



# —MUHAS— NEWSLETTER



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## AMBASSADOR MAVURA VISITS MUHAS TO DISCUSS OPPORTUNITIES AND COLLABORATION IN HEALTH, TRAINING AND RESEARCH



*The Ambassador of Tanzania to the Republic of Korea, Hon. Togolani Mavura in a group photo with the Vice Chancellor ( 2<sup>nd</sup> Right) Prof, Appolinary Kamuhabwa, Ag. DVC- Research and Consultancy ( 1<sup>st</sup> Right) , Prof. Bruno Sunguya, Ag. DVC- Academic ( 1<sup>st</sup> Left) Prof. Emmanuel Balandya and the President of MUHAS Convocation ( 2<sup>nd</sup> Left) Ms. Marsha Macatta Yambi after the special talk on on opportunities and collaboration between MUHAS and Korean Institutions held at MUHAS.*

### EDITORIAL TEAM

Prof. F. Kahabuka  
Dr. M. Mwangu  
Hellen Mtui  
Neema Edwin

Ambassador of Tanzania to the Republic of Korea, Hon. Togolani Mavura visited Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Science (MUHAS) on the 5th August, 2024 to discuss the opportunities and collaboration in health, training, and research between MUHAS and Korean Institutions.

This event was organized by MUHAS Internationalization and Convocation Unit.

In this special talk, Ambassador Mavura commended the university for putting Tanzania on the map of the Global university rankings as well

*A University excelling in quality training of health professionals, research and public services with a conducive learning and working environment*





*Ambassador of Tanzania to the Republic of Korea, Hon. Togolani Mavura at special talk on opportunities and collaboration in health, training and research between MUHAS and Korean Institutions*



*MUHAS Vice Chancellor, Prof. Appolinary Kamuhabwa giving his welcoming remarks during the special talk on opportunities and collaboration between MUHAS and Korean Institutions*

as interest and commitment towards internationalization.

Ambassador Mavura and MUHAS faculty, students and alumni had the opportunity to discuss and share potential areas for collaboration with Korean institutions on capacity building, clinical trials, industrial linkages, staff and students exchange, scholarship programs, knowledge sharing programs, health and innovation start-ups, academic programs collaboration, and innovation.

While giving her closing remarks, the President of MUHAS Convocation Ms. Marsha Macatta Yambi thanked the Ambassador for showing potential areas for collaboration. She commented that the information gathered in the discussion will be analyzed to select the areas that MUHAS is interested and ready to start collaborating.



*Ambassador of Tanzania to the Republic of Korea, Hon. Togolani Mavura at special talk on opportunities and collaboration in health, training and research between MUHAS and Korean Institutions*



*Participants following up the discussion on opportunities and collaboration between MUHAS and Korean Institutions held at MUHAS*



# DIRECTOR OF HIGHER EDUCATION GRACES THE THET GRAND DISSEMINATION SYMPOSIUM



*The Guest of Honor, Prof. Peter Msoffe, delivering the opening speech of the THET Grand Dissemination Symposium*

On 26<sup>th</sup> August, 2024, Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) in collaboration with Catholic University of Health and Allied Sciences (CUHAS), Kilimanjaro Christian Medical University College (KCMUCo), Duke University and the University of California San Francisco (UCSF) through the Transforming Health Professions Education in Tanzania (THET) project conducted a dissemination symposium on Transforming Health Professions Education.

The Symposium was officiated by the Director of Higher Education from the Ministry of Education, Science, and Technology, Prof Peter Msoffe. The guest of honor delivered a powerful speech which marked a significant milestone for Tanzania's health education sector. He praised the dedication and efforts of the three local institutions along with their international collaborators toward improving the health system by enhancing the quality of health professionals' education.

he mentioned the growth in health training institutions which had not always been matched by an increase in resources and academic staff, raising concerns about the quality of graduates.

He commended the THET project for addressing some of these challenges including developing and implementing a harmonized, Competency-Based medical doctors and nurses' curricula. These curricula, he said, are designed not just to impart knowledge, but also to cultivate practical skills, critical thinking, and an understanding of the social and cultural contexts in which health professionals operate.

Prof Msoffe urged all Health Higher Learning Institutions in Tanzania to support the scaling-up of these achievements and emphasized the importance of sustainability. He pledged the government continued support to Health Higher Education Training Institutions to sustain the



*MUHAS Vice Chancellor, Prof Appolinary Kamuhabwa addressing the participants of the THET Grand Dissemination Symposium*





*The Guest of Honor, Director of Higher Education MoEST, Prof Peter Msoffe and the Director of Human Resources Development MoH, Dr Saitore Laizer launching a Tanzania Health Educators Academy (THEA) during the THET Grand Dissemination Symposium*

progress made through the THET project.

In his welcoming remarks, the MUHAS Vice Chancellor, Prof. Appolinary Kamuhabwa, highlighted THET achievements over the past six years including the development of harmonized Competency-Based Curricula for medical and nursing programs and capacity building for

academic staff, equipping them with the necessary tools to effectively deliver these curricula.

He further expressed gratitude to the consortium members and emphasized the strong partnership that has been integral to the project's success and called for continued collaboration beyond the project's current phase.

In this event, the Tanzania Health Educators Academy (THEA) was launched, a key initiative of the THET project that will ensure continued development of health professions education in the country. THEA will support the professional development of health educators and ensure the long-term impact of the THET project.

## CHAIRPERSON OF THE MUHAS COUNCIL GRACES MUHASSO QUIZ CHALLENGE 2024

On July 6, 2024, the Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences Students Organization (MUHASSO) hosted the MUHASSO Quiz Challenge 2024 under the theme “OUTSMART, OUTPLAY, OUTWIN.” The event aimed to promote academic excellence and unity by bringing students from different faculties together to test their knowledge, foster collaboration, and encourage academic growth.

Participants competed in various



*The Guest of Honor, Chairperson of the MUHAS Council, Dr. Harrison Mwakyembe giving his opening remarks during the MUHASSO Quiz Challenge 2024 held at MUHAS*





*The Acting Director of Student Services, Dr. Hawa Mbawala giving her welcoming remarks to the participants during MUHASSO Quiz Challenge 2024.*

categories, including Sciences, Medicine, Mathematics, Language, Culture, History, General Knowledge, and Philosophy. Beyond showcasing intellectual brilliance, the competition served as a platform to cultivate collaboration among students, reinforcing MUHASSO's commitment to unity and academic excellence.

The Guest of Honor, Chairperson of the MUHAS Council, Dr. Harrison Mwakyembe, encouraged students to seize the opportunity to sharpen both their academic and social skills. He emphasized, *"This quiz challenge is more than just a competition, it is a platform to foster critical thinking, enhance knowledge, and equip students for the professional world ahead."*

*Let this event be a foundation for shaping your future academic and social success."*

Dr. Mwakyembe also commended MUHASSO for its dedication to student development and called on more stakeholders to support such initiatives. He promised to work with the Director of Student Services and other stakeholders to elevate the competition to an even grander scale next year. He also expressed his desire to collaborate with Her Excellency President Samia Suluhu Hassan to address key challenges at MUHAS and increase opportunities for student engagement.

MUHASSO President, Mr. David Machange, expressed his pride in the success of the event and extended gratitude to the MUHAS management for their continued support. He highlighted the significance of reviving the competition after a brief hiatus and shared plans to expand the event in the coming years by involving other universities.



*Participants during the MUHASSO Quiz Challenge 2024 held at MUHAS*



# SCIENCE SUMMIT AT THE 79<sup>TH</sup> UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY (UNGA)

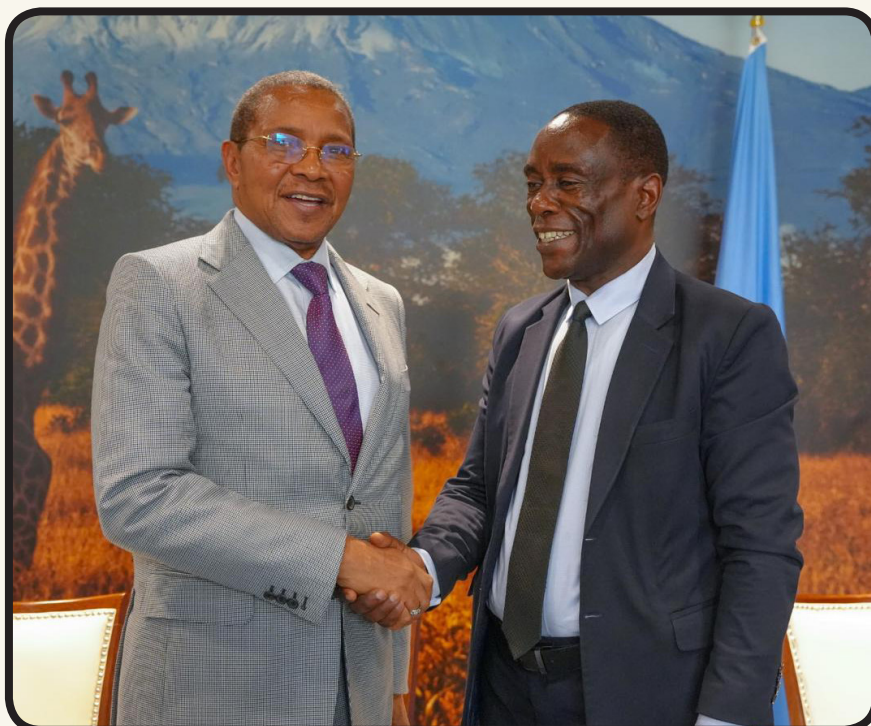
## High-Level Forum: Global Partnership for Sickle Cell Disease: Improve Health and Cure Disease



*A group photo of the MUHAS delegates, key stakeholders with the Guest of Honor, Dr. Godwin Mollel at the High-Level Forum on Sickle Cell Disease in New York, USA*

The Science Summit at the 79th United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), was held from 10th to 26th September, 2024 in New York. MUHAS in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, the Tanzanian Permanent Mission to the United Nations (UN), New York University (School of Global Public Health), Imperial College London, and the Tanzanian High Commission to the UK convened two hybrid side events focused on Sickle Cell Disease (SCD): a Scientific Symposium and a High-Level Forum on Global Partnerships for SCD, held on September 20th and 21st 2024, respectively.

