



TANZANIA HEALTH SUMMIT

2023 REPORT

THEME:

Strengthening Health Systems
for UHC, focusing on Primary
Health Care.

FOREWORD

The 10th Tanzania Health Summit, held from 3rd to 5th October 2023 at the Julius Nyerere International Convention Center, exceeded expectations, uniting over 1076 participants committed to advancing healthcare in our nation. We thank Honorable Dr. Hussein Ali Mwinyi, President of Zanzibar, and other dignitaries for their presence. Special appreciation goes to Health Ministers, Permanent Secretaries, sponsors, exhibitors, and delegates for their crucial contributions.

The theme, "Strengthening Health Systems for Universal Health Coverage, focusing on Primary HealthCare," fostered vital conversations and led to significant commitments. The government pledged to establish a National Public Health Institute and recruit 150,000 Community Health Workers, demonstrating a transformative vision for our healthcare landscape.

The summit was a catalyst for action, showcasing collective dedication shaping our healthcare system. We extend gratitude to all stakeholders for sharing knowledge and insights. Looking ahead, we are committed to realizing Universal Health Coverage, ensuring quality healthcare accessibility for all Tanzanians. Reflecting on the 10th Tanzania Health Summit fills us with gratitude and the belief that the transformation we seek is within reach.

Welcome to the 11th Tanzania Health Summit in 2024, where we continue our journey toward a healthier, more resilient, and inclusive nation. Together, we advance the cause of healthcare, bringing about a brighter and healthier future for all.



A blue ink signature of Dr. Omary Chillo, consisting of a stylized 'O' and 'C' followed by a horizontal line.

Dr. Omary Chillo

Tanzania Health Summit - President



A blue ink signature of Dr. John Jingu, featuring a stylized 'J' and 'J' followed by a horizontal line.

Dr. John Jingu

Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Health

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THS Board Members



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Managing Director - TMHS



Dr. Omary Chillo - SECRETARY
President - THS



Dolorosa Duncan - MEMBER
M-mama Tanzania Country Director



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Deputy Permanent Secretary MoH



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Chief Executive Officer - APHFTA



Dr. Thomson X. A. Ananth - MEMBER
President of the University Council of
St. Joseph University In Tanzania



Dr. Jeremie Zoungrana - MEMBER
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THS Organizing Committee Members



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THS 2023 OVERVIEW



The 10th Tanzania Health Summit (THS) held on 3rd to 5th October 2023 at Julius Nyerere International Convention Center marked a significant milestone in the realm of healthcare in Tanzania, epitomizing a resounding success with the active participation of over 1,076 individuals. Under the theme “Strengthening Health Systems for Universal Health Coverage (UHC), focusing on Primary Healthcare,” this remarkable summit brought together diverse stakeholders, creating a dynamic platform for discourse and commitment to advancing healthcare in the nation.

Key Participants

The summit was graced by the presence of the H.E Dr. Hussein Ali Mwinyi, President of Zanzibar and Chairman of the Revolutionary Council accompanied by Zanzibar’s First Lady, Bi. Mariam Mwinyi, whose participation served as an emblem of the government’s unwavering dedication to healthcare improvement. Special recognition and gratitude were extended to the Health Ministers and Permanent Secretaries from the Ministry of Health, President’s Office - Regional Administration and Local Government (PORALG),

and the Ministry of Health Zanzibar, international and Tanzanian delegates who played a pivotal role in inspiring collective efforts toward a healthier nation.

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS AND OUTCOMES

The 10th THS acted as a catalyst for transformative change in the healthcare landscape. Several groundbreaking pledges were done:

- **Establishment of National Public Health Institute:**
A major milestone was achieved with the government’s commitment to establish a National Public Health Institute. This commitment is set to elevate public health initiatives, bolster research, and foster capacity-building within the nation, contributing significantly to healthcare reform.
- **Recruitment of 150,000 Community Health Workers:** The government’s dedication to recruiting 150,000 Community Health Workers and providing them with comprehensive

training marks a monumental leap towards ensuring the well-being of communities. These frontline workers play a paramount role in strengthening the healthcare system, and this initiative promises to have a profound and lasting impact.



THS 2023 IN NUMBERS:



Level of Participation

1047	Registered Participants
196	Forum and Keynote Speakers
140	Youths sponsored
25	Top ministries officials
70	Institutions Participated



Forums

32	Health Forums
1	Theme Discussion
2	Keynote Discussion
1	Parallel Conference



Workshops

Rehabilitation workshop
YOCAB workshop
X-Ray Skills Development
Basic Life Support Training



Abstracts

463	Abstracts submitted
250	Accepted
202	Presented
4	Abstracts awarded



Exhibitions

51	exhibitions
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Awards & Social Events

8	Healthcare of the year awards
4	Best Abstracts Presentations
★ ★ ★	CHIA Innovation Award
5	Awards for PEPFAR20
★ ★ ★	HIV/AIDS Champions
★ ★ ★	Cocktail & Live Music

RECOMMENDATIONS

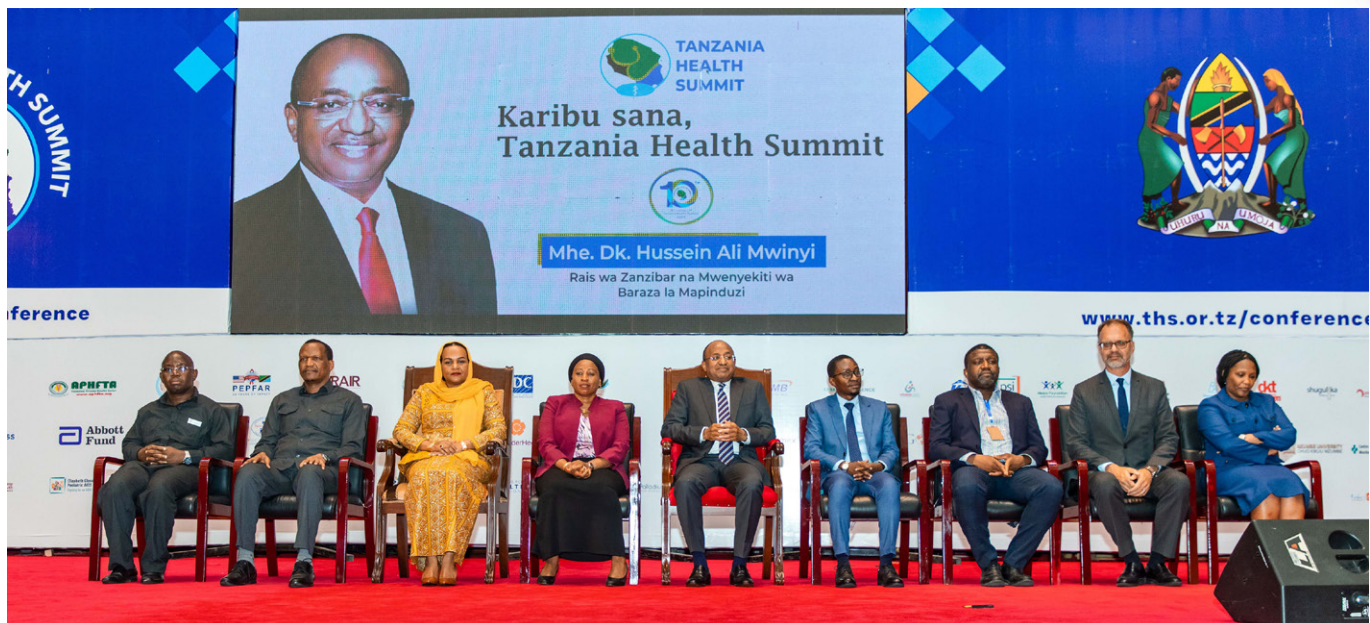
- **Comprehensive Healthcare Integration:** By integrating healthcare with other sectors such as water and education, a holistic approach to well-being can be achieved.
- **Robust Financing:** The need for innovative financing mechanisms, including streamlining funds and diversifying resources beyond patient contributions, was emphasized. Such strategies can ensure equitable access to healthcare.
- **Innovation and Technology Adoption:** Leveraging technology and fostering an innovation-friendly environment are crucial for enhancing healthcare efficiency, accessibility, and affordability.
- **Human Capital Investment:** Investing in healthcare workers, particularly mid-level professionals, emerged as a top priority. Aligning training with employment needs and utilizing cost-effective e-learning platforms are key strategies.





OPENING SESSIONS

OPENING CEREMONY



Highlights

Vision for Universal Health Coverage (UHC)

The President of Zanzibar and Chairman of the Revolutionary Council, H.E Dr. Hussein Mwinyi, emphasized the importance of Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in ensuring that every Tanzanian can access quality healthcare services regardless of their economic status. He stressed that UHC is vital for improving the health of the population and enabling people to engage in economic activities.

“The UHC is very important for the government to ensure that every Tanzanian accesses quality services regardless of their economic status. This is also necessary because it enables people to become healthy and engage in economic activities,” Dr Mwinyi stated

Government Commitment to UHC

President Mwinyi expressed the government’s commitment to leaving no one behind in accessing quality health services. “We will ensure that no one is left behind in accessing quality health services,” he added. He highlighted the government’s efforts to allocate a budget of 203.4 billion Tanzanian shillings for infrastructure improvement and medical device procurement. This allocation will include the construction of new health centers, thereby increasing the accessibility of healthcare services at the grassroots level.

Progress in HIV/AIDS Fight

President Mwinyi noted significant progress in the fight against HIV/AIDS, with over 95% of infected individuals using antiretroviral therapy (ARVs). He emphasized the need for continued efforts to eliminate the disease by 2030.



Minister of health Hon. Umyy Ali Mwalimu welcomed the President and highlighted ongoing reforms in the health sector, including the installation of modern medical equipment in health centers. "We will not relax even after purchasing many equipment, but we want all Tanzanians to access quality medical services. To achieve this, the way forward is to have Universal Health Coverage," she said. Also the minister pledged the commitment of the government to establishment of a national public health institute and recruitment of 150,000 community health workers across the country.

THS President's Recognition of UHC

Dr. Omary Chilo, President of the Tanzania Health Summit, commended President Mwinyi for introducing Universal Health Coverage in Zanzibar. He expressed hope that the mainland would follow suit and recognized the Health Minister's efforts to introduce UHC.

Dr Ntuli Kapologwe, Director of Health, Social Welfare and Nutrition Services, President's Office - Regional Administration and Local Government, (the current Director of Preventive Services - MoH) and has been researching Primary Health Care (PHC) for many years. He said "We see that in Tanzania, Primary Health Care contributes 95 per cent in health services provision. Therefore, investment in that area is very much needed to be able to reach the government's goal of achieving Health for All by or before the year 2030,"

Commitment to Healthcare Excellence

Dr. Grace Magembe the Deputy Permanent Secretary MoH emphasized that recognizing and rewarding excellence in healthcare sends a message that healthcare workers are valued, and the government is committed to providing quality healthcare services to the population.



