



# MUHAS-Sida INNOVATIONS SEED FUND 2026

SUPPORTING PROTOTYPE TO  
MINIMUM VIABLE PRODUCTS (MVP)  
AND MVP TO COMMERCIALIZATION

**Submission Deadline:  
30<sup>th</sup> April, 2026**

## 1. BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) invites students and staff to apply for seed funding to accelerate health-related innovations. This call supports two complementary tracks:

**Track 1: Prototype to Minimum Viable Products (MVP)** to finish and test working MVPs

**Track 2: From Minimum Viable Product (MVP) to Commercialization**, including the deployment of prepared MVPs for pilot programs, regulatory procedures, and initial steps for commercialization.

## 2. AVAILABLE FUNDING AND DURATION

A total of **seven** projects will be funded under this call, with each project receiving up to **TZS 5,000,000** and running for up to **12 months**.

## 3. WHO MAY APPLY

- MUHAS students (undergraduate and postgraduate), MUHAS Alumni, and MUHAS staff
- (academic, research, clinical, technical, and administrative).
- Applications from multidisciplinary teams are highly encouraged.
- Students/staff from other institutions may form part of the application teams.
- Application led by a student/alumni applicant must include a MUHAS mentor (a currently employed academic or Senior technical staff member).
- Registered Innovations at the MUHAS Innovations Database at the time of application will be prioritized ([Click the attached Link](#)).

## 4. FOCUS AREAS

Digital health, diagnostics, medical devices, laboratory/quality tools, AI/ML for health, health service delivery innovations, Health education technologies for health professions/public, environmental health technologies, Traditional Medicine development, Pharmaceutical/Cosmetic products development, and other health-relevant innovations.

## 5. WHAT IS FUNDED/NOT FUNDED

Software/product development and User experience testing, cloud hosting, field/user testing, prototype components and equipment ( $\leq 20\%$  of project budget), regulatory/ethics preparation, mentorship support, communications, and pilot costs. Not eligible: tuition, major capital equipment, unrelated travel, and salaries/honoraria.

## 6. APPLICATION: WHAT TO SUBMIT (AS A SINGLE PDF)

1. Title
2. Abstract ( $\leq 350$  words)
3. Problem statement and evidence of user need (Maximum 1 page)
4. Track selection (Prototype to MVP or MVP to Commercialization)
5. SMART Objectives
6. Methods/Planned activities (Maximum two pages)
7. Technical/MVP + commercialization plan (as applicable) and milestones (including a timeline)
8. User testing plan and success metrics / Pilot and go-to-market plan (for MVP to commercialization track) (including a timeline)
9. Budget and Justification: Detailed breakdown of costs up to TZS 5,000,000 (Use this template).
10. CVs (max three pages per key member) and MUHAS mentor's letter of Commitment (For student-led teams)
11. Functional Link to the Video pitch (**7 Minutes Maximum**) of the Innovation, showing all key features or structures of the Prototype/MVP

## 7. KEY DELIVERABLES AT PROJECT END

- Working MVP or pilot-ready product
- User test/pilot report with metrics
- Budget and financial report
- Short dissemination summary (1–2 pages)
- Code/data repository or documented access plan (where applicable)

## 8. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (IP) TERMS

MUHAS will reserve the right to shared ownership of any new intellectual property arising from projects funded under this call, in accordance with existing institutional policies and mutual agreement with the innovators. Background IP remains with its original owner, while any jointly developed outputs will follow MUHAS guidelines for co-ownership and responsible commercialization. Awardees will be required to sign a brief IP understanding before funds are released.

## 9. EVALUATION (SUMMARY)

Applications assessed on: problem fit (20%), technical feasibility & MVP clarity (25%), impact & scalability (20%), team & mentorship (15%), budget & timeline (10%), and ethics/regulatory readiness (10%). Shortlisted teams may be asked to present a demo.

## 10. APPLICATION PROCESS

Submission Deadline: ALL application materials should be submitted by 23:59 PM on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

Submission Method: Submit the complete proposal package (as a single PDF) to the Directorate of Research and Publications through [this Link](#)

## 11. KEY DATES

- **Call Open:** 06<sup>th</sup> April 2025
- **Submission Deadline:** 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2026
- **Review Period:** May– June 2026
- **Notification of Award:** Mid-June 2026
- **Project Start Date:** Early August 2026

## CONTACTS INFORMATION

For further inquiries regarding eligibility or budget formatting, please contact:  
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