These events aimed to unite key stakeholders from various sectors



*MUHAS Vice Chancellor, Prof. Appolinary Kamuhabwa and the Former President of the United Republic of Tanzania HE. Dr. Jakaya Kikwete during the meeting in New York, USA*







*A group photo of MUHAS and Tanzania team at the at the High-Level Forum on Sickle Cell Disease in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania*

(Government officials, patient advocates, healthcare providers, researchers, Industry, NGOs, philanthropies, and multilateral health and research organizations from across the globe) to discuss the current state of SCD, share best practice and develop actionable strategies to improve the lives of those affected by the disease. The session addressed four key areas: Health, Science, Policy and Partnership

The hybrid High-Level Forum for SCD was held at three-physical locations, in New York, USA; in London, United Kingdom (UK) and in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. The event in New York was graced by Tanzania Deputy Minister of Health Dr. Godwin Mollel as the guest of honor on behalf of Tanzania Prime Minister. Other key guests were the Former President of United Republic of Tanzania H.E. Dr. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, Permanent Representative to the UN H.E. Ambassador Hussein Katanga, Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health, Prof. Tumaini Nagu and Member of

Parliament, Hon. Dr. Hussein Kigwangala. Key participants at the event in Dar es Salaam were the U.S. Ambassador to Tanzania HE, Ambassador. Michael A. Battle, US Ambassador to Tanzania.

Ambassador Katanga officiated the event by emphasizing the importance of collaboration and partnership in improving the care for SCD in Tanzania. The MUHAS Vice Chancellor, Prof. Appolinary Kamuhabwa attended the meeting in New York and he highlighted the contribution of MUHAS to SCD healthcare through research in Tanzania and Globally and the urgent need to address SCD, as a major health crisis contributing to under-five mortality rates in Tanzania.

H.E Dr. Jakaya Kikwete shared his personal experience with SCD and his losses in his speech. He called for targeted investments, collaboration, and enhanced training for medical professionals, emphasizing the importance of genetic screening and ongoing research to position Tanzania as a leader in health innovation.

The guest of honor highlighted government initiatives in strengthening the health system for SCD care from newborn screening, Comprehensive care for patients by increasing the access to Hydroxyurea, Folic Acid & Penicillin Prophylaxis and improving advanced treatment for patients including Gene therapy and Bone Marrow Transplant. He called for partnerships in strengthening with all stakeholders in academia, research and health care services at all levels.

The high-level forum followed a Sickle Cell Disease scientific symposium held at 3 locations: New York School, USA; London, United Kingdom (UK) and in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania that convened leaders from scientific, technological, and policy sectors to address global SCD challenges. It aimed to showcase breakthroughs in research, new treatments, and diagnostic tools, while exploring technology's role in enhancing patient care.



# PROVOST OF IMPERIAL COLLEGE OF LONDON VISITS MUHAS



*The Provost of Imperial College of London, UK, Prof. Ian Walmsley in a group photo with the MUHAS management after the discussion held at MUHAS*



The Provost of Imperial College of London, UK, Prof. Ian Walmsley visited MUHAS to discuss areas of collaboration in areas of mutual interest with Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS).

During the discussion, Prof. Walmsley outlined the Imperial College's focus on advancing research in critical areas such as health security, sustainability, and innovative disciplines like robotics and immunology as well as integrating human and artificial

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*The Provost of Imperial College of London, UK, Prof. Ian Walmsley addressing the MUHAS faculty on areas of collaboration between MUHAS and Imperial College of London.*





*Principal Investigator, Sickle Cell Programme MUHAS, Prof. Julie Makani leading discussion on suggest areas for future collaborations between MUHAS and Imperial College of London.*

intelligence applications to drive innovation and economic growth.

In this visit, MUHAS faculty had an opportunity to suggest areas for future collaborations. These include establishing bilateral students and faculty exchange programme between MUHAS and Imperial College of London; supporting curricular

development in identified areas of specification; strengthen joint research programs; funding for innovation; infrastructure support in strengthening incubation space with key equipment and software; capacity building; access to expertise, mentorship, networking; informatics, artificial intelligence, and pharmaceutical industry.

This visit took place on the 13<sup>th</sup> September 2024 and was attended by the University management, researchers, faculty, and students. Prof Ian also made a tour to the Research and Development Lab at the School of Pharmacy to witness different research activities conducted by MUHAS faculty in Pharmacy.

## TURKISH AMBASSADOR TO TANZANIA OFFICIALLY CLOSED THE DISASTERS AND EMERGENCIES RESPONSE TRAINING IN THE COUNTRY

The Turkish Ambassador to Tanzania, Dr. Mehmet Gulluoglu officiated the closing ceremony of the disaster and emergency response training for health workers in Tanzania. These included ambulance drivers, nurses, paramedics, doctors, and call center helpers. They were trained on how to respond to disasters and emergencies before reaching the hospital.

Speaking during the closing

ceremony, the acting Principal College of Medicine, Prof. Enica Richard, who represented the MUHAS Vice Chancellor thanked Turkish Cooperation and Emergency Agency (TIKA) for their support that enabled this training aimed at increasing productivity in rescue and disaster operations, emergency services and accidents in the country. “Disaster response is an inclusive effort, and we were pleased to have partners committed to working with

us on delivering the training,” said Prof. Enica.

Prof. Enica urged training participants to use the skills they gained in disaster response and the university will maintain a database of trainers and where necessary they will be the first to be considered for further capacity building.

The head Emergency Medicine Department, Dr. Said Kilindimo,





*The Turkish Ambassador to Tanzania, Dr. Mehmet Gulluoglu officiating the closing ceremony of the disaster and emergency response training held at MUHAS*

said the training has built the capacity of a team of experts across the region. The trainees have gained skills to communicate and respond to emergency and disaster services before reaching the hospital.

The Turkish Ambassador to Tanzania, Dr. Mehmet Gulluoglu thanked MUHAS and TIKa for organizing this training that built and increased the knowledge, skills of high quality that can be achieved through such training in preparing a friendly environment before reaching the hospital and that meets the needs of the community. In his closing speech, H.E Ambassador said, “Life is full of challenges, disasters and emergencies are part of our lives and through training and modern equipment we will overcome these challenges,” Ambassador said.



*The Acting Principal College of Medicine, Prof. Enica Richard, representing the MUHAS Vice Chancellor giving her remarks during the closing ceremony held at MUHAS.*

These five days training was conducted by the Department of Emergence Medicine at MUHAS in collaboration with the Turkish Coordination and Cooperation Agency (TiKA) at Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences and was officially closed on the 16<sup>th</sup> August, 2024.



*The Turkish Ambassador to Tanzania, Dr. Mehmet Gulluoglu in group photo with the acting Principal College of Medicine, facilitators and participants after the official closing ceremony of the disaster and emergency response training.*



# MUHAS CONDUCTS ITS 11<sup>TH</sup> UNIVERSITY-WIDE RESEARCH DISSEMINATION SYMPOSIUM: A CALL TO ADDRESS HIV DRUG RESISTANCE IN TANZANIA

On 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2024, the Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) held its 11<sup>th</sup> University-Wide Research Dissemination Symposium, focusing on a pressing health challenge of HIV drug resistance in Tanzania.

The Symposium was officiated by the Director General of the National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR) Prof. Said Aboud who delivered a powerful speech calling for a strategic action to combat the growing threat of drug-resistant HIV strains.

Addressing a diverse audience that included government officials, representatives from HIV programs, researchers, academicians, and international delegates, Prof Aboud emphasized the critical importance of collaboration and innovation in tackling HIV drug resistance, which threatens years of progress made in the fight against the epidemic. “HIV drug resistance can lead to treatment failure,



*The Guest of Honor, Prof. Said Aboud addressing participants of the 11th University-Wide Research Dissemination Symposium on HIV Drug Resistance*

increased healthcare costs, and, most significantly, limit the options for effective treatment of those living with HIV,” he warned.

Prof. Aboud commended the institution’s consistent efforts in shaping health policy and improving healthcare delivery through its high-quality research.



*A guest of honor and members of the high table in a group photo with panelists and session chair of the HIV Drug Resistance*





*Participants of the HIV Drug Resistance Symposium following the opening session*

He further highlighted the need for strategic partnerships to curb the spread of HIV drug resistance. *“At the national level, we are deeply committed to addressing HIV drug resistance through rigorous research and active surveillance,”* he said, urging stakeholders to work together to develop evidence-based strategies that will inform clinical guidelines and policy decisions.