THEME DISCUSSION



Chairperson: Dr John Jingu -Permanent Secretary (MoH)

Co-chair: Dr Fatma Mrisho - Former principal secretary (MOH-Zanzibar)

Speakers

- Dr. Ntuli Kapologwe - Director of Preventive Services (MoH)
- Dr. Samwel Ogillo- CEO APHFTA
- Jumanne Mtambalike - CEO Sahara Ventures
- Rahel Sheiza- Director of Programs BMF
- George Luhago- Health Economist MUHAS

Theme: Strengthening Health Systems for Universal Health Coverage (UHC) with a Focus on Primary Healthcare

The 10th Tanzania Health Summit focused on the theme of strengthening health systems for Universal Health Coverage (UHC), with a specific emphasis on primary healthcare. Here are the key highlights and recommendations from the theme discussions;

Advancements in Primary Healthcare in Tanzania

- Tanzania has shown a strong commitment to primary healthcare by establishing 700 new healthcare facilities and aligning national goals with global healthcare objectives.
- The country is prioritizing a community-centric approach by hiring 51,000 community healthcare workers this year, with a goal of 153,000 over the next three years. This approach strengthens the connection between healthcare services and communities.

Optimizing Financing for Primary Healthcare

- Implement a “pool financing” approach to consolidate healthcare funds from various sources, reducing fragmentation and ensuring adequate financing.
- Diversify funding resources and consider making health insurance mandatory for all, allowing cross-subsidization and reducing the reliance on patient contributions.
- Reposition healthcare as an economic development sector to foster growth, job creation, and investment through innovation and technology.

Advancing Primary Healthcare Through Innovation and Technology

- Innovations like Dawa Mkononi and Maisha Package are enhancing healthcare quality, accessibility, efficiency, and cost-effectiveness in Tanzania.
- Overcome challenges to innovation adoption, such as limited policy frameworks, a lack of a healthcare innovation ecosystem, data accessibility, and public stakeholder commitment.
- Ensure equitable healthcare innovation, especially in rural areas, leveraging mobile phones for wider access.

Ensuring Affordable Primary Healthcare Services

- The majority of Tanzanians lack health insurance, emphasizing the need for equity in healthcare access.
- Collaborate with the private sector to create cost-effective financial products, enhancing healthcare accessibility and affordability.
- Restructure healthcare infrastructure to prioritize accessibility, affordability, and efficiency.
- Investing in Human Capital for Improved UHC Provision
- Invest in empowering and upskilling healthcare workers, with a focus on mid-level professionals to ensure accessibility and affordability.
- Allocate resources for training in alignment with employment needs.
- Develop cost-effective e-learning platforms for healthcare worker training.

Key Recommendations

- Foster integration between healthcare and essential sectors such as water and education, recognizing their interdependence for holistic well-being.
- Mobilize dedicated funds for primary healthcare to ensure transparent and equitable support for primary, secondary, and tertiary healthcare facilities.
- Improve healthcare affordability and access by enhancing health insurance coverage, including the active involvement of youth in driving healthcare innovation.

- Ensure equitable healthcare innovation in both urban and rural areas through mobile phone distribution and secure data access.
- Strategically invest in human capital by aligning training with employment needs, investing in cost-effective e-learning platforms, and prioritizing the training of 153,000 community healthcare workers.





KEYNOTE SESSIONS

KEYNOTE 1

Topic: Improving Infectious and non-infectious disease Outbreak Prevention, detection and Response for Sustainable UHC

Chairperson: Prof. Tumaini Nagu - CMO, Ministry of Health



Speakers;

- Dr Yewen Kabede - Head of division of laboratory systems Africa CDC
- Dr Salim Slim- Director of Preventive Services (MOH-Zanzibar)
- Prof. Harald Renz Director of institute of laboratory medicine at Philips university of Marburg,Germany
- Dr Hilary Ngude- RedCross
- Dr Gabriel Ayer- WHO

Highlights

The panel discussion, led by key experts in the field, addressed the critical aspects of infectious and non-infectious disease outbreak prevention, detection, and response for achieving sustainable Universal Health Coverage (UHC). Notably, the role of digital health tools in strengthening surveillance and early detection was highlighted, along with the importance of disease prevention and health promotion strategies, including vaccination programs and lifestyle interventions, in the pursuit of UHC. Collaborative efforts among international organizations, public-private partnerships, and regional initiatives were underscored in coordinating outbreak prevention and response in Tanzania. The surge in non-communicable diseases was attributed to lifestyle choices, climate change, and air pollution, calling for comprehensive public health strategies to address this emerging "pandemic".

Recommendations

- There is the need to improve public health intelligence in Africa through the digitalization of early warning surveillance systems, workforce support, and enhanced health information exchange. He recommended strengthening indicator-based surveillance and integrating various data sources and tools for early detection of diseases.
- They emphasized the importance of vaccines and lifestyle changes as reliable means of disease prevention. Recommended community-focused awareness campaigns to promote behavioral changes that reduce non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and enhance the sustainability of universal health coverage. They also highlighted the importance of health systems that prioritize community well-being, regardless of economic and social challenges.
- There is significance of effective partnerships in disease outbreak detection, surveillance, and control. Highlighted the successful collaboration during the Marburg outbreak, emphasizing the need for regional and global integration in controlling outbreaks and improving primary healthcare (PHC) for Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

Conclusion



The panel discussion highlighted the critical importance of surveillance, collaboration, and sustainable financing in the prevention, detection, and response to both infectious and non-infectious diseases. It emphasized the role of digital health tools, health promotion strategies, and international cooperation in addressing these health challenges. The audience inquiries further underscored the need for increased funding, private sector involvement at the community level, and integration of NCD and climate change initiatives. The takeaways reaffirmed the need for a holistic approach to achieving sustainable UHC while addressing the dynamic landscape of disease outbreaks in Tanzania.



KEYNOTE 2



Topic: Challenges and opportunities of Achieving UHC in the ever-changing population dynamics

Moderator; Dr Jessica Oyungi-Associate director Dalberg

Speakers;

- Prof. Sayoki Mfinanga- Research scientist NIMR
- Marium Ally- Health specialist at World Bank
- Melissa McNeil-Barrett- UNFPA deputy country representative

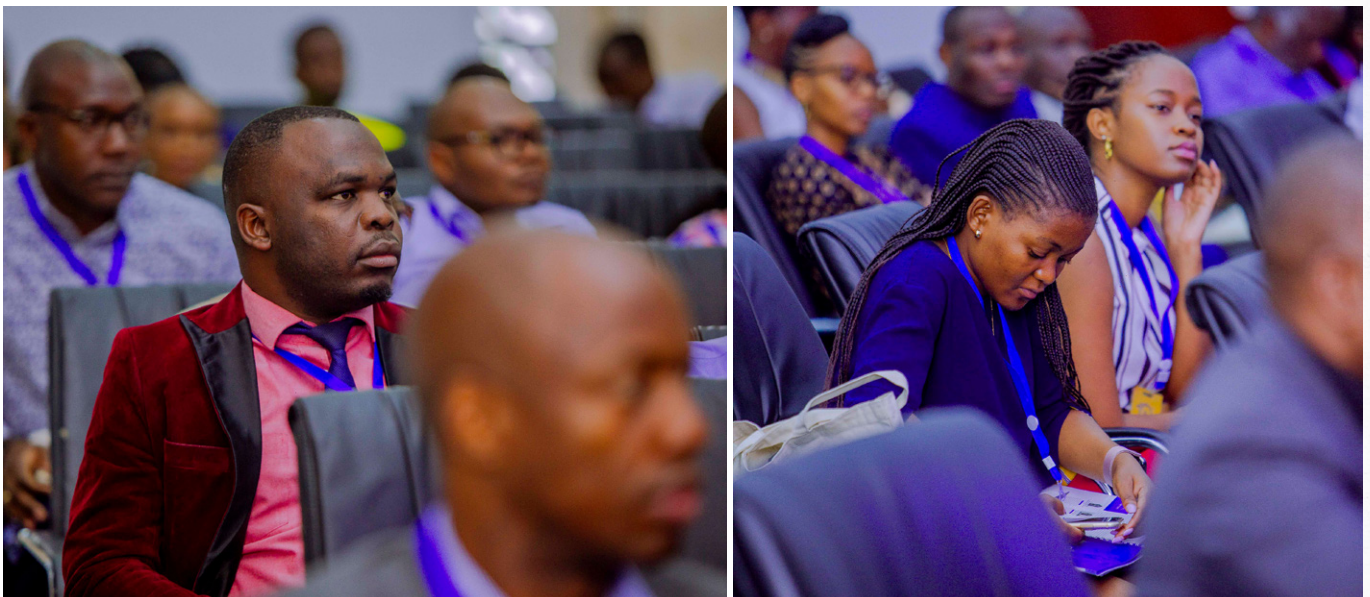
Highlights

The keynote 2 addressed the complex challenges and opportunities associated with achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in the face of dynamic population changes and the rising prevalence of non-communicable diseases (NCDs). With Tanzania's high fertility rate and rapid population growth, reaching an annual growth rate of 3.2%, the country faces unique demographic challenges. However, the presence of a young population, with 60% under the age of 24, presents an opportunity to harness a demographic dividend through strategic investments in youth for development. This demographic landscape requires a focus on youth reproductive health to ensure sustainable and productive population growth. The rising burden of NCDs, particularly conditions like hypertension, diabetes, cancer, and mental health disorders, calls for investments in research, capacity building, and resources. A hybrid financing model, blending government taxes and insurance schemes, along with innovative approaches like health bonds, is essential to improve healthcare financing.

Recommendations

- **Invest in Youth Reproductive Health:** To ensure sustainable population growth and avoid overwhelming the healthcare system, strategic investments in youth reproductive health are crucial. Collaborative efforts involving all stakeholders and the prioritization of healthcare packages aligned with population dynamics are essential to address the challenges of rapid population growth, particularly among the youth.
- **Address the Rising Burden of NCDs:** The growing population and the projection that NCDs will become a foremost health concern by 2030 require investments in research, capacity building, and resources. This includes a focus on integrated health promotion and services, comprehensive health services, advocacy, political will, and effective surveillance mechanisms to bridge the gap between primary and secondary prevention efforts.
- **Innovative Healthcare Financing:** Healthcare financing must adapt to changing population dynamics and the rising burden of NCDs. A hybrid financing model that combines government taxes and insurance schemes should be explored. Optimizing taxes, especially in the informal sector, and addressing the “missing middle” for cross-subsidization are critical. Innovations like health bonds and innovative health insurance purchasing and payment methods should be considered.
- **Foster Partnerships and Avoid Duplications:** Collaboration and partnerships in healthcare financing are essential to avoid duplication of efforts and resources. A coordinated approach among stakeholders can lead to overall improvements in healthcare financing.

Conclusion



The keynote 2 discussions provided valuable insights into the challenges and opportunities of achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in a dynamic demographic landscape and the rising burden of non-communicable diseases (NCDs). Investments in youth reproductive health, research, and capacity building are imperative to address these challenges. Innovative healthcare financing models, along with fostering partnerships, are essential to support resilience and sustainability in the healthcare system. Tanzania’s commitment to addressing these issues is pivotal for the country’s health and well-being in the coming years.

