emphasizing its unique focus on equity. Dr. Tulli expressed her strong support and assured continued collaboration, acknowledging the forum's significant role in advancing youth development.



Madam Gloria Mafole, Country Director at LM International, praised the forum and committed to continued collaboration and support for its sustainability. She expressed her enthusiasm for the platform's achievements and reaffirmed LM International's dedication to advancing the forum's objectives and ensuring its ongoing impact.



Upendo Daudi from BRAC Maendeleo extended her congratulations and assured continued collaboration. She expressed her commitment to supporting the forum and its initiatives, emphasizing her organization’s dedication to fostering ongoing partnership and contributing to the success of youth development efforts.



Rodrick W. Mugishagwe, Executive Director of EANNASO, also extended his congratulations and assured ongoing participation from EANNASO. He emphasized the organization's commitment to supporting the youth development platform in Tanzania, particularly in the area of youth health.

7.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We extend our deepest gratitude to all 34 stakeholders for their exceptional cooperation and unwavering support during the preparations and execution of the TYF 2024 conference. Your commitment has been crucial in ensuring the success of this pivotal event. We are optimistic that this robust partnership will be sustained and further strengthened in future conferences and initiatives. Together, we can continue to drive impactful youth achievements and contribute to the advancement of

Tanzania's future. We look forward to your ongoing collaboration in championing our shared goals and realizing our vision for a prosperous and progressive nation.

7.1 PARTNERSHIP

Tanzania youth forum 2024 organized by freedom house in collaboration with Prime Minister's Office, Dodoma Youth Development Organization (DOYODO) and other stakeholders as shown below.

DOYODO	HELVETAS	HER URAIA
USAID	MARIE STOPES	TAYOBECO
T-MARC TANZANIA	ACTION AID	HODARI 4M
KIJANA NAHODHA	NSSF	DYPO
BRAC MAENDELEO	INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE	
DSW	PLAN INTERNATIONAL	
LM INTERNATIONAL	AFRICAN YOUTH TRANSFORMATION	
IRI	ZAN CHANGE MAKERS	
VSO	GLARING FUTURE FOUNDATION	
UMATI	BSL	
EANNASO	MULIKA TANZANIA	

STAKEHOLDERS LOGO


TANZANIA YOUTH FORUM 2024. 30 &
USAID