In his opening remarks, the MUHAS Vice Chancellor, Prof. Appolinary Kamuhabwa, underscored MUHAS’s commitment to addressing national and global health challenges through research and innovation. *“In this gathering, HIV drug resistance in Tanzania will be presented and discussed in details and participants will jointly recommend the best ways to improve HIV care, treatment and control of HIV drug resistance*

*in the country and beyond,”* he added.

The symposium provided a platform for scientists and policymakers to discuss key priorities, including continuous surveillance to monitor the emergence of resistant HIV strains, optimizing treatment regimens, strengthening laboratory capacity for drug resistance testing, and promoting community awareness to ensure adherence to treatment.

## MUHAS CONDUCTS INDUCTION WORKSHOP FOR MUHASSO LEADERS

**O**n 1<sup>st</sup> of August, 2024, MUHAS through the Directorate of Students Services conducted an Induction Workshop for the newly elected MUHAS Student’s Organization (MUHASSO) Leaders with the aim of equipping them with leadership skills.

The workshop was graced by the

Vice Chancellor, Prof. Appolinary Kamuhabwa who congratulated the new MUHASSO leadership particularly the President and the Vice President for being trusted by the students to lead them in this tenure.

Speaking to the new students’ leaders, Prof Kamuhabwa said that this is a very important

learning experience since it prepares the ground work for them to assume their responsibilities. He explained that the workshop is designed to help them quickly acquire the necessary knowledge about the way the University functions and their role as students’ leaders.

The Vice Chancellor further urged MUHASSO leaders





*The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Appolinary Kamuhabwa speaking during Induction Workshop for MUHASSO leaders*

to use technology to ensure timely communication with the University Management. He reminded them that time is of the essence in decision making and management.

In mentioning the objectives of this Workshop, the Director

of Student Services, Dr. Hawa Mbawalla said is to create awareness of the new MUHASSO leaders on key functions of the university (teaching, research, consultancy and services), to familiarize them on organizational structure and functions of various organs of the

University, on communication structure, on the roles of students' organization and to enlighten them on issues of gender and leadership.

The workshop was also attended by the Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic, Prof. Emmanuel Balandya who presented about the learning and teaching at the University, and the Deputy Vice Chancellor Planning, Finance and Administration, Prof. Erasto Mbugi, who presented on the organization structure of the University and function of various organs.

In giving a vote of thanks, the MUHASSO President, David Machange appreciated the MUHAS Management for organizing this workshop and specifically the Vice Chancellor to ensuring that he attend the event in person. He promised to work closely with University Management in addressing students' issues.



*A group photo of MUHAS Management with newly elected MUHASSO leaders*



# MUHAS SIGNS PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT WITH MIREMBE NATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH HOSPITAL

**O**n September 18, 2024, Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) signed a partnership agreement with Mirembe National Mental Health Hospital to collaborate on training, research, and consultancy services.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Acting Vice-Chancellor Prof. Emmanuel Balandya highlighted that this agreement would strengthen the partnership in conducting research focused on mental health, support the establishment of a new doctoral program, and provide short courses aimed at empowering health professionals. Additionally, the agreement will offer students practical learning opportunities at Mirembe National Mental Health Hospital in the Dodoma Region.

Dr. Paul Lawala, Director of Mirembe National Mental Health Hospital, expressed gratitude to MUHAS for the partnership and emphasized its potential to enhance healthcare services through training, research, and consultancy. He



*Acting Vice-Chancellor Prof. Emmanuel Balandya ( Right) and Director of Mirembe National Mental Health Hospital, Dr. Paul Lawala signing a partnership agreement to collaborate on training, research, and consultancy services.*

highlighted the hospital's high expectations, particularly in the areas of children's and adolescents' mental health, substance abuse, psychiatry, and maternal health.

Following the signing ceremony, representatives from Mirembe National Mental Health Hospital met with the Principal College

Campus of Medicine, Deans, and directors to discuss potential areas of collaboration. They also visited the Directorate of Research, Publications and Innovation; the Directorate of Postgraduate Studies; and the Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health to explore ongoing work in these units.



*Acting Vice-Chancellor Prof. Emmanuel Balandya in a group photo with the Director of Mirembe National Mental Health Hospital and other representatives from MUHAS and Mirembe Hospital after the signing ceremony held at MUHAS*



# A DELEGATION FROM FUDAN UNIVERSITY VISITS MUHAS

A delegation from Fudan University, China visited MUHAS School of Public Health and Social Sciences with the aim of exploring further on professional interactions and exchanges.

This visit follows the recently signed memorandum of understanding (MOU) between School of Public Health and Social Sciences (SPSS), MUHAS and School of Public Health, Fudan University to collaborate on common areas of interest in teaching, research and consultancy.

The delegation led by the Vice Chancellor who is also a Dean of Shanghai Medical College, Fudan University, Yuan Zhenghong paid a courtesy call to the MUHAS Vice Chancellor and held a meeting with Acting Vice Chancellor, Prof Emmanuel Balandya and the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Research and Consultancy, Prof. Bruno Sunguya. Also present was MUHAS Dean of SPHSS, Prof. Deodatus Kakoko and the Head of Internationalization and Convocation, Dr. Maryam Amour.

In this meeting they discussed on sharing professional experiences, skills and exchange of information on research and teaching methodology, curricula and the training of specialists between MUHAS and Fudan University.

The delegation also had a meeting with the faculty from the SPSS which was chaired by the Dean, Prof. Deodatus Kakoko. In this meeting, the Vice Chancellor of Fudan University gave an overview of Fudan University and Shanghai Medical College.

He also spoke about the current collaboration with the SPHSS and said that it is their hope that in this

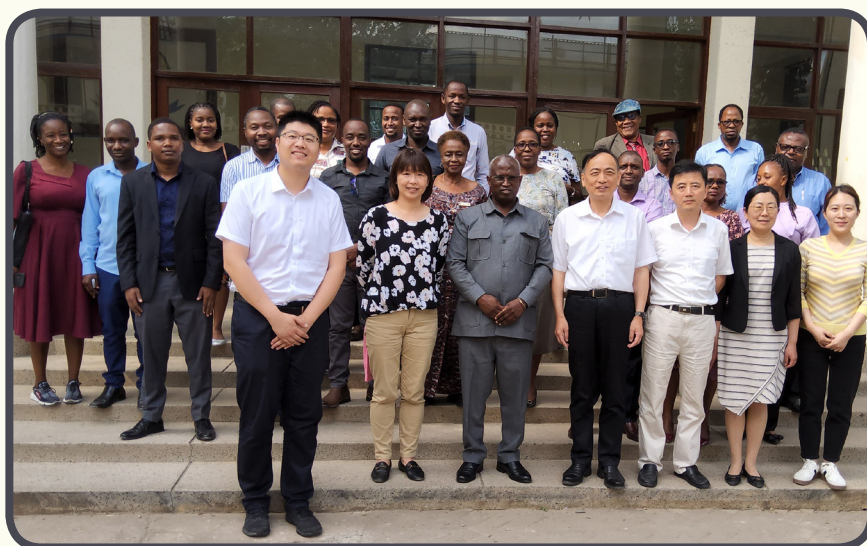


*A delegation from Fudan University with Acting VC, Prof Emmanuel Balandya; DVC-RC, Prof. Bruno Sunguya, Dean of SPHSS, Prof. Deodatus Kakoko and Head ICU, Dr. Maryam Amour*

visit they will have a chance to exchange ideas, promote and make the collaboration more concrete.

Speaking in this meeting, Prof. Kakoko said through the current MOU, there is a room to discuss and expand it further on other areas to collaborate. It was also agreed that the Dean will appoint members from each department to look at how the current MOU can be implemented. The team will work with a selected team from Fudan University.

The visit took place on 25<sup>th</sup> July, 2025 and Vice Chancellor was accompanied by Senior Project Manager, International Cooperation Office, Shanghai Medical College and other members from the School of Public Health, Fudan University including the Co-Dean/Professor, Assistant Dean/Associate Professor, Director/Professor of Department of Hospital Management, Researcher, Department of Environmental Health and a Master Student in Health and Health Management.



*A delegation from Fudan University with members from the School of Public Health and Social Sciences*



# MUHAS PARTICIPATES IN THE 48<sup>TH</sup> DAR ES SALAAM INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR



*MUHAS Vice Chancellor in group photo with the Director of Planning and Investment and exhibitor during his visit at MUHAS pavilion at Sabasaba ground*

The Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) participated in the 48<sup>th</sup> Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair organized by Tanzania Trade Development Authority (TanTrade) from the 28<sup>th</sup> June to 13<sup>th</sup> July 2024 at Mwalimu J.K. Nyerere Trade Fair Grounds, Dar es Salaam. In this exhibition, different higher education institutions, government institutions, and research bodies within and outside Tanzania participated.

The aims of SabaSaba exhibitions were to promote academic programs, researches and services offered by the University. The exhibition is also used to create awareness of MUHAS activities as a public institution, to the general community.

MUHAS exhibited materials were clustered into three categories according to the main functions of the University which are training, research and consultancy services. Hence, there was a teaching and learning category, research activities category and consultancy and services category.