HEALTH FORUMS





Title: The role of FBO in the system strengthening for the provision of quality integrated health care services in Tanzania.

Highlight

During the CSSC panel discussion, speakers emphasized the critical role of leadership and accountability in ensuring effective service delivery. They highlighted the CSSC's efforts to promote strong governance with diverse board members and governing committees, along with clear guidelines and a strategic plan. Faith-Based Organizations (FBOs) were praised for their long-standing commitment to providing quality services, especially in rural areas, despite financial challenges. FBOs have gradually shifted towards sustainable financing, relying less on donors and more on internal funding. For example, they have reduced their dependence on donors from 100% in 1992 to around 60%, with the government contributing a significant portion. They have also increased their internal funding from patient fees from 43% to 54%. PEPFAR has contributed approximately 40% to these health facilities. They have also addressed the challenge of human resources by coordinating healthcare institutions and investing in staff development programs, which have resulted in 2500 middle cadre healthcare workers being produced. Quality improvement programs and supply chain management were also discussed, with a focus on providing services to all, including vulnerable populations.

Recommendations

- **Sustainable Financing:** FBOs should continue diversifying their funding sources and explore partnerships with potential donors to reduce dependence on external aid. By reducing reliance on donors from 60% to less and increasing internal funding from patient fees, and with contributions from PEPFAR amounting to approximately 40%, they should aim to attain even greater self-sustainability.
- **Human Resource Development:** FBOs must invest in staff development programs, capacity building, and the adoption of best practices like the Makole model to address the challenge of quality in healthcare. With 2500 middle cadre healthcare workers being produced, they should strive to further enhance the skills and capabilities of their healthcare workforce.
- **Inclusivity and Quality:** CSSC and FBOs should prioritize the development and implementation of quality standards and indicators, ensuring that the majority of healthcare facilities, especially those in rural areas, meet these standards. Currently, 27 out of 250 facilities are above level 3 in accreditation, demonstrating substantial progress. Mobilizing communities for health insurance and financial support programs should be a priority, with a particular focus on children and vulnerable groups.

Conclusion



The CSSC panel discussion underscored the importance of leadership, accountability, and innovation in healthcare service delivery. Faith-Based Organizations have played a pioneering role in delivering quality healthcare, even in challenging circumstances. To ensure sustainability, FBOs need to continue diversifying their funding sources, aiming to reduce reliance on donors and increase internal funding from patient fees, along with leveraging contributions from organizations like PEPFAR. They must also persist in investing in staff development programs, with a focus on enhancing the skills of healthcare workers. By collaborating with communities and advocating for health insurance, these organizations can work towards providing quality healthcare for all, particularly in rural areas.



Title: The “pandemic” of Non-Communicable Diseases in Tanzania and SSA

Highlights

The aim of the forum was to address the significant surge in non-communicable diseases (NCDs), particularly countries within Sub-Saharan Africa, over the last two decades. The discussion proposed innovative solutions and international collaboration to effectively tackle this growing health crisis.

During the GIZ panel discussion, experts highlighted a concerning increase in NCDs within Tanzania. Over the past two decades, the incidence of NCDs, notably diabetes (DM) and hypertension (HTN) has experienced a 5 to 0 8- fold increase. Additionally, cancer claims the lives of 26,000 of Tanzanians each year, with one-third of these fatalities attributed to cervical and breast cancer.

Speakers shed light on the efforts made by the Tanzanian government in addressing this critical issue. They discussed key strategic areas to combat NCDs within the country. Furthermore, the panelists emphasized the imperative of international collaboration to strengthen the healthcare system. This collaboration should encompass enhancing referral systems and promoting the development of specialized medical fields essential for combating NCDs, including emergency medicine. There is also a pressing need for innovative services that facilitate healthcare providers’ access to essential diagnostic tools and the ability to conduct research related to NCDs.

This multi-faceted approach, encompassing government action, international collaboration, policy updates, educational reform, innovative solutions and heightened awareness, is crucial in tackling the rising tide of NCDs within Tanzania.

Recommendations

- Promotion activities and campaigns, develop comprehensive awareness campaigns about NCDs and the importance of regular screening. Targeting workplaces can be particularly effective in reaching a wide audience. Encourage healthy lifestyle choices and early detection.
- Human resource development, promote the development of specialized medical fields related to NCDs, including emergency medicine through support institutions like KCMC in their efforts to establish training programs for rare specialties like emergency medicine physicians, To create a more informed and prepared healthcare workforce is by incorporating NCDs in Educational Curricula
- Strengthen Health Systems, by Investing in leadership and coordination, moreover enhancing healthcare infrastructure, like the KCMC strategy to strengthen laboratory services in order to improve quality of diagnostic services for patient care, training and research
- International Collaborations, Foster collaborations with international organizations and experts to exchange knowledge, resources, and best practices in combating NCDs. This can enhance the effectiveness of NCD management efforts in Tanzania

Conclusion



Addressing the rising prevalence of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in Tanzania is paramount due to the strain they place on the healthcare system and the economy. An effective strategy involves enhancing leadership and coordination, strengthening healthcare systems, and promoting awareness, particularly in primary healthcare. Engagement with community health workers and faith-based organizations, cost-effective interventions, data utilization, policy updates, referral system improvements, and investments in medical training and laboratories are essential. Collaboration and international partnerships are vital for knowledge and resource sharing, offering Tanzania a promising path to combat the NCD crisis.



CDC Forum



Title: Vision for the Establishment of a National Public Health Institute in Tanzania

Highlights

During the discussion, it was emphasized that Tanzania needs a National Public Health Institute (NPHI) to enhance global health security. Tanzania has already made significant strides in global health security, being one of the first 17 countries to implement the Global Health Security Agenda and conducting a WHO joint external evaluation in 2016. However, preparedness, detection, and response for emergencies remain fragmented, posing challenges to accountability and coordination.

Tanzania is one of the African member states, constituting approximately 27% that has not yet established a National Public Health Institute (NPHI).

The need for NPHI was underscored with lessons from outbreaks like Marburg and leprosy, as well as the urgency of preparedness given Tanzania's susceptibility to tropical disease outbreaks.

Recommendations

- **Establishment of NPHI in Tanzania:** The foremost recommendation is the establishment of a dedicated National Public Health Institute (NPHI) in Tanzania. This NPHI should serve as a centralized hub for coordinating public health functions, including surveillance, outbreak detection, data analysis, and response, ensuring better coordination, accountability, and effective responses to public health emergencies.
- **Leveraging Global Expertise and partnership:** Tanzania should seek recommendations and guidelines from states with existing NPHI and partner with Global organizations like the African Centre for disease control and Prevention, the African union, World Health Organization (WHO), the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), PEPFAR and USAID. Collaboration with these organizations can help Tanzania adopt best practices and established frameworks for NPHI development
- **Legal Authority and Clarity:** in the Journey of establishing a NPHI, a comprehensive review of Tanzania's public health act and legal framework is essential. This process should carefully examine how the NPHI fits within the existing legal framework and how it can effectively exercise its mandated functions to ensure that the NPHI has the necessary legal authority and clarity in its role to fulfill its mission.
- **Data Centralization, Protection and dissemination:** Centralizing and protecting health data is a critical recommendation. The NPHI should serve as the custodian of health-related data, ensuring its security and accessibility for analysis and decision-making, and ensure that correct data and information is communicated to the public at large.

Conclusion



The establishment of a dedicated National Public Health Institute (NPHI) in Tanzania is imperative to enhance public health infrastructure and preparedness. This initiative will consolidate functions, centralize data, and improve coordination to effectively respond to public health emergencies. With lessons from previous outbreaks and the government's commitment, Tanzania is on the path to enhancing its public health infrastructure and preparedness.



PEPFAR Forum



Title: 20 Years Of Progress, And Where Do We Go From Here

Highlights

The discussion underscored the transformative impact of collaborative efforts between PEPFAR and the Tanzanian Government in the last two-decades fight against HIV/AIDS. Notably, PEPFAR's initiatives have led to a substantial reduction in mother-to-child HIV transmission, significantly decreasing the number of children born with HIV. Moreover, PEPFAR's substantial contributions are pivotal to advancing progress toward the ambitious Tanzanian 95-95-95 targets set for 2025. The achieved milestones include a remarkable increase in people accessing antiretroviral treatment from 1000 people to 1,500,000 people and a substantial decrease in HIV mortality by 76% in 20 years. Additionally, the DREAMS Initiative, aimed at empowering women and girls, was highlighted as a crucial part of the broader response.

Recommendations

- **Community-Led Health Equity Initiatives:** Centering health equity in HIV response efforts involves empowering communities and local structures. Encourage community-led solutions and engagement through cluster programs and support for PLHIV groups. Develop and promote endowment funds to sustain community-led initiatives that address unique local challenges. These grassroots efforts are instrumental in achieving epidemic control and ensuring that no one is left behind.
- **Sustainability Roadmap,** emphasize the development and implementation of a well-defined sustainability roadmap that engages community stakeholders. Additionally, it should integrate inter-ministerial cooperation to ensure a holistic approach. While anticipating potential funding challenges,

the roadmap should outline strategies for domestic resource mobilization and actively engage the community in this process, fostering a sense of ownership and commitment to the sustainability of HIV response efforts.

- Youth-Centric Approach, Prioritize youth leadership, Engage young people in decision-making processes and empower them to lead in the design and implementation of HIV prevention strategies. Develop innovative interventions that resonate with the youth, making them active participants in their own health.

Conclusion



PEPFAR's journey in combating HIV/AIDS in Tanzania has seen remarkable progress over two decades. As we look to the future, sustainability is our paramount concern. Our task now is to preserve the significant gains we've achieved. The commitment is unwavering and the political will is in place. While funding challenges are anticipated, a strong commitment to domestic resource mobilization and community engagement will be pivotal in securing the future of HIV response in Tanzania.



Business for Health Solutions Forum



Title: Unite, Innovate and Sustain: Forging a Collaborative Front to Enhance Access to Essential Medicine at Point of Care in Tanzania

Highlights

The forum addressed challenges within the healthcare supply chain in Tanzania. Panelists identified operational inefficiencies, difficulties in understanding stock shortages, issues with market entry and data access, workforce development and retention, and the need to foster a people-centered approach at the lower levels. They emphasized the potential of AI, data analytics, and local manufacturing to revolutionize the supply chain. The importance of visualizing and documenting processes, effective data utilization, and the integration of innovations with existing systems were also highlighted. Challenges in the pharmaceutical industry, including limited digital adoption, were discussed, necessitating business models to encourage digital transformation.

Recommendations

- Panelists recommended the utilization of AI and data analytics to enhance supply chain efficiency, emphasizing the need for clear documentation and well-visualized processes to prevent stock shortages.
- They urged investment in local manufacturing of medical products to improve the supply chain, making it more resilient and responsive to demand.
- The panel recommended the development of business models to encourage the digital transformation of private sector pharmaceutical companies, enabling better data access and streamlined operations.

Conclusion

The forum shed light on critical challenges within Tanzania's healthcare supply chain, with a focus on operational inefficiencies, data access, and the need for innovative solutions. Leveraging AI, data analytics, and local manufacturing can drive transformation, but the issues related to documentation, workforce development, and private sector digitization need collaborative attention. Ensuring the availability of essential medicines at the point of care is crucial for enhancing healthcare access in Tanzania, and these discussions serve as a foundation for future innovations and sustainable solutions.





D-TREE Forum



Title : Impact at scale: moving from digital health pilots to integrated national strategy

Highlights



The forum aimed to explore the milestones achieved by D-Tree in Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar, particularly in implementing digitally-supported community health worker programs. The speakers sought to lay out a clear vision for the future, outlining concrete actions necessary to strengthen community health worker programs.

The forum featured a diverse panel of speakers spinning from government health officials to community health volunteers. Their backgrounds encompassed program implementation and on-the-ground volunteer experiences. Their combined expertise provided a comprehensive view of community health worker programs in both Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar.

The speakers emphasized the crucial role of Community Health Workers (CHWs) in addressing challenges arising from limited healthcare resources, particularly in Zanzibar, which faces a severe staff shortage of approximately 50%. They also discussed the role of CHWs in health promotion, community sensitization, mobilization, and linking communities to healthcare facilities.

The panelists also delved into the role of innovative digitally-supported community health worker programs, such as Afya Tech and Jamii ni Afya, in addressing challenges within community health programs. They discussed the challenges facing these programs and outlined a vision for an integrated and coordinated CHW program to overcome these obstacles. Furthermore, community healthcare workers shared their success stories and on-ground experiences.

Recommendations

- Strengthen the Advocacy and Dissemination of the integrated and coordinated Community Health Worker program: To address the existing lack of coordination and fragmentation in CHW programs, focus on enhancing the advocacy and dissemination of the integrated community health worker program to various stakeholders. The program will include elements such as standardized training, monthly payments and the provision of standardized working tools.
- Invest in Comprehensive Training for Community Health Volunteers (CHVs): Emphasize the importance of training CHVs comprehensively to reduce the patient burden on healthcare facilities and enhance healthcare services. This includes expanding the number of CHVs and equipping them with the skills necessary for rapid diagnostics.
- Enhance Community Health Services through Technology Integration and Workforce Development: Utilize technology for documentation, data storage, and health information retrieval to reduce delays in community healthcare service provision, ultimately boosting the efficiency and effectiveness of community health programs. Furthermore, actively involve community health workers in learning platforms and summits to continuously improve their knowledge and effectiveness in the field.

Conclusion



The path towards enhancing community health worker programs requires a collaborative effort from governmental bodies, development partners, and implementing organizations. By pooling their resources and expertise, these stakeholders can work cohesively to create a more effective and efficient framework. This approach will help ensure that community health workers can deliver essential services to all, ultimately leading to improved healthcare in Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar.



Title: Modeling the Pattern of HIV Prevention toward Epidemic Control in Southern Highland Regions of Tanzania. A lesson from HJFMRI Tanzania.

Highlight

The forum featured a diverse panel of speakers who spoke broadly about HIV prevention strategies employed in the Southern Highland Regions of Tanzania focusing on the initiatives undertaken, the identified gaps, and the mechanisms that have been put in place to address the gaps in order to achieve HIV epidemic control. In the line to advance towards the “3 zeros” – zero new HIV infections, zero AIDS-related deaths, and zero HIV-related stigma and discrimination by 2030, The speakers emphasized the importance of achieving the 95-95-95 targets by 2025 in Tanzania. They highlighted that the perspective of 20 years of PEPFAR in Tanzania underscores significant progress. The number of people accessing antiretroviral therapy has increased from 1,000 to 1.5 million, with 17% of them coming from the Southern Highland Regions and the military. This achievement signifies the crucial role of government collaboration, development partners, and HJFMRI in this progress.

The speakers also addressed the challenges in reducing new infections and stressed the importance of aligned policies and guidelines in HIV prevention. Furthermore, the discussion highlighted the critical need to prepare healthcare facilities to implement prevention strategies effectively and emphasized the success of these efforts in the broader context of the country’s fight against HIV/AIDS

Recommendations

- **Embrace Innovations and New Ideas,** To achieve epidemic control by 2030, it is essential to embrace innovative approaches and new ideas. This includes reaching out to affected populations where they are, using creative solutions, and staying open to new approaches to HIV prevention and treatment.
- **Empower Youth Engagement,** Invest in meaningful youth-led approaches throughout the entire process, from design and implementation to follow-up and feedback. Empower young people to take a leading role in the response to HIV. This not only ensures a fresh perspective but also reaches a larger number of young individuals who are often disproportionately affected by the epidemic.
- **Expand Community-Led Monitoring:** Implement and expand community-led monitoring programs. Encourage a “train the trainer” model, where individuals are trained to educate others within their communities. This approach can help in reaching more people and ensuring reduction to the spread of the infection.
- **Strengthen Routine Screening,** to improve the effectiveness of HIV testing services, it is crucial to implement policies and procedures to make sure that every individual seeking healthcare services is screened for HIV. This will help identify cases who recently acquired HIV infection, and reduce the risk of further spreading the virus within communities. Regular and comprehensive testing is a fundamental step in controlling the HIV epidemic.

Conclusion



The achievement of HIV epidemic control in Tanzania depends significantly on collaborative efforts that go beyond the Ministry of Health. This collaboration involves inter-ministerial cooperation, development partners, and implementing partners, with a pivotal role played by the strong connection to the community.

Recommendations

- Enhance HIV Services in the Face of Emerging and Re-emerging Diseases, Develop and implement strategies to safeguard continuity of HIV care and treatment during outbreaks of emerging and re-emerging diseases. This includes establishing alternative service delivery mechanisms, securing essential medical supplies, and offering psychosocial support to PLHIV and communities, ensuring that the progress made in HIV care is not interrupted during health crises.
- Strengthening Preparedness and Surveillance, by disseminating donation guidelines to all stakeholders, and establishing infectious treatment units in the region. Preparedness efforts should involve regular simulation exercises, strengthening healthcare surveillance, and capacity building for healthcare workers in detecting and reporting outbreaks, furthermore improving Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) measures among health care workers through supportive supervision
- Community-Centric Response for Health Challenges, Engage communities for early detection and response to emerging diseases. Empower Community Health Workers (CHWs) to raise public awareness and provide support to isolated families, ensuring a more robust response to outbreaks.
- Regional Manufacturing for Healthcare Resilience, As a country we should consider regional manufacturing of essential medical supplies, such as IV fluids and giving sets, to enhance healthcare system resilience, reduce dependence on external supply chains, and ensure uninterrupted care for PLHIV and communities during outbreaks.

Conclusion



The lessons learned from the Marburg Virus Disease outbreak in Kagera underscore the vital importance of preparedness and resilience in the face of emerging and re-emerging diseases, especially in the context of HIV care. The recommendations put forth emphasize the need to develop and implement strategies that ensure the continuity of HIV care and treatment during health crises. To sustain the progress made in HIV epidemic control, it is imperative that we are well-prepared to face disruptions during outbreaks and maintain the gains achieved in response to HIV/AIDS. B nhg6hfgg

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MoH-ZANZIBAR Forum



Title: Promoting Disease Prevention and Health Promotion for Sustainable Universal Health Coverage in Zanzibar

Highlight

The speakers emphasized the significance of strengthening primary health care as a strategic approach for achieving sustainable Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in Zanzibar, with a focus on disease prevention and health promotion. They discussed various initiatives, such as the implementation of special morning sessions in Primary Healthcare Units to raise awareness about diseases and prevention. The Ministry of Health is actively reinforcing health promotion efforts through the engagement of Community Health Volunteers (CHVs) and peer educators, with 2,500 CHVs serving approximately 700 people each. The Health Promotion Unit has been instrumental in developing guidelines for CHVs and employs diverse media channels to disseminate information to the 1.8 million residents of the two islands in Zanzibar, with 60% residing in Unguja and 40% in Pemba.

The speakers also highlighted the role of public-private partnerships in disease prevention and health promotion. The private sector contributes significantly, accounting for 25% of healthcare activities in Zanzibar. This contribution includes initiatives such as free screenings, immunizations, and community engagement, all aimed at advancing the cause of UHC.

Moreover, presenters underline that The Ministry of Health (MoH) Zanzibar has recognized the essential role of communities within the health system, the MoH, through its Quality Assurance framework, has developed Basic Standards for Health Facilities (BSFH's) tailored to each level of care. This strategic initiative emphasizes the significance of engaging and empowering communities as active participants in disease prevention and health promotion efforts.

Additionally, the panelists delved into the critical aspect of assuring and monitoring the quality of service provision and on how to strengthen health services in resource-constrained environments.

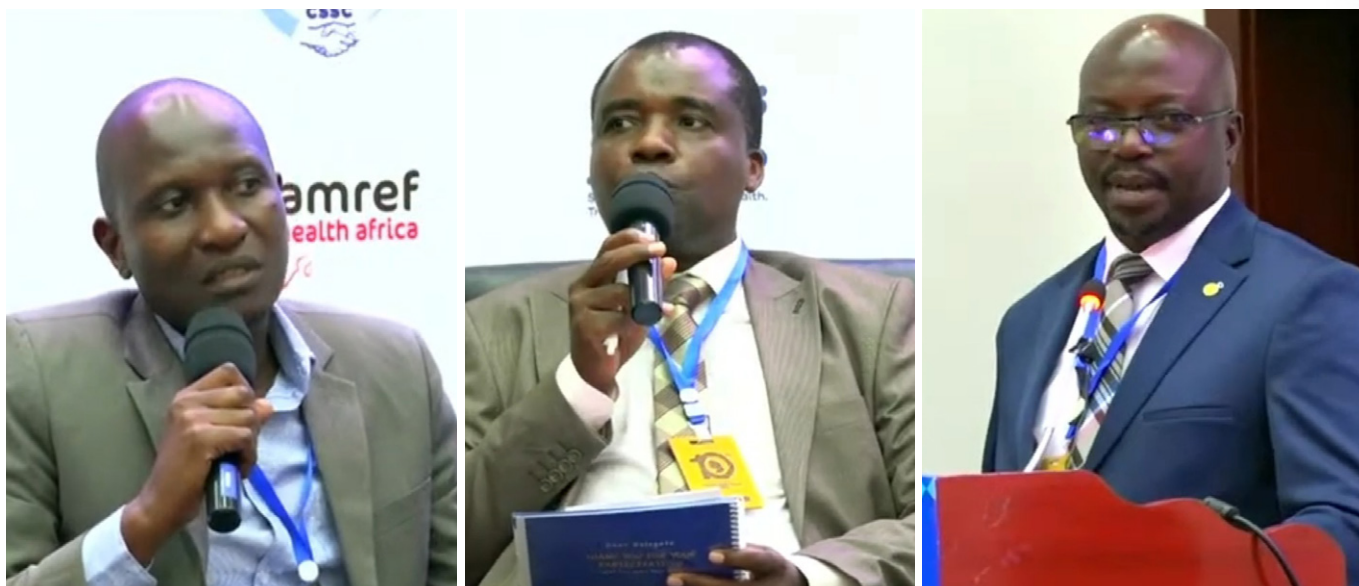
Recommendations

- **Leverage Public-Private Partnerships:** The involvement of the private sector in healthcare activities is significant. To advance disease prevention and health promotion, it's recommended to strengthen and foster public-private partnerships. These collaborations should continue to support initiatives like free screenings, immunizations, and community engagement.
- **Partnership to Support Health Basket Funds:** It was recommended to prioritize the establishment and enhancement of partnerships dedicated to supporting Health Basket Funds in Zanzibar. These funds help support primary healthcare facilities in terms of service provision, thus bringing Zanzibar closer to achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC).
- **Expand and Support Community Health Volunteers (CHVs):** Given the success of CHVs in reaching and serving the community, it is recommended to further expand and support the CHV program. This includes providing training and resources to CHVs to enhance their ability to raise disease awareness and promote health.