Under teaching and learning category, the exhibition was centered on providing information on programs offered (both undergraduate and postgraduate programs) and



*MUHAS exhibitor explaining on research activities to the visitors who visited MUHAS pavilion during the 48<sup>th</sup> Dar es Salaam International at sabasaba ground*

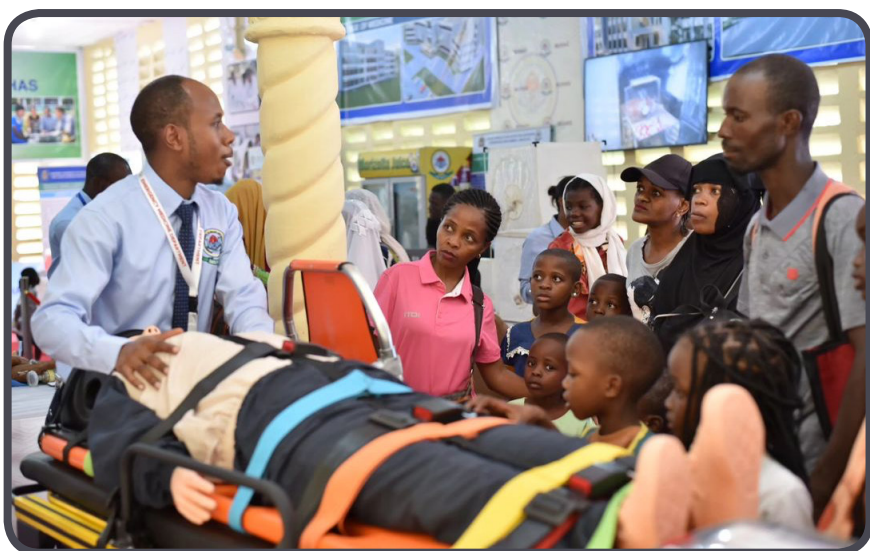


*MUHAS exhibitor providing information on programs offered at MUHAS to the visitors who visited MUHAS pavilion during the 48<sup>th</sup> Dar es Salaam International at Sabasaba Ground*





**MUHAS exhibitor on dental health issues to the visitors who visited MUHAS pavilion during the 48<sup>th</sup> Dar es Salaam International at Sabasaba Ground**



**MUHAS exhibitor explaining on emergency services to the visitors who visited MUHAS pavilion during the 48<sup>th</sup> Dar es Salaam International at Sabasaba Ground**



**MUHAS exhibitor explaining on nursing services to the visitors who visited MUHAS pavilion during the 48<sup>th</sup> Dar es Salaam International at Sabasaba Ground**

respective entry qualifications, the online application system and advice on career path. Brochures, leaflets and banners were displayed and distributed. This included academic programmes booklet which provides first-hand information on admission and summarizes all undergraduate and postgraduate programs offered at the University, entry qualifications and fee structures.

During the 48<sup>th</sup> Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair, the online application system was explained to the interested people and since the mini application window was open for applicants from previous years, applicants were assisted in the application process and other inquiries.

In the Research Activity category, several researches conducted at MUHAS were displayed and moreover in this exhibition MUHAS students also came up with the innovations project such as Afya Intelligence, Mlo Hub, Mama Care, Akili Plus, AHG Machine, Maternal Point of Care as well as MIA sanitizer

The Institute of Traditional Medicine had an opportunity to explain their research on herbal medicine and advertise their formulated herbal medicine products produced by the institute such as Morizella Juice, Ravo cream, Mangifera cream, Dantahiza, PRUCAN capsules, Mangifera capsules, APO capsules, Artemisia capsules, Tumbo mixture, Ini mixture, Fivisia, Mlonge powder and rosella calyces.

Under Consultancy and service category, MUHAS was able to display and provide services related to its core functions, whereby all services provided had a link to training and research. This included education and screening on dental health issues as well as advocacy on consultant services on MUHAS Genetics laboratory.

MUHAS Pavillion was visited by many people including several government officials of various ranks.



# DEPUTY HEAD OF MISSION OF THE BRAZILIAN EMBASSY IN TANZANIA VISITS MUHAS



*The Deputy Head of Mission at the Brazilian Embassy in Tanzania, Mr. Filipe Garcia Gomes speaking during his courtesy visit to the Vice Chancellor*

On 6<sup>th</sup> August, 2024, the Deputy Head of Mission at the Brazilian Embassy in Tanzania, Mr. Filipe Garcia Gomes, recently visited the Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) for a discussion on potential collaboration in the Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) project.

During the courtesy visit to the Vice Chancellor, Mr. Gomes highlighted Brazil-Tanzania cooperation over the past 10-15 years, which has primarily focused on agriculture. He noted that due to Tanzania's evolving needs, Brazil is now looking to expand its collaboration into the health sector, particularly in maternal and newborn health, in the country including Zanzibar. This marks an important shift in their bilateral efforts beyond agriculture.

Speaking on the Brazil-Tanzania SCD partnership, Dr. Mboka Jacob, Principal Investigator of the project, explained that the initiative

aims to improve the quality of life and life expectancy of individuals with SCD in Tanzania. The project will focus on newborn screening, diagnosis, and treatment, alongside capacity building for healthcare workers, medication support,

and strengthening infrastructure, especially in blood transfusion services.

Dr. Mboka added that the project was first proposed three years ago through Tanzania's Ministry of Health. Since then, discussions between the Brazilian Embassy, the Ministry of Health, and MUHAS have taken place. The Ministry has now entrusted MUHAS to advance the partnership, which was the purpose of this visit.

The Acting Vice Chancellor, Prof. Emmanuel Balandya expressed his enthusiasm for the collaboration's progress, acknowledging that while it took time, it has arrived at a critical moment. He stressed the importance of scaling up newborn screening in Tanzania and improving SCD treatment. He also conveyed MUHAS's interest in expanding future collaborations with Brazil, particularly in faculty and student exchanges.



*The Acting Vice Chancellor, Prof. Emmanuel Balandya with the Deputy Head of Mission at the Brazilian Embassy in Tanzania, Mr. Filipe Garcia Gomes and other members from MUHAS and Brazilian Embassy at the Vice Chancellor's office*



# MUHAS AND SAHARA VENTURE CONDUCT STARTUP SCHOOL WORKSHOP



*Coordinator of the MUHAS Innovation Unit, Dr. Nelson Masota in a group photo with the CEO, Sahara Venture, facilitators and participants during the Startup School Workshop held at MUHAS*

On September 24, 2024, Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) and Sahara Venture conducted a Startup School Workshop aimed at fostering discussions on global technology trends and supporting early-stage companies. The workshop provided a platform for startups to pitch and showcase their businesses to access potential investors and partners.

Speaking at the workshop, Coordinator of the MUHAS Innovation Unit, Dr. Nelson Masota, emphasized that the Startup School would allow innovation enthusiasts from MUHAS and other institutions to participate in interactive sessions led by successful health tech startups. These sessions offered valuable insights and strategies to help participants enhance their business acumen and professional skills.

The Chief Executive Officer of Sahara Ventures, Mr. Jumanne Mtambalike, expressed his excitement about partnering with MUHAS to inspire entrepreneurs and innovators to turn their ideas into impactful businesses. He highlighted the importance of

connecting with successful founders and transforming entrepreneurial visions into reality.

The workshop was held at MUHAS and was attended by aspiring tech startup founders and students. It

aimed to equip participants with the skills and knowledge needed to build and scale startups while overcoming challenges in the entrepreneurial ecosystem. Startup founders also shared their personal experiences and lessons learned during the event.



*Coordinator of the MUHAS Innovation Unit, Dr. Nelson Masota addressing the participants of the Startup School Workshop held at MUHAS*



## MUHAS AND ASH-HVO EXPLORE AREAS OF COLLABORATION BEYOND HEMATOLOGY AND BLOOD TRANSFUSION

Delegate of scientists from the American Society of Hematology and Health Volunteers Overseas (ASH-HVO) Program visited MUHAS on 9<sup>th</sup> August, 2024. One of the purposes of this visit was to discuss the potential areas of collaboration beyond hematology and blood transfusion. Since February 2013, MUHAS has been collaborating with ASH-HVO to advance hematology education and training in Tanzania.

During the meeting, Dr. Ahlam Nasser from the Department of Hematology highlighted the significant impact of this collaboration in bridging gaps in hematology and blood transfusion training, research, and service provision in Tanzania. The visiting scientists presented various opportunities offered by ASH-HVO and its partners, including capacity-building programs, scholarships, and research grants.

Dr. Maryam Amour, Head of the Internationalization and Convocation Unit welcomed the representatives

of the MUHAS management for a discussion on expanding collaboration between MUHAS and ASH-HVO. The discussion relied on the student exchange and fellowship programs, research grants, advanced training, and excellence in hemato-oncology and clinical pharmacy.

In closing the discussion, Prof. Enica Richard, Principal Campus College of Medicine, expressed gratitude to the delegates and MUHAS representatives for the fruitful discussion, emphasizing the importance of maintaining a focus on excellence.



*Delegates from the American Society of Hematology and Health Volunteers Overseas (ASH-HVO) with MUHAS members who attended the discussion on the potential areas of collaboration*

## MUHAS HOSTS INFORMATIVE SESSION ON CHEVENING AND RHODES SCHOLARSHIPS

MUHAS in collaboration with the British High Commission organized an event to familiarize staff, students, and alumni with prestigious international scholarships to pursue postgraduate studies in the UK. The session focused on two esteemed scholarships: the Chevening and Rhodes scholarships.

The event, facilitated by the Internationalization and Convocation Unit (ICU) under



*Participants following a session on Chevening and Rhodes Scholarships*





*The Head of the MUHAS Internationalization and Convocation Unit, Dr. Maryam Amour (2<sup>nd</sup> from right), with presenters of the Chevening and Rhodes Scholarships*

the office of the Vice Chancellor at MUHAS, aimed to empower the MUHAS community by providing detailed insights into the application processes, eligibility criteria, and benefits associated with these renowned scholarships.