Conclusion



It is evident that Community-based interventions are central to strengthening the Primary healthcare system and that tailored strategies are essential to address Zanzibar's specific healthcare challenges. Rooted in disease prevention and health promotion, these efforts represent a significant stride towards achieving Sustainable Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in Zanzibar.



Title: The Rationale of Integrating of Quality improvement in Universal Health Coverage Rollout – The Private Health Sector Perspective

Highlight



The speaker emphasizes the importance of recognizing quality of care as an essential component of Universal Health Coverage (UHC) discussions in Tanzania. They stress that UHC involves more than just financial protection; it encompasses four elements: financial protection, access to healthcare, coverage, and quality health services. The speaker highlighted that UHC aims to ensure health outcomes are achieved, making quality healthcare central to these efforts. They also stress the importance of effective, safe, people-centered, and non-discriminative healthcare services. Additionally, the speakers addressed the significance of standards, human resources, equipment, and governance in achieving UHC with a focus on quality for all.

Recommendations

- Elevating Quality in UHC Discourse It's important to integrate quality improvement as an integral part of the ongoing UHC public discourse. Since the UHC bill has not been passed yet, discussions in our country regarding UHC should emphasize the central role of quality care.
- Establishment of a National Healthcare Quality Accreditation Body: It's time to consider the creation of a national Healthcare Quality Accreditation Body. This body can play a vital role in ensuring consistent monitoring of healthcare facilities. Moreover, it will empower facilities to take responsibility for maintaining their own quality standards.

- **Crafting a National Quality Policy and Strategy:** Developing a national quality policy and strategy is crucial. Looking at examples from countries like Ethiopia and Sudan, we can see the significant progress they've made in structuring their approach to quality in UHC. A well-structured strategy will help align our approach to UHC.
- **Integrating Quality Care into Healthcare Worker Training:** Consider including modules on the importance of quality care in the curriculum for healthcare workers. This educational addition can significantly contribute to improving the overall quality of healthcare services.

Conclusion



It is crucial to initiate public awareness campaigns to underscore the significance of quality in healthcare services. Tanzanians deserve high-quality healthcare, and by informing the public about their rights and choices, we can collectively strive for improved healthcare quality within the framework of Universal Health Coverage.



Title: Integrated Care for Non- Communicable Diseases in HIV Care and Treatment

Highlight



The THPS panelists emphasized the critical integration of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) screening, diagnosis, and management into HIV care and treatment, a vital initiative funded by CDC/PEPFAR known as the AFYA HATUA project. It addressed the increasing burden of NCDs among PLHIV, explored strategies for sustainable treatment and rehabilitation, and highlighted the importance of investing in the integration of NCD services into HIV care programs. The discussions underscored the need for a combined approach to address NCDs and infectious diseases, targeted interventions based on population risk factors, and the readiness of healthcare facilities to offer NCD care.

Recommendations

- First, they highlighted the importance of integrated care, emphasizing the need for a multi-pronged approach to tackle both NCDs and infectious diseases while carefully identifying the drivers.
- Second, the panelists stressed the significance of identifying and reaching individuals at high risk, particularly those who may not be screened or receiving necessary interventions.
- Lastly, they recommended investing in implementation research to gather more evidence on the integration of NCD care and focus on people-centered healthcare and prevention in healthcare strategies.

Conclusion



The AFYA HATUA project's integration of NCD screening and management into HIV care in Tanzania has been instrumental in addressing the growing burden of NCDs among PLHIV. The forum's discussions have highlighted the need for readiness of healthcare facilities to offer NCD services, the importance of population-based interventions, and the critical role of integrated care in improving the quality and cost-effectiveness of healthcare. Collaborative efforts among stakeholders to develop a well-informed integration model and further invest in implementation research will be crucial in fostering a holistic approach to healthcare, ensuring a healthier future for PLHIV and the broader community.



Title: Economic Empowerment Initiatives Compliments HIV Prevention Efforts among Vulnerable Adolescent and Young Women

Highlight



The panel discussion brought to the forefront the critical issue of HIV vulnerability among vulnerable adolescent girls and young women (AGYW) in Tanzania. It underscored the complex socio-economic and cultural factors contributing to the heightened risk of HIV infection among this demographic. The USAID-funded EpiC project provided a compelling case study, showcasing the importance of economically empowering AGYW across 11 regions of Tanzania to address these vulnerabilities. The panelists emphasized that HIV prevention efforts should not solely rely on behavioral and clinical interventions but should also prioritize economic empowerment as a means for AGYW to make informed decisions regarding their sexual health and to escape the cycle of poverty and vulnerability.

Recommendations

- First, they stressed the need to allocate funding for economic empowerment initiatives alongside medical services to address the root causes of HIV vulnerability.
- Second, they highlighted the importance of establishing clear metrics for quantifying the impact of economic empowerment programs, acknowledging the progress made while emphasizing the continued need for these initiatives.
- Lastly, they recommended that economic empowerment should precede biomedical interventions in HIV prevention, as empowering young women economically allows them to have agency in their decisions regarding sexual health and helps combat hunger and poverty.

Conclusion

The panel discussion shed light on the critical role of economic empowerment initiatives in complementing HIV prevention and treatment efforts among vulnerable adolescent girls and young women. It emphasized the need to divert resources to empower women economically, beyond medical services, recognizing that empowerment is vital to decision-making around sexual health. The panelists called for a holistic approach that integrates economic empowerment with biomedical interventions and builds the capacity of local stakeholders for sustainability. The key takeaway is that addressing HIV risk among AGYW requires addressing the underlying economic vulnerabilities they face, ultimately breaking the cycle of poverty and HIV transmission.



PATHFINDER Forum



Title: Women Lead Climate Resilience: Building health and climate resilience through integrated programming

Highlight

During the forum, Pathfinder and The Nature Conservancy (TNC) shared the successes and learnings from over a decade of integrated programming in the Greater Mahale Ecosystem in Western Tanzania, the Northern Tanzania Rangelands. As thought leaders in this

technical area, they also shared innovations in building climate – resilient and inclusive health systems. The forum emphasized the critical interconnection between health and climate change, highlighting how prolonged droughts disproportionately affect women’s nutrition, water access, and maternal health. The discussions also underscored the importance of women’s leadership and economic empowerment in building climate-resilient community health systems, as well as investing in social groups like VICOBA and climate-smart agriculture.

Recommendations

- First, they stressed the importance of investing in existing social groups, particularly women’s groups like VICOBA, to build climate-resilient health systems.
- Second, they recommended a focus on climate-smart agriculture practices that conserve nature while promoting sustainable production.
- Lastly, the panelists advocated for community sensitization to foster a positive attitude towards health, climate, and environmental issues, emphasizing their interconnectedness and impact on communities.

Conclusion



The panel discussion showcased Pathfinder and The Nature Conservancy's pioneering work in integrating population, health, and environment programs to strengthen health and climate resilience. It highlighted the close relationship between health and climate, with women disproportionately affected by climate-related issues like drought and water scarcity. The panel's recommendations emphasize the need to invest in existing social groups, adopt climate-smart agriculture, and raise community awareness to tackle the challenges of climate change and health. The innovative approach discussed during the forum serves as a model for building resilience in communities while conserving the environment for future generations.



MoH Forum



Title: Towards a high-quality Tanzania Health System: Role of Human Resources for health in improving Patients Experience of Care.

Highlight



The panelists led a discussion that underscored the pivotal role of Human Resources for Health (HRH) in elevating the quality of Tanzania's healthcare system, particularly in enhancing the patient experience of care. They emphasized the importance of delivering healthcare services that adhere to people-centered standards, are provided promptly to avoid unnecessary delays, and do not harm the patients. The discussions also highlighted the significance of clinical audits to ensure high-quality clinical care and the shortage of healthcare workers, which is twice the available workforce. The panelists advocated for a shift from curative to preventive services, with a focus on strengthening risk communication, community health services, and an integrated community health worker program as pillars to achieve universal health coverage.

Recommendations

- First, they stressed the need to bridge the shortage of healthcare workers by implementing a three-year recruitment plan, task shifting guidelines, and utilizing volunteers to reduce the gap.
- Second, they emphasized the importance of incorporating customer care into the curriculum for training health professionals, both in education and on-the-job training, and developing comprehensive customer care guidelines.
- Lastly, they recommended a shift from curative to preventive services while strengthening risk communication, community health services, and an integrated community health worker program to achieve universal health coverage.

Conclusion



The Ministry of Health's panel discussion shed light on the critical role of Human Resources for Health (HRH) in improving the patient experience of care and the overall quality of Tanzania's healthcare system. The shortage of healthcare workers and the importance of bridging this gap through recruitment plans, task shifting, and volunteer utilization were emphasized. Additionally, the focus on promoting customer care in healthcare education and training, along with the need to shift towards preventive services, underscores the government's commitment to achieving universal health coverage. Quality of care is pivotal, especially for the promotion of medical tourism, which holds significant economic potential for the country. The discussion sets a path toward a high-quality healthcare system in Tanzania.



JHPIEGO Forum



Forum: Enacting Tanzania's Primary Health Care Approach-Stories from the field

Highlight



The panel discussion led by JHPIEGO highlighted the renewed commitment of Tanzania and the global health community to invest in primary healthcare (PHC) as a cornerstone for providing essential health services, promoting health awareness, preventing diseases, ensuring equitable access, and building pandemic preparedness. PHC, introduced in Tanzania in 1967, evolved through a 10-year program from 2007 to 2017, making it a vital entry point into the healthcare system. The discussions underscored the significance of community participation and the role of community health workers (CHWs), emphasizing their contribution to responding to health crises, such as COVID-19 and the Marburg disease outbreak in Kagera. The focus on decentralized services, quality improvement, and the role of PHC in reducing maternal mortality was also highlighted.

Recommendations

- First, they advocated for substantial investments in PHC, recognizing it as the foundation for delivering essential healthcare services and ensuring community participation.
- Second, they called for a review of the World Health Organization (WHO) building blocks of PHC to tailor them to Tanzania's unique context.
- Additionally, the panelists recommended a shift from disease-specific approaches to integrated ones, emphasizing the need for innovative, cost-effective capacity-building strategies and maximizing data utilization in PHC.

Conclusion



The panel discussion showcased the pivotal role of primary healthcare (PHC) as a fundamental component of Tanzania's healthcare system. It plays a crucial role in providing essential health services, improving health awareness, preventing diseases, and ensuring pandemic preparedness. The panelists stressed the importance of community participation, decentralized services, and the impact of PHC in reducing maternal mortality rates. With USAID's launch of the Primary Impact program, there is a global effort to accelerate PHC and move towards an integrated, data-driven, and community-centered approach. Leadership, governance, and accountability were identified as critical factors in ensuring quality care at the PHC level, making PHC the foundation for universal health coverage and responsive to community needs.



Title: Integrated Health Systems- A Case Study by AKHST

Highlight

The forum provided a case study on how this was implemented from a wider spectrum while focusing on 5 specialties that offer tertiary level care through various aspects. These included:

Oncology, Cardiology, Gastroenterology, Radiology and Laboratory. Emphasis on enhancing territorial health care demands programs that offer effective training, capacity building, preventive health screenings, continued medical education, medical camps, digital reporting systems, and many more, to be put in place. Such programs were developed through AKHST's largely integrated health system.

The panelists emphasized the successful implementation of quality services at the primary care level, thanks to Aga Khan Health Services' integrated health systems that facilitate multidisciplinary coordination. The forum showcased the case study of five specialties, including Oncology, Cardiology, Gastroenterology, Radiology, and Laboratory, providing tertiary-level care. The focus was on enhancing territorial healthcare through effective training, capacity building, preventive health screenings, medical education, digital reporting systems, and more, all integrated into AKHST's health system. The discussions underscored the importance of patient-centered healthcare, diagnostic imaging, and laboratory services in achieving universal health coverage and improving healthcare quality.

Recommendations

- First, they highlighted the value of patient-centered healthcare and emphasized the need for a healthcare system that prioritizes the well-being and preferences of patients.
- Second, they recommended the adoption of modern technology, such as the Picture Archiving and Communication System (PACS), to store and access medical images efficiently.
- Lastly, the panelists suggested expanding and improving cardiothorax theaters to enhance medical services and promote training and capacity building, all with the goal of becoming a premier teaching and tertiary healthcare system.

Conclusion



The Aga Khan Health Services' integrated health systems showcase the potential for delivering quality services at the primary care level. The focus on specialties like Oncology, Cardiology, Gastroenterology, Radiology, and Laboratory highlights the importance of patient-centered care, advanced diagnostic tools, and community engagement in healthcare. To achieve universal health coverage, it is crucial to address challenges like the lack of oncology equipment and foster meaningful community involvement. The Aga Khan Health Services aim to integrate cancer services, even at the primary care level, focusing on prevention and early detection, which aligns with the broader goal of complementing the national healthcare system.



CARE International Forum



Title: Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs) Driving Universal Health Coverage in Tanzania: Opportunities and Path Forward

Highlight



With opening remarks of Madam Prudence Masako who highlighted the role of CARE international Tanzania in empowering women economically through VSLAs. The panelists shed light on the transformative impact of Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs) in Tanzania, particularly in empowering women. CARE Tanzania’s facilitation of 30,402 VSLA groups, encompassing 718,726 members, predominantly women, resulted in collective savings of TZS 64,179,545,925. A study involving 533 VSLA members from five Tanzanian regions revealed that 60% sought financial assistance for healthcare needs, with a significant 81% receiving support from VSLAs. However, the stark statistic of only 10% having health insurance highlighted an essential issue to address, which was the primary focus of this forum.

Recommendations

- First, they emphasized the importance of promoting health insurance within VSLAs, guided by the existing willingness of members to pay for insurance, coupled with tailoring products and premiums to suit their needs.

- Second, they suggested introducing incentives to encourage individuals in VSLAs and low-income earners to enroll in health insurance programs.
- Third, they emphasized on collaborating with VSLAs to support health initiatives looking at the limited number of VSLA members with health insurance which highlights the need for targeted efforts to raise awareness and promote insurance coverage within these groups.
- Lastly, the panelists advised cautious integration of additional services into VSLAs to prevent loss of focus while broadening their coverage and addressing the healthcare challenges faced by communities.

Conclusion



The potential of Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs) in advancing healthcare access in Tanzania is evident, with a particular focus on empowering women and addressing healthcare financial challenges. The road ahead involves tackling the challenge of financing universal health insurance, a task that requires collaboration between the private sector, state institutions, and non-state actors. The expansion of programs like this, as advocated by CARE International, holds the key to realizing universal health coverage and enhancing the overall well-being of Tanzanian communities.



M-MAMA Forum



Title: Collaboration across ministries for successful innovation adoption and system change; The M-mama emergency transport system as a case study.

Highlight



During the M-mama panel discussion, the M-mama emergency transport system was lauded for its remarkable success in addressing maternal and neonatal health challenges. The system, which transitioned from a pilot initiative in Shinyanga to a nationwide program, has reduced maternal deaths by 38% and neonatal deaths by over 47%. This impressive outcome is supported by research showing that M-mama is not only cost-effective but also sustainable. In 2021, it received presidential endorsement and expanded to both Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar. M-mama utilizes innovative mobile and digital technology to provide real-time data for tracking and accountability, saving lives.

Recommendations

- First, they emphasized the importance of integrating the M-mama system into the health facility registry to enhance coordination within the healthcare system.
- Second, they suggested extending the lessons learned from M-mama to address other health emergencies and issues.
- Lastly, the panelists urged the inclusion of emergency boats, especially in Zanzibar, to complement the existing transport infrastructure, ensuring efficient access to healthcare services.

Conclusion



The M-mama emergency transport system serves as a shining example of successful innovation adoption and system change in the healthcare sector. With substantial reductions in maternal and neonatal mortality, its cost-effectiveness, and presidential support, M-mama has proven that collaboration across ministries, government, and stakeholders can lead to transformative healthcare solutions. The lessons from M-mama's journey can and should be applied to address broader health challenges, not only in Tanzania but also in countries like Kenya, Lesotho, and Malawi, where it has already inspired change and progress.



Title: Successful engagement of community structures in public health emergency response

Highlight

During the panel discussion, AMREF's journey in community-based surveillance was highlighted, commencing with a pilot in 2009 in Mkuranga district and later expanding to border regions in 2015. AMREF's ongoing commitment to addressing social determinants of health and pandemic preparedness in their 8-year strategy was underscored. The organization played a pivotal role in advancing Tanzania's milestones in community-based and event-based surveillance, employing electronic systems for rapid response and a one-health approach. Key achievements included EBS establishment in 2016, guideline development, extensive training of CHWs and health workers, electronic alert systems, and media scanning. AMREF, having enrolled 8 out of 14 regions and training 1400 healthcare workers, played a significant role.

Recommendations

- Universal EBS Enrollment: Expand EBS to all regions and engage the public in reporting health threats via the emergency call number 199.
- Harmonization and Financing: Address the challenges of harmonizing CHWs' activities and securing sustainable financing for their roles.
- Continued Supervision and Capacity Building: Ensure ongoing supervision and capacity building for CHWs to enhance the sustainability of community health systems.

Conclusion



The panel discussion illuminated the remarkable progress of AMREF in community-based surveillance and its collaboration with the Tanzanian government. The lessons learned highlighted the strong uptake of the project, the government's willingness to support it, and the bridging of gaps between informal and formal health sectors. The path forward involves addressing challenges and implementing recommendations to strengthen community health systems, while reaffirming AMREF's unwavering commitment to detecting and responding to public health threats through community structures in alignment with their 8-year strategy.



BAKWATA Forum



Title: Bakwata Efforts To Strengthen Primary Health Care And Community-Based Initiatives Towards Universal Health Coverage

Highlight

The panel discussion highlighted the commendable efforts of BAKWATA and the Muslim Social Services Commission in complementing the government's primary healthcare initiatives. They have constructed primary healthcare facilities across 15 regions, spanning over 40 districts, emphasizing accessibility for healthcare services. Their initiatives extend to reproductive health, addressing gender-based violence, and adolescent health, including partnerships with institutions like Jamii Bora for community health outreach. Faith-based organizations' advocacy for universal health insurance and child health funding through sisters in health insurance were underscored, emphasizing the role of health financing in achieving universal health coverage.

Recommendations

- Resource Mobilization: Address the challenge of inadequate staff and equipment in primary healthcare facilities through effective resource mobilization.
- Efficient Implementation: Enhance efficiency in implementing healthcare programs to meet growing urbanization and demographic changes.
- Disease Management: Develop strategies for handling emerging diseases, the rise in Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs), and the increasing demand for health services.

Conclusion



The forum emphasized the vital role played by BAKWATA and other faith-based organizations in promoting integrated approaches for primary healthcare and universal health coverage. Challenges like resource mobilization and inefficiency must be addressed, while opportunities such as expanding healthcare centers and government-community health programs can be harnessed. The discussion highlighted the crucial link between faith-based organizations, health organizations, and government initiatives in ensuring accessible and quality healthcare for all.



Title: Regional acceleration strategy (RAS); an innovative, integrated strategy for achieving optimal program performance and sustainable partnership with the local government authorities

Highlight

The panel discussion highlighted the Regional Acceleration Strategy (RAS) as a collaborative, data-driven approach involving project and regional health facility teams in planning, budgeting, and implementing projects tailored to each region's unique opportunities and challenges. RAS aims to build and transfer capacity to local stakeholders for sustainable intervention implementation. Key advantages of RAS include data-driven decision-making, comprehensive case management, and stakeholder engagement. The importance of human resources, healthcare financing, and disease prevention in strengthening primary health care was underscored. The government's support for RAS was linked to its use of local data and active participation from planning to implementation.

Recommendations

- Enhanced Documentation: Improve project documentation and community representation for effective scaling up and project sustainability.
- Human Resource Gap Addressment: Continue efforts to bridge the 52% human resource gap in primary healthcare provision.
- Integration and Partnerships: Promote the integration of HIV care with other disease components and strengthen partnerships for sustainable epidemic control programs.

Conclusion



The forum recognized the significant impact of the Regional Acceleration Strategy in tailoring interventions to local needs and enhancing community involvement. The discussion emphasized the government's commitment to and support for RAS, particularly due to its data-driven approach. The panelists highlighted PEPFAR's 20-year journey and the need for strong partnerships and integration in maintaining and advancing epidemic control programs. The focus on sustainability and the importance of addressing the human resource gap in healthcare were pivotal takeaways from this insightful discussion.



Title: Follow The Data: From Evidence to Action.

Highlight

The panel discussion commenced with an analysis of vital statistics from the 2022 census and the Tanzania Demographic and Health Survey, highlighting key figures in Tanzania's demographics. Notably, a high total fertility rate of 5.0 and a 3.2% population growth rate indicated a continuing momentum for reproduction. With 51% of the population being women and 49% men, coupled with a 22% teenage pregnancy rate, it emphasized the need to prioritize the well-being of the population. Notably, 49% of the population is under 15 years, and 62% is under 25 years, underscoring the significance of investing in adolescents and youth.

Recommendations

- Reproductive Health Education: Prioritize reproductive health education, particularly for adolescents and youth, to address the growing number of teenage pregnancies.
- Advocacy and Budget Allocation: Advocate for the inclusion of adolescent and youth issues in development programs, establish a dedicated budget at the ministry level, and focus on generating demand for services tailored to this demographic.