Attendees had the privilege of engaging with distinguished speakers including Dr. Getrude Mollel, a MUHAS alumnae and a former Chevening scholar with an MSc in Global Health and Development from University College London, and Mr. Brian Mugendi Micheni, a current Rhodes scholar pursuing a PhD in Education at the University of Oxford.

Representatives from both scholarship programs offered

valuable advice on crafting competitive applications, highlighting the scholarships' role in fostering global leadership and academic excellence. Dr. Getrude Mollel emphasized the importance of starting the application early, emphasizing thoroughness as crucial for success. Similarly, Mr. Brian Mugendi Micheni underscored the significance of personalizing the motivation letter during the application process.

Mr. Ryan Mitchell from the British High Commission expressed enthusiasm about the event, emphasizing that these scholarships open doors to unparalleled academic and professional opportunities globally. "These scholarships," he noted,

*"are more than just financial support; they represent a pathway to unparalleled academic and professional success on a global scale."*

Dr. Maryam Amour, Head of the Internationalization and Convocation Unit at MUHAS, extended gratitude to the British High Commission for their participation and underscored MUHAS's commitment to preparing its students for success in an interconnected world through such initiatives. The event took place on the 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2024.



# HIV VACCINES IN PREPVACC TRIAL FAIL TO REDUCE INFECTIONS: RESULTS ANNOUNCED AT AIDS 2024 CONFERENCE



*CAB and PrEPVacc Researchers discussing the consequences of news release to the participants*

**P**rEPVacc is a multicenter study conducted across Eastern and Southern Africa in three countries (South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda) from 2020 to 2024. It was a phase IIb (Proof of concept) HIV vaccine efficacy trial involving populations at the high risk of acquiring new HIV infection. The Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania was among the sites that targeted and enrolled female sex workers (FSWs) aged between 18 and 39 years old.

The findings of the PrEPVacc trial have revealed that neither of the two experimental vaccine regimens tested were effective in reducing new HIV infections. The trial which included participants from South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda, was halted in November 2023 when independent experts determined that the vaccines had little chance of demonstrating efficacy. The findings were officially announced at the AIDS 2024 conference in Munich, Germany on 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2024.

Researchers reported a higher number of new HIV infections in the vaccine arms compared to the placebo groups, though they noted that the statistical confidence intervals were too wide to draw definitive conclusions. Additionally, the infection rate in the placebo group was unexpectedly low, a phenomenon that could not be fully explained by neither difference in condom use nor the use of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP).

Despite the disappointing results, the PrEPVacc team is collaborating with global researchers to conduct further immunological analyses, hoping to better understand the differences in infection rates between the vaccine and placebo groups.

In the three countries where the trial was conducted, HIV remains a significant public health challenge. According to UNAIDS, 10.7 million people were living with HIV in South Africa, Tanzania, and Uganda in 2022, with 244,000 new infections reported in that year.

PrEPVacc was the only ongoing HIV vaccine efficacy trial at the time it was concluded. The study, led by African researchers and supported by European collaborators, tested two different vaccine regimens to assess their ability to prevent new HIV infection in vulnerable populations. Additionally, it evaluated a new form of oral PrEP against the current standard of care. The results of the oral PrEP study are expected to be announced later in 2024.

## **Reactions from MUHAS Trial Leaders and Participants**

Prof. Said Aboud, Principal Investigator of the Dar es Salaam site at Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS), emphasized the importance of the trial despite its outcome. *“The experience gained, capacity built, data generated, and lessons learned from PrEPVacc trial will pave the way for more research to find affordable and effective HIV vaccine. Meanwhile, I urge everyone to remain vigilant in using the*





**MUHAS PrEPVacc study team**

available existing interventions to prevent new HIV infection” he said.

Mr. Joel Ndayongeje, a member of the Community Advisory Board at the Dar es Salaam site, praised the commitment of the study’s participants. “Their study participants] perseverance, despite community pressure and stigma, was crucial for the integrity of this trial,” he said.

Ms. Asha Ally, a participant in the PrEPVacc study, expressed mixed emotions. “I am happy we completed the study, but the findings were disappointing. We were hopeful the vaccine would work, but now we must look ahead. One step is a good start for the next” she said, remaining optimistic about future research.

The PrEPVacc trial marks a significant effort in HIV vaccine research, particularly in Eastern and Southern Africa, and although the findings did not meet expectations, the data and insights gained will inform the next steps in the ongoing fight against HIV and AIDS.

## MUHAS CONDUCTS REVIEW OF HIGHER DIPLOMA IN MENTAL HEALTH AND REHABILITATION



*The Acting Principal College of Medicine, Prof. Enica Massawe addressing the participants during the working session held at MUHAS*

Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences in collaboration with the Ministry of Health held a working session on the curriculum of the Higher Diploma in Mental Health and Rehabilitation for teaching at university level in the country.

Speaking on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor, the Principal College





*The Acting Principal College of Medicine, Prof. Enica Massawe in a group photo with the health stakeholders in mental health and rehabilitation after the discussion held at MUHAS*

Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences in collaboration with the Ministry of Health held a working session on the curriculum of the Higher Diploma in Mental Health and Rehabilitation for teaching at university level in the country.

Speaking on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor, the Principal College of Medicine, Prof. Enica Massawe said the purpose of this session is to review a curriculum that aims

to improve training and skills for mental health professionals and the general population and will focus on the importance of reducing social stigma around mental health patients and schizophrenia.

During the session the proposed curriculum presentations were done to the mental health stakeholders and was followed by discussion on improving the curriculum.

The Acting Head of Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health,

Dr. Dorothy Mushi urged all stakeholders involved in the session to continue to send their feedback to develop a better curriculum and meet the needs of the fight against mental health diseases in the country

This work session was held on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2024 at MUHAS and was attended by various health stakeholders in mental health and rehabilitation.



*Participants reviewing curriculum of the Higher Diploma in Mental Health and Rehabilitation held at MUHAS*



# A DELEGATION FROM YONSEI UNIVERSITY VISITS MUHAS



*MUHAS faculty and delegates from Yonsei university during discussion on the future prospective areas for collaboration between MUHAS and Yonsei University*

During the discussion, the Deans and Directors of the Academic Units at MUHAS had the opportunity to discuss potential areas for collaboration with Yonsei as per the need in their specific College, School, Institute or Directorate on building capacity, clinical research trials, medical equipment transfer technology, products development, drug monitoring, research programs, staff and students exchange, gender issues as well as academic programs collaboration.

A delegation from Yonsei University, South Korea led by Prof. Chun Bae Kim visited MUHAS on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2024 and had discussion with MUHAS management on the future prospective areas for collaboration between MUHAS and Yonsei University.

In this meeting the Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor responsible for Research and Consultancy, Prof. Bruno Sunguya spoke about MUHAS research priority areas, ongoing research and research funding, collaborators and partners.

Prof. Kim thanked MUHAS for showing potential areas for collaboration. He commented that the information gathered in the meeting will be analyzed to identify priority areas to kick-start the collaboration.



*Acting Deputy Vice Chancellor- Research and Consultancy in group photo with the delegates from Yonsei University and MUHAS faculty after the discussion held at MUHAS*



# MUHAS DIGITAL HEALTH AND INNOVATION CO-CREATION WORKSHOP



*The Acting VC, Prof. Emanuel Ballandya addressing the participants of the digital health and innovation co-creation workshop*

MUHAS, MDRM Inc. of Canada and the University of Toronto, Canada co-organised a two-day digital health and innovation co-creation workshop on July 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at MUHAS Muhimbili Campus in Dar es Salaam.

The workshop aimed to share experiences and establish needs and priorities for potential public-private partnerships and project plans for promoting digital health research and translation, innovations, and capacity-building contributions to the implementation of the Tanzania

Digital Health Strategy.

The workshop was attended by participants from government institutions, academic and research institutions, the private sector and civil society organisations as well as youths/innovators.

Representatives from the Ministry of Health Tanzania, the Ministry of Health Zanzibar, President's Office Regional Administration and Local Government, UNICEF, United States Agency for International Development (USAID), MUHAS, NIMR, LM International, Dtree International, Soft-Tech Consultants Limited, MDRM Inc. Canada, University of Toronto, Canada, KareXpert in UK and India.

The workshop was officiated by Prof. Emanuel Ballandya, the MUHAS Deputy Vice Chancellor – Academics on behalf of Prof. Apollinary Kamuhabwa, MUHAS Vice Chancellor



*The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Apollinary Kamuhabwa, in a group photo with representatives of different digital health partners from the Ministry of Health Tanzania, the University of Toronto, Canada, and KareXpert from the UK and India.*



# MUSSD HACKATHON 5.0: EMPOWERING INNOVATION IN DIGITAL HEALTH

The 5<sup>th</sup> MUSSD Medical Hackathon, held on August 24-25, 2024, at Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS), brought together 30 innovative students from various health and technology disciplines. Under the theme “Integrating Digital Health Innovation into Primary Healthcare Systems,” participants worked intensively for 36 hours to develop solutions aimed at addressing real healthcare challenges in Tanzania.

Participants worked in teams to address critical problems in primary healthcare, with a focus on two major areas: Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) and Maternal and Child Health. The hackathon tasked teams with creating innovative, tech-driven solutions to challenges such as hypertension screening, cervical cancer screening, and diagnostic tools for neonatal jaundice. Each team was guided through the innovation process, from problem identification to prototyping, with the help of expert facilitators and mentors from the healthcare and tech industries.