- Innovation in Education: Utilize innovative methods, such as storytelling in the language of adolescents, to educate and empower youth and first-time mothers, enabling them to manage their circumstances while continuing their education.

Conclusion



The panel discussion highlighted the Tanzanian government's commitment to the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) goals, emphasizing family planning, maternal and child mortality reduction, women's education, and addressing gender-based violence. Furthermore, the discussion showcased how innovation is being leveraged to educate and empower the youth and adolescents. Finally, it emphasized the role of organizations like TAMA in enhancing maternal health through capacity-building, policy engagement, research, and curriculum development for midwife training in Tanzania, contributing to overall well-being and progress in the country.



Title: Sustainably Financing Tanzania's Health Sector on the Path to UHC.

Highlight



The panel discussion underscored the importance of sustainable healthcare financing that aligns with the goals of universal health coverage (UHC). Over the past five years, Tanzania's health financing indicators have shown a shift towards greater domestic funding (from 59% to 68%) and increased government shares (from 39% to 45%), with notable decreases in out-of-pocket expenses. Public financing was favored over private sources. In terms of funding amounts, domestic and taxed-based funding increased significantly, while the government's health spending saw a 10% rise.

Recommendations

- **Efficient Budget Disbursement:** Address challenges in disbursing allocated funds, ensuring that a higher percentage of the health budget is effectively used for healthcare.
- **Per Capita Financing Alignment:** Strive to narrow the gap between per capita health financing and government spending, working towards more equitable allocation.
- **Implementation of Health Financing Strategy:** Implement the health financing strategy promoting universal health coverage (2016-2026), aligning with the UHC objectives and timeframes.

Conclusion



The forum emphasized the necessity of healthcare financing that supports present needs without compromising the future, particularly in the context of universal health coverage. The shift towards increased domestic funding and government shares was noted as a positive trend, while challenges in budget disbursement were highlighted. The discussion revealed the importance of bridging the gap between per capita financing and government spending, striving for equity and effective healthcare allocation in Tanzania's health system. The proposed health financing strategy offers a clear path to achieving universal health coverage.



WATER AID Forum



Title: Why Access To Clean Water And Sanitation (Wash) Is a Vital Subject In Universal Health Coverage.

Highlight

This forum highlighted the critical role of Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) in healthcare facilities for equitable access and enhanced healthcare outcomes, with a focus on Universal Health Coverage (UHC). Data revealed widespread deficiencies in WASH services, affecting over 50% of healthcare facilities in Tanzania. Challenges included irregular water supply, limited access to clean toilets, and the absence of menstrual hygiene facilities. The panel emphasized how WASH can prevent diseases and redirect healthcare funding. Government initiatives, such as developing WASH guidelines, infection prevention strategies, and facility improvement programs, were praised. Recommendations include increased budget allocations, integrated policies, and ensuring service sustainability.

Recommendations

- Increase Budget Allocation: Advocate for higher budget allocations for WASH services in healthcare facilities to improve infrastructure.
- Implement Integrated Policies: Develop and implement comprehensive policies that prioritize WASH, addressing public health, economic, and poverty reduction concerns.
- Ensure Sustainability: Focus on maintaining and sustaining WASH services in healthcare facilities for the long term to enhance healthcare delivery.

Conclusion



Addressing the critical deficiencies in WASH within healthcare facilities is paramount for advancing healthcare delivery and achieving Universal Health Coverage in Tanzania. The government's efforts, including the development of WASH guidelines and facility improvement programs, are commendable steps toward this goal. By prioritizing WASH, we can prevent diseases, reduce healthcare spending, and improve economic productivity. The recommendations presented during this forum, including increased budget allocations and integrated policies, offer a path forward to ensure sustainable, high-quality WASH services for all healthcare facilities, benefitting both public health and the nation's economy.



Girl Effect Forum



Title: The scale up of HPV vaccination in Tanzania: Protecting adolescent Girls against cervical cancer

Highlights

The forum convened experts and stakeholders to address the critical issue of scaling up HPV vaccination in Tanzania, specifically aimed at safeguarding adolescent girls from cervical cancer. With cervical cancer being the leading cause of cancer-related deaths among women in East Africa, this is a matter of paramount concern. In Tanzania, it stands as the most frequent cancer among girls and women aged 15 to 44, leading to a substantial number of diagnoses and tragic deaths attributed to Human Papillomavirus (HPV). The panelists, including esteemed figures in clinical microbiology, public health, and medical research, discussed the Ministry of Health's campaign plan targeting underserved communities and highlighted the importance of multi-sectoral collaborations and innovative strategies in ensuring widespread administration of the life-saving HPV vaccine.

Recommendations

- The panelists recommended a comprehensive public health campaign aimed at educating the public about the significance of the HPV vaccine. This should include clear and accessible information on cervical cancer, the vaccine, and its impact on saving lives, particularly among adolescent girls in Tanzania.
- They emphasized the importance of strategic partnerships and multi-sectoral collaborations, involving educational institutions, healthcare providers, and community leaders, to ensure the effective dissemination of the HPV vaccine, especially in underserved communities.

- The panelists highlighted the need for continued research and data collection to assess the vaccine's impact and inform future strategies for HPV vaccination, with a focus on improving vaccine coverage and accessibility.

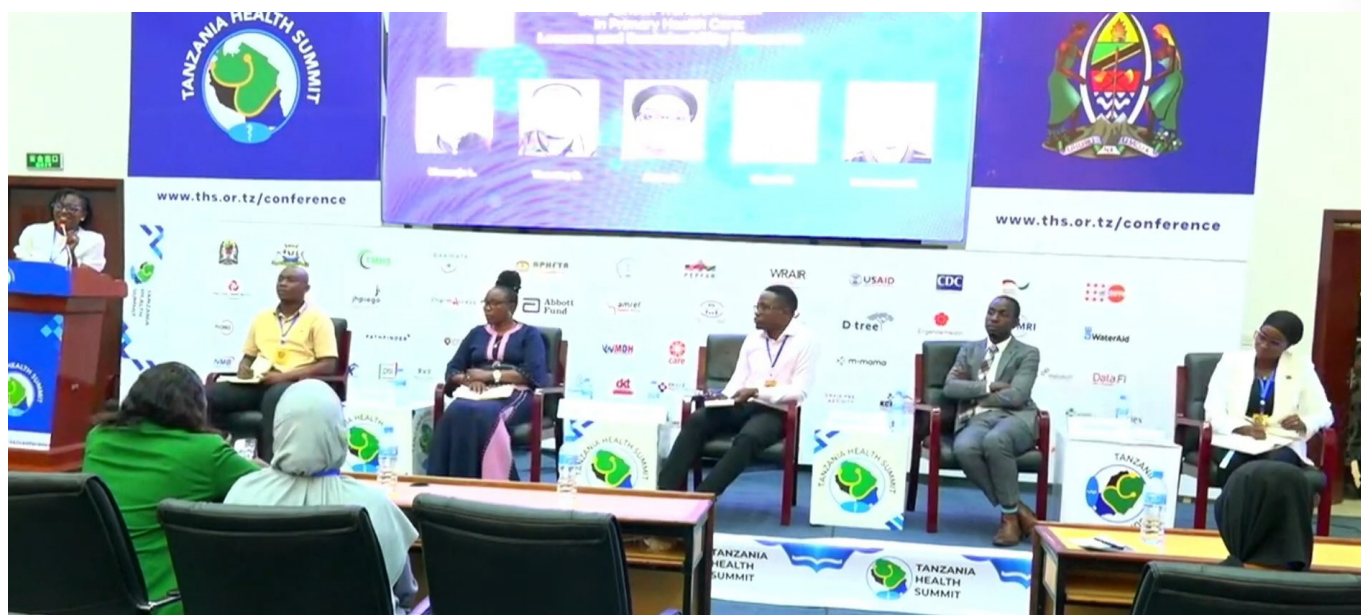
Conclusion



The forum shed light on the urgent need to scale up HPV vaccination in Tanzania, with a specific focus on protecting adolescent girls from cervical cancer. The panelists, including experts in clinical microbiology, public health, and medical research, highlighted the critical role of education, strategic partnerships, and data-driven decision-making in achieving this goal. The dialogue underscores the commitment to saving lives and reducing the burden of cervical cancer, particularly in underserved communities, by ensuring widespread administration of the HPV vaccine.



DATA FI Forum



Forum: Data-Driven Transformation in Primary Health Care: Lessons and Sustainability Measures

Highlights

The Data FI Forum brought together leaders in the analytics field with a common mission: harnessing the transformative power of data to save lives. The forum emphasized the importance of building digital systems, predictive analytics, and adopting a situation room approach to fortify local data systems. Data FI's collaborative work with local partners across over 20 countries, including Tanzania, demonstrated the government's central role in driving implementation. The forum showcased the achievements of Council Health Management Teams (CHMTs) from four councils, illustrating how data-driven insights significantly enhanced their decision-making capabilities and council performance. Moreover, it spotlighted sustainable strategies adopted by these councils to ensure the enduring effectiveness of the Situation Room approach beyond the Data.FI project's duration.

Recommendations

- First, the panelists recommended the widespread adoption of data-driven insights in the healthcare sector, underscoring the tangible benefits witnessed in the improved decision-making processes of CHMTs.
- Second, they proposed that other councils and health management teams consider implementing the Situation Room approach, capitalizing on the available support and expertise from programs like Data.FI.
- Lastly, the panelists stressed the crucial need for long-term sustainability planning, urging councils to devise strategies that guarantee the continuous success of data-driven initiatives, thereby strengthening health systems and advancing Universal Health Coverage.

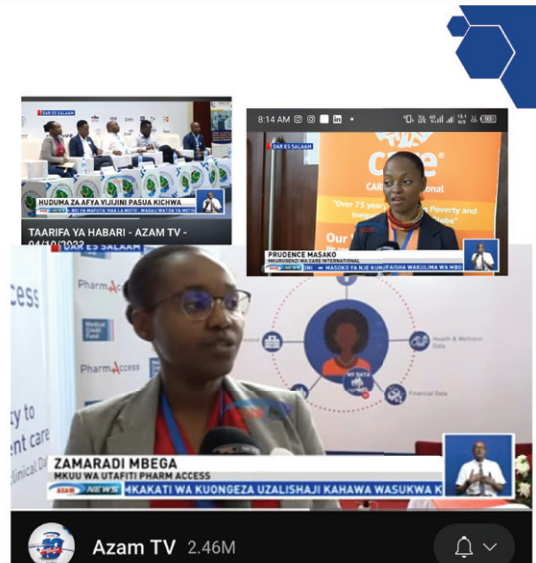
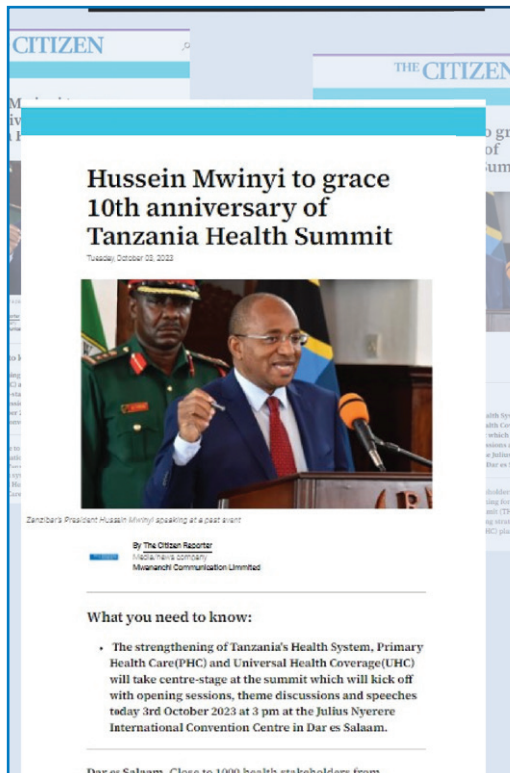
Conclusion



The Data FI Forum highlighted the transformative potential of data and analytics in healthcare, making data-driven insights a central theme. The panel discussion's recommendations focused on promoting the adoption of data-driven decision-making, encouraging the replication of the situation room approach, and underlined the paramount importance of sustainability planning. The utilization of data-driven insights promises to enhance healthcare processes, elevate decision-making capabilities, and ultimately advance universal health coverage. This forum served as a testament to the pivotal role of data in fortifying health systems and shaping the future of primary healthcare in Tanzania.