Key projects developed during the event included SMART CEVI PEN, a self-administered cervical cancer screening tool using AI-powered analysis, and BILIPRO KIT, an



*The Organizing Committee of Hackathon 5.0 with Dr Felix Sukums*

innovative diagnostic kit designed for detection of neonatal jaundice in resource-limited settings. Another standout project, HYPERTRACK, focused on creating a digital risk assessment tool for hypertension, aiming to increase early detection and management of the condition in underserved populations.

The hackathon introduced participants to key concepts in business modelling, design thinking, and pitching their ideas. Teams learned how to refine their solutions using the Lean Model Canvas and prepared compelling pitch decks to present their ideas to a panel of judges.

In the closing ceremony, the organizing committee, led by MUSSD Chairperson Lucy Kitambala,

commended the participants for their dedication and creativity. The judges praised the teams for their innovative solutions, which demonstrated a deep understanding of the healthcare challenges in Tanzania and a commitment to improving primary healthcare access and outcomes.

The prototypes developed hold immense potential for scaling, and the event has once again demonstrated MUSSD’s role as a catalyst for health innovation in Tanzania. With continued mentorship and support, these solutions could contribute significantly to the transformation of the healthcare system, particularly in underserved communities.



*The Hackathon 5.0 team with the Head of Innovation Unit, MUHAS (Dr Nelson Masota), Facilitators (Dr David Muhunzi, Mr John Method, Mr Anodi Kaihula, Mr Emmanuel Senzighe), Organizing Committee and the Hackathon participants.*



# A DELEGATION FROM FICCI HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE VISITED MUHAS

A delegation from Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) Higher Education Committee led by Dr. Rahesh Pankaj visited MUHAS and had a discussion with the Acting MUHAS Vice Chancellor, Prof. Emmanuel Balandya on prospective areas of collaboration in academic and research between the two institutions

In this meeting Prof. Balandya gave a brief history of MUHAS including the number of students, postgraduate and undergraduate programs and also proposed areas for collaboration in training, conducting research, technology transfer, staff exchange, capacity building, curriculum exchange as well as international relations.

The Chair FICCI Higher Education Committee, Prof. Dr. Rahesh Pankaj said they are ready to collaborate with MUHAS and with this visit he can facilitate in establishing partnership between MUHAS and FICCI.



*The Acting Vice Chancellor, Prof. Emmanuel Balandya in a discussion with the delegation from Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) during their visit at MUHAS*

Dr. Pankaj proposed the areas of collaborations in research, short and long exchange, international programmes as well as joint degree programmes, medical engineering, artificial intelligence. He further said that the university will prepare the memorandum of understanding and select the areas of interest

that MUHAS is ready to start collaborating.

The visit took place on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2024 and Dr. Pankaj was accompanied by other 14 members from FICCI High Education Committee.



*The Acting Vice Chancellor, Prof. Emmanuel Balandya in a group photo with the delegation from Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry after the discussion*



# MUHAS HOSTS A SESSION ON SCHOLARSHIP AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES IN USA

On August 14, 2024, The MUHAS Internationalization and Convocation Unit welcomed U.S. Embassy representative, Ms. Tracy Milyango who shared valuable insights on scholarship and training opportunities available in the United States. The talk covered the application process, emphasizing the importance of early preparation and understanding the requirements for studying in the U.S. She provided guidance on gathering credentials, navigating financial aid options, and leveraging resources to find suitable programs.

Ms. Milyango highlighted the need for timely action and thorough preparation to take advantage of these opportunities. This event aimed to equip MUHAS students, alumni, and staff with essential knowledge for pursuing advanced education and professional growth in the U.S.

In this event, Dr. Frank J. Minja, MD, Associate Professor of Neuroradiology at Emory University, addressed the audience at MUHAS on navigating the complexities of



*U.S. Embassy representative, Ms. Tracy Milyango sharing on scholarship and training opportunities available in the United States*

the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE). Dr. Minja's presentation offered a detailed guide on mastering the USMLE, including optimal preparation strategies, essential study resources, and practical insights into the examination process. He emphasized

the importance of initiating the application process well in advance, noting that document verification can take up to six months.

Dr. Minja also discussed the critical requirement for medical schools to be listed in the World Directory of Medical Schools and provided advice on managing associated costs, including those for document verification and examination fees. His talk covered the use of search engines and other resources to identify appropriate U.S. universities, as well as understanding application timelines and procedures. This session aimed to equip MUHAS students and alumni with the necessary tools and knowledge to pursue medical practice in the United States with confidence and efficiency.

In this event MUHAS awarded Dr. Frank J. Minja in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the



*Participants following on a session on scholarship and training opportunities in USA*



field of radiology in Tanzania. The award was presented by the acting Vice Chancellor Prof. Emmanuel Balandya, who commended Dr. Minja for his exemplary career journey and significant impact on local healthcare.

Prof. Balandya highlighted Dr. Minja's transition from Tanzania to the United States, where he excelled in neuroradiology at Emory University. He emphasized that Dr. Minja's achievements are a testament to the importance of leveraging international expertise to benefit home institutions. Prof. Balandya noted Dr. Minja's dedication to introducing advanced radiological practices and technologies to Tanzanian hospitals, including super specialized courses in Interventional Radiology, Neuroradiology and Women Imaging which were once aspirational but are now realized.



*Acting Vice Chancellor Prof. Emmanuel Balandya awarding Dr. Frank J. Minja in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the field of radiology in Tanzania*

The acting Vice Chancellor praised Dr. Minja's efforts in enhancing medical education and healthcare services in Tanzania, stressing that his work has set a high standard for integrating global knowledge

into local practices. The award also underscored Dr. Minja's role in inspiring future generations of medical professionals in Tanzania, encouraging them to pursue excellence and contribute meaningfully to their communities.

## A DELEGATION FROM ELLISON INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND THE BILL & MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION VISIT MUHAS

On 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2024, representatives from the Ellison Institute of Technology (EIT) and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) visited SerenOx Africa as well as the Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS).

The delegation was led by Dr. Gabriel Seidman, Senior Director of Policy & Strategy at EIT. Also present were Prof. Bruno Sunguya, Deputy Vice Chancellor for Research and Consultancy, Dr. Nahya Salim, Director of Research, Publication and Innovation, Dr. Clara Chamba, Head of the Department of Hematology and Blood Transfusion - all from

MUHAS; as well as Dr. William Mawalla, CEO of SerenOx Africa. They discussed, amongst other

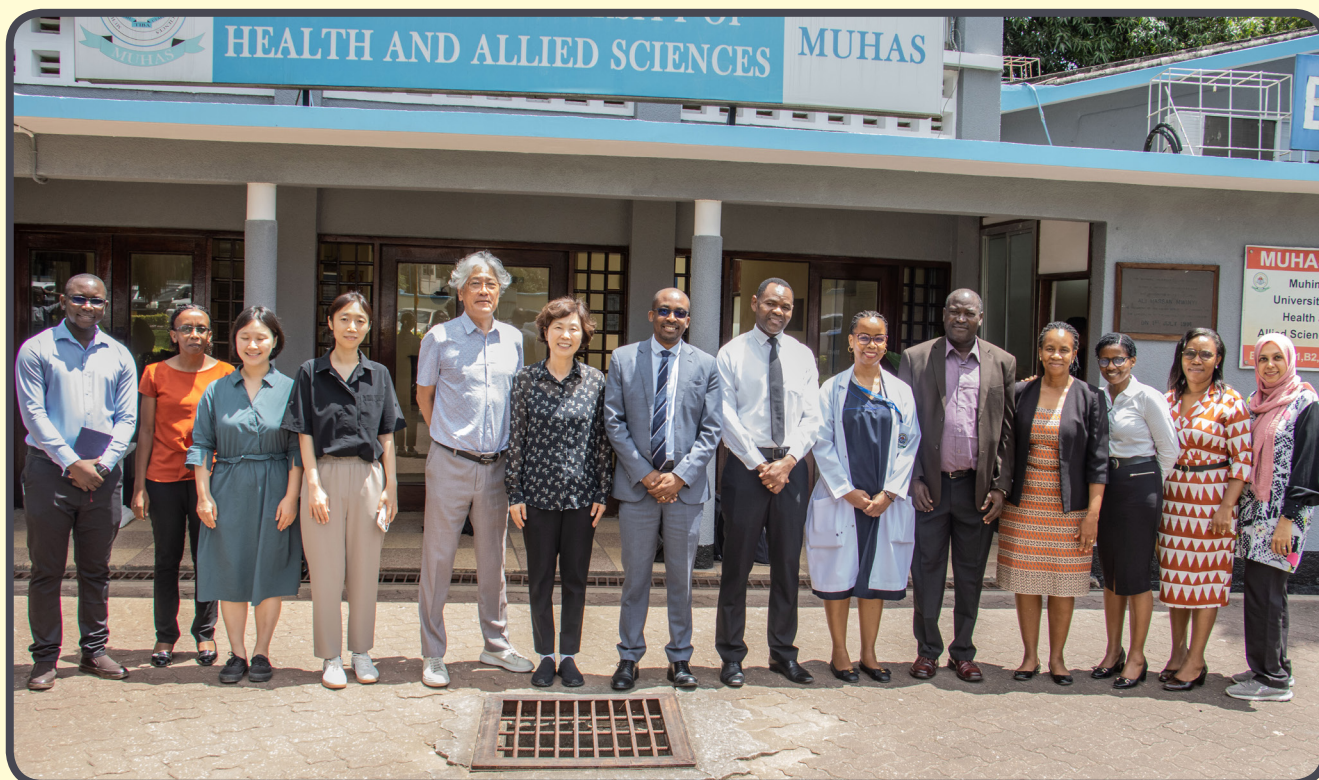
things, potential collaborations to establish clinical trial infrastructure in Tanzania.



*The delegation Ellison Institute of Technology (EIT) and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) and members from MUHAS*



# DELEGATION FROM KOICA VISITS MUHAS



*A delegation from KOICA with Acting Vice Chancellor, a member from MoH and other members from the MUHAS School of Clinical Medicine and School of Nursing*

On 30<sup>th</sup> August, 2024, a delegation from the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) visited MUHAS to continue discussions on a potential partnership aimed at supporting the capacity building of healthcare providers working in Neonatal Intensive Care Units (NICU).

Introducing the visitors to the Acting Vice Chancellor, Prof. Emmanuel Balandya, Dr Avelyne Assenga, a Neonatologist and Lecturer at MUHAS said KOICA through the project on strengthening critical care for high-risk neonates at Dar es Salaam Regional Referral Hospitals (RRHs) intends

to support strengthening of Neonatal Intensive Care Units (NICU) in these hospitals. This support will include improving NICU infrastructure, providing equipment, and building the capacity of healthcare workers responsible for NICU services.

Dr Avelyne Assenga, further said that on this initiative, MUHAS was identified as a potential partner to support capacity building of health care providers. Initial discussions for collaboration took place in November last year and today they have come for further discussion with the training department, for collaboration.

The Acting Vice Chancellor provided an overview of the

training and research initiatives at MUHAS, with a focus on the neonatal field. He emphasized that while the research system is well-established, there is a growing need for collaboration and additional resources to further strengthen these efforts.

Other people who attended the meeting apart from the delegation from KOICA were; Dr. Felix Bundala, Assistant Director for Newborn, Child, and Adolescent Health at the Ministry of Health, Prof Edith Tarimo, Dean School of Nursing and Dr Peter Wangwe, Dean School of Clinical Medicine, both from MUHAS



# CELEBRATING ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE: MUHAS AND SUA STAFF PUBLISH IN PRESTIGIOUS INTERNATIONAL ENCYCLOPEDIA OF PUBLIC HEALTH ( Dr. Siana Nkya, Dr. Mamuya, Prof. Irene Minja)

Seven academic staff from Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) and Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) have made an exceptional achievement by contributing chapters to the third edition of Elsevier's *International Encyclopedia of Public Health*, released in September 2024. This rare opportunity highlights the caliber and dedication of Tanzanian academics in the global health research landscape.

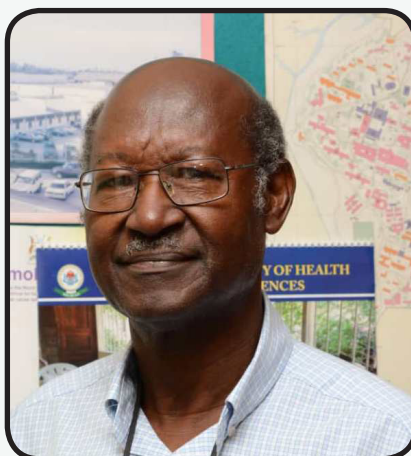
The seven contributors were selected through a simple yet impactful recruitment process: a general email call was sent to MUHAS and SUA faculty. From this, four MUHAS staff and three SUA staff responded, showcasing their passion and expertise in their respective fields.

The names and contributions from MUHAS are Prof Japhet Killewo, Chapter on *Historical and Future Perspectives of One Health University Networks*; Prof Irene Minja, Chapter on *Dental Health Epidemiology*; Prof Simon Mamuya, Chapter on [Review of Indoor Air Pollution in Developing Countries](#); and Dr Siana Nkya, Chapter on *Genetic Epidemiology in the era of Genomic Medicine*. Others from SUA are Prof. Abdulsudi Issa Zacharia, Chapter on *Agricultural Health and safety*; Prof. Mikidadi Muhanga, Chapter on *Occupational Health: introduction and Chapter on International issues on workers' health and safety* and Dr. Jamal Kussaga, Chapter on *Cadmium*

This accomplishment places MUHAS



Prof. Irene Kida Minja



Prof. Japhet Killewo

and SUA on the international stage, emphasizing the quality of public health research happening in Tanzania. *The International Encyclopedia of Public Health* is widely regarded as a comprehensive and authoritative resource in global public health, covering critical topics such as disease control, health policy, and epidemiology across its seven volumes and 398 chapters authored by international experts.

Professor Emeritus Japhet Killewo, who also contributed a chapter titled *Historical and Future Perspectives of One Health University Networks*, serves as one of the ten section editors of this prestigious encyclopedia, further solidifying the connection between Tanzanian scholars and international public health research.

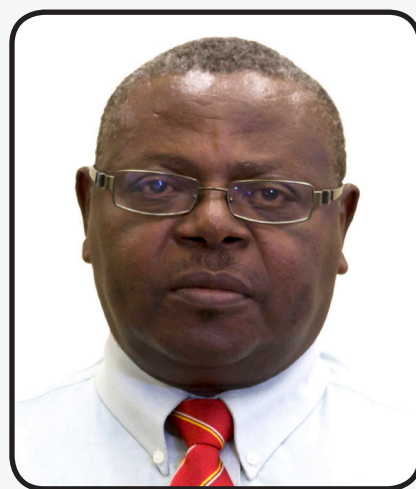
The involvement of Tanzanian academics in such a reputable publication not only raises the profile of MUHAS and SUA but also strengthens the global conversation on public health, particularly in fields like environmental health, occupational health, and One Health. The latter focuses on the interconnectedness of human, animal, and

environmental health—a critical issue in today's climate change-driven world. Congratulations to them all.

## A Gateway to Global Knowledge

The *International Encyclopedia of Public Health*, now in its third edition, is an indispensable resource for students, researchers, policymakers, and educators across multiple fields including biology, medicine, toxicology, and public health. The work of these Tanzanian scholars will contribute to shaping health policies and interventions globally, underscoring the vital role of African perspectives in public health discourse.

The encyclopedia can be accessed through Elsevier's platform, offering readers



Prof. Simon Mamuya

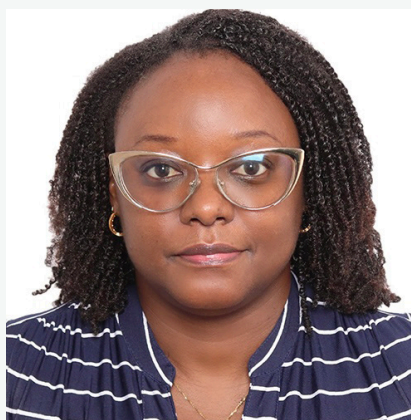
evidence-based insights and solutions to pressing health challenges, ranging from specific disease epidemics to broader issues like health systems strengthening, social determinants of health, and environmental sustainability.



The contributions of the MUHAS and SUA scholars reflect not only individual academic achievement but also highlight the importance of mentorship, as these staff members were guided through the rigorous process of writing and publishing by international experts, including Professor Stellar R. Quah, the editor-in-chief, and Professor Emeritus Japhet Killewo, the section editor as well as other leading authorities in the field.

This milestone sets a powerful example for other Tanzanian researchers, demonstrating the global reach of their work and the importance of collaboration across disciplines, institutions, and borders.

As these staff members continue to



*Dr Siana Nkya*

inspire the next generation of public health professionals, this achievement underscores the critical need for continued

investment in research and development. It also serves as a testament to the growing role of Tanzanian universities in contributing to global health solutions, particularly in areas of great local and global concern, such as infectious diseases, environmental hazards, and health systems development.

For more information and to access the encyclopedia, visit [Elsevier's International Encyclopedia of Public Health](#).

This article provides a comprehensive overview of the achievements and significance of the contributions by MUHAS and SUA staff, aimed at a diverse audience interested in public health, research, and academic excellence

## MUHAS INTRODUCES THE MILLENNIUM FELLOWSHIP CLASS OF 2024

Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) is proud to introduce the Millennium Fellowship Class of 2024 - a cohort of visionary undergraduate students dedicated to advancing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This prestigious, semester-long program, in collaboration with the United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI) and the Millennium Campus Network (MCN), equips students to lead transformative social impact projects in their communities and beyond.

Under the leadership of Campus Directors Longnus Gilbert, MD4 and Satrumin Shirima, MD5, the MUHAS Fellows are addressing some of the world's most pressing challenges through a range of initiatives focused on three key SDGs:

- ♦ **SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being** – Fellows are spearheading projects in critical health areas, including mental health, cervical cancer, sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), and antimicrobial resistance (AMR). Their work aims to raise awareness, improve healthcare access, and foster sustainable health outcomes for underserved populations.
- ♦ **SDG 4: Quality Education** – Committed to ensuring inclusive and equitable education, the Fellows are advancing digital literacy and promoting lifelong learning. Their projects are equipping students with essential skills for the 21<sup>st</sup> century, preparing them to

succeed in an ever-evolving global landscape.

- ♦ **SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth** – By promoting youth empowerment through entrepreneurship and skill-building, the Fellows are helping to drive sustainable economic development. Their initiatives focus on reducing youth unemployment and preparing young people for the digital economy's demands.

Other MUHAS Millennium Fellows are Alex Paul MD4, Andrew Mwonja MD4, Chief Peter MD4, Yokebedi Benster MD4, Subilaga Mwaisela MD3, Swaum Mpunjo MD2, Allen William Bpharm3, Loveness Mloge MD5, Festo Bilikiye EHS2, Mikali Rojas EHS1, Faustina Goodluck EHS3, Flavia Nkongoki MD3, Zainabu Milanzi MD3, Glory Livingstone DDS2 and Lightness Milton MD2.

Throughout the semester, MUHAS Millennium Fellows will benefit from world-class training, mentorship, and access to a global network of change makers. Their commitment to advancing the SDGs and empowering youth as leaders of progress reflects their passion for creating meaningful social change.

Together, the MUHAS Millennium Fellows are paving the way for a healthier, more equitable, and sustainable future. We look forward to witnessing their growth as future leaders and their contributions to building a better world.



# VICE PRESIDENT IMPRESSED BY MUHAS KIGOMA CAMPUS DESIGNS



*The Deputy Coordinator HEET Project Dr. Nathael Sirili explained on the construction of the MUHAS Kigoma Campus to the Vice President The Vice President of the United Republic of Tanzania, Dr. Philip Isidor Mpango during his visit at Kigoma Region.*

The Vice President of the United Republic of Tanzania, Dr. Philip Isidor Mpango, commended the Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) for their excellent preparatory work towards the construction of the MUHAS Kigoma Campus under the Higher Education for Economic Transformation (HEET) project.

The Vice President made these remarks during his visit to the construction site of the campus on the 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2024, during the working tour of Kigoma Region. He received a briefing on the project and the various stages that have been completed so far from the Deputy Coordinator of the MUHAS HEET project, Dr. Nathanael Sirili.

In addition to the project briefing, Dr. Mpango also had the opportunity to view the architectural designs of the buildings that will be constructed at the MUHAS Kigoma Campus,

which impressed him greatly. He congratulated the University for their excellent work.

Explaining the project further, Dr. Sirili expressed gratitude to the regional leadership for providing MUHAS with suitable land for this campus construction. However, he informed the Vice President that after planning for the campus development, MUHAS identified the need for an additional land extension to cater for future expansion of the University. The Deputy Coordinator informed the Vice President that MUHAS had already submitted a request for an additional 50 acres to the regional leadership, who have shown readiness to allocate the land.

Regarding the architectural designs, the Vice President praised MUHAS for their visionary approach and directed the regional leadership to allocate the additional land to MUHAS. The Kigoma Regional Commissioner, CGF(Rtd). Thobias

E.M. Andengenyne pledged to facilitate this allocation. Dr. Mpango also directed that the access roads to the project site be improved to facilitate construction activities.

Furthermore, the Vice President instructed that roads that surround the site be constructed to secure the area, and directed the Regional Commissioner and the Deputy Minister, President's Office - Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG) to ensure the protection of the area from encroachment by individuals opposed to development.

During this tour, the Vice President was accompanied by the Deputy Minister for Health, the Deputy Minister PO-RALG, the Deputy Minister for Energy, the Deputy Minister for Transport, and Member of Parliament, Prof. Joyce Ndalichako.



## MUHAS RECEIVES TWO VEHICLES TO FACILITATE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF HEET PROJECT ACTIVITIES



*The MUHAS HEET Project Coordinator, Prof. Erasto Mbugi handing over the Car documents to the Vice Chancellor during the handing over ceremony held at MUHAS*

Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS), in its implementation of the Higher Education for Economic Transformation (HEET) project, has received two vehicles, a Land Cruiser Hardtop and a Coaster, out of four vehicles that will be purchased by the HEET project. The aim is to facilitate

the implementation of the project's activities, including the monitoring of construction matters.

The MUHAS Deputy HEET Project Coordinator, Dr. Nathanael Sirili further explained that through the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) procurement plan, the costs for the first and second vehicles were significantly reduced

from 450 million Tanzanian shillings to 312 million Tanzanian shillings, resulting in savings of approximately 138 million shillings compared to standard procurement methods.

HEET Project Coordinator at MUHAS, Prof. Erasto Mbugi, commended the HEET project implementation team for their efficiency in ensuring that planned activities are successfully carried out something which has led to the successful achievements being witnessed. He further, thanked the MUHAS Vice Chancellor for his always available support to ensure that the Project is implemented successfully.

Prof Mbugi explained that one of the project's implementation tasks includes the acquisition of working tools, such as these vehicles and that, they are specifically intended for the implementation of project activities.

Speaking after receiving vehicles, MUHAS Vice Chancellor, Prof. Appolinary Kamuhabwa, commended the project managers for successfully



*HEET project implementation team at the Handing over ceremony*



advancing the project by acquiring these vehicles.

“The main achievement here is that we have managed to purchase two vehicles and saved a significant amount of money. As a result of these savings, we will be able to add two more vehicles, which will greatly support the project and the institution as well,” said Prof. Kamuhabwa.

Furthermore, Prof. Kamuhabwa urged the project implementers to continue collaborating to achieve the project’s goals, which are aimed at transforming higher education to support economic development in the country.



*The vehicle purchased by the HEET project to facilitate the implementation of the project’s activities*

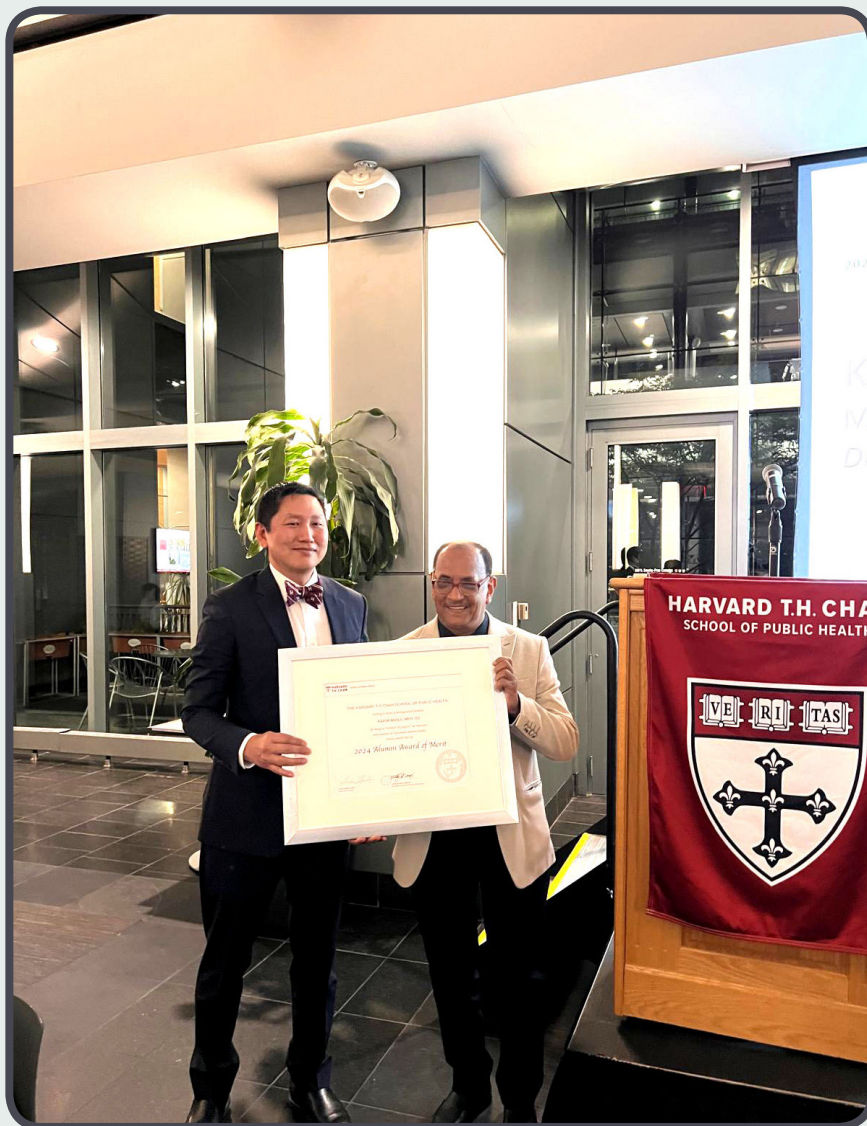
## PROFESSOR KARIM MANJI AWARDED THE ALUMNI AWARD OF MERIT FROM THE HARVARD T.H.CHAN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

**E**meritus Professor Karim Manji has been awarded the Alumni Merit Award 2024 from the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Harvard University. This is the highest honor given to an alumnus by the school.

Prof. Manji, a renowned Professor and leading researcher in pediatrics and child health, has spent his entire academic career at MUHAS. Throughout his career, he has consistently delivered exceptional patient-centered care and conducted groundbreaking research on child nutrition, infectious diseases, and developmental challenges in children. With over 260 peer-reviewed publications, numerous clinical trials, sponsored research projects, and mentorship of more than 170 pediatric residents, Prof. Manji has significantly shaped neonatal health in Tanzania and beyond. His work has influenced global health policies, practices, and national pediatric treatment guidelines.

Prof. Karim Manji received this prestigious award on 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2024, in Boston, USA, becoming the first Tanzanian to be honored with this award.

*MUHAS proudly celebrates this remarkable achievement*



*Prof. Karm Manji receiving Alumni Merit Award 2024 from the Chairman of the Alumni Awards Committee, Harvard T.H Chan School of Public Health, Benjamin Lee,*