MEDIA SUMMARY



AZAM TV

Publication
Date

4th October 2023



The 10th Tanzania Health Summit (THS), garnered significant media attention, playing a crucial role in amplifying the summit's key messages. Preceding the event, a media workshop commenced months in advance, with organizers collaborating closely with 26 targeted media outlets. During the summit, journalists covered major events, including opening and closing ceremonies, plenary sessions, and interviews with speakers and attendees.

Key Media Metrics

- Media Coverage: 26
- International Media: 3

Coverage Analysis

The summit achieved a commendable 76.9% media coverage rate, surpassing the previous summit's 73.3% rate achieved through media invitations. The coverage was diverse, involving 7 newspapers, 12 broadcast outlets (TV and radio), and 7 online/digital platforms.

Content Highlights

Media coverage emphasized positive aspects, focusing on key summit issues such as preventive healthcare investment, improved Primary Healthcare access, and strategies for achieving Universal Health Coverage. The media spotlighted THS’s efforts to bring together stakeholders from diverse healthcare sectors to address challenges collaboratively.

Conclusion

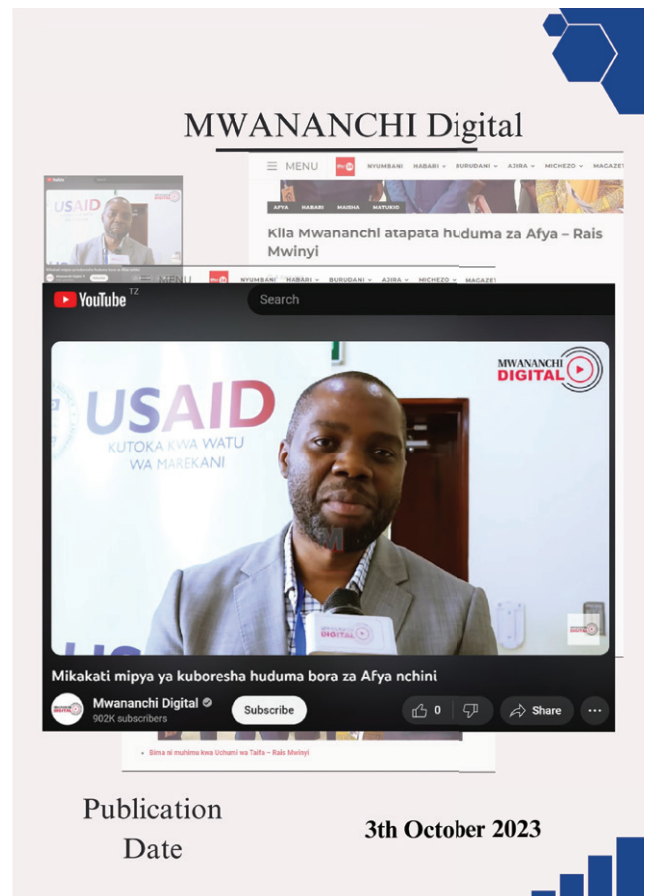
The media’s extensive coverage significantly contributed to the success of the 10th THS, ensuring that its key messages resonated widely. Positive media representation will continue to raise awareness of Tanzanian healthcare challenges and advocate for sustainable solutions. The summit’s impactful coverage opens avenues for continued engagement and collaboration with media partners.



TBC One

Publication Date 3rd October 2023

Headline MIUNDOMBINU YA AFYA KUENDELEA KUBORESHWA



Publication Date 3th October 2023



CLOSING CEREMONY



Guest of Honor: Dr Wilson Mahera -Deputy Permanent Secretary for Health- PORALG

Highlights



During the closing ceremony key discussions revolved around the imperative need for achieving universal healthcare in Tanzania. The importance of enhancing collaboration among stakeholders was emphasized, recognizing that universal healthcare requires a united effort. Establishing a National Public Health Institute was a prominent topic, with the question of when it would become a reality central to the discussion. The critical role of Community Health Workers (CHWs) in the healthcare system was acknowledged, along with the need to invest in their capacity and coordination. Furthermore, the Primary Healthcare (PHC) system, serving over 85% of Tanzanians, was highlighted as a vital platform for healthcare, health promotion, and disease prevention.

Recommendations

- The need for establishing a National Public Health Institute should be expedited to strengthen public health infrastructure.
- Investment in and coordination of Community Health Workers (CHWs) is essential, with plans to hire 53,385 CHWs each year for three years consecutively to address the high demand for their services.
- Stakeholders should continue supporting initiatives to strengthen the Primary Healthcare (PHC) system, which is fundamental to providing comprehensive and quality healthcare services, especially to vulnerable groups.

Conclusion

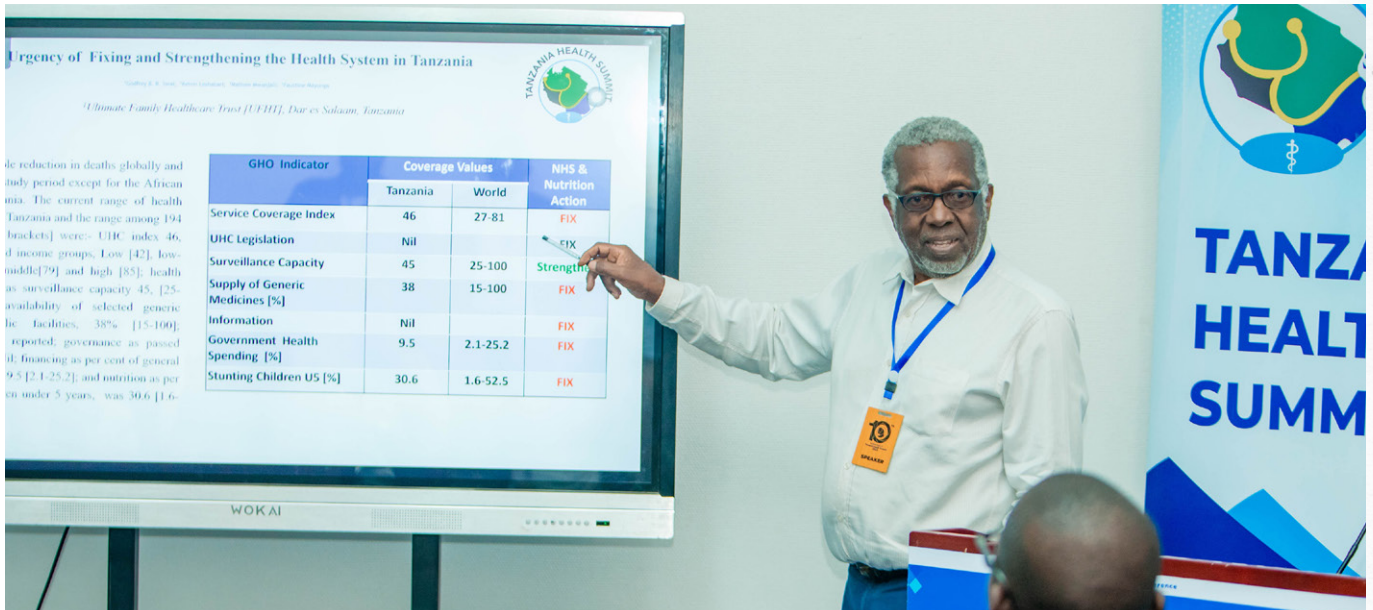


The sessions emphasized the shared responsibility and collaborative efforts needed to achieve universal healthcare in Tanzania. The urgency of establishing a National Public Health Institute and investing in CHWs was underscored, along with the recognition of the vital role played by the Primary Healthcare (PHC) system. These discussions reaffirmed the commitment to advancing public health and healthcare delivery in the country, setting the stage for meaningful progress towards achieving universal healthcare for all Tanzanians.

8. ABSTRACTS

Abstract Presentation

Abstract Submissions; 417



- Accepted for Oral Presentation; 301
- Presented Abstracts: 202 (201 physical, 1 online from Norway)
- Abstracts Judges: 12

9. EXHIBITORS

Summary

- THS Hosted Exhibitors: 46



10. THS AWARDS

- THS HEALTHCARE WORKER'S AWARDS
- CHIA INNOVATION AWARDS
- PEPFAR20 HIV/AIDS CHAMPIONS AWARDS
- BEST ABSTRACTS AWARD



12. WHO IS WHO SESSION

The total number of 6 organisation presented their projects/business in health sector



11. YOCAB AND WORKSHOPS

Youth Capacity Building (YOCAB)



Workshop Details

- Workshop Theme: Empowering Tomorrow's Leaders: Harnessing Transferable Skills for Career Success
- Applications Received: 298 (from 6 African countries)
- Physical Participants: 70
- Online Participants: 30
- Certificates: Awarded to all participants

Mentorship Program

- Participants Selected: 10 based on active workshop participation.

Skills update Workshop

Participants

- Applications Received: 44
- Accepted Participants: 20 (based on profession and need for Chest X-Ray training)



Participant Professions

- Registered Doctors: 6
- Radiologists: 2
- Intern Doctors: 3
- Nurses: 2
- Medical Students: 4
- Public Health Specialists: 3

Modality

- PowerPoint Presentation with Pre and Post-Tests.
- Significant improvement in Chest X-Ray interpretation among participants.

Dar City Walking Tour

- Date: October 6th, 2023
- Tourists: 15



Tour Route

- Starting Point: JNICC
- First Stop: Botanical Gardens
- Second Stop: Ocean Road Hospital
- Third Stop: Magogoni Ferry Fish Market

Participant's Feedback

General Experience Ratings

The general experience received an average rating of 8.36 out of 10, indicating overall satisfaction.

Session Satisfaction Ratings

- Plenary sessions on UHC & PHC received a 92% strong satisfaction rate.
- Opening ceremony satisfaction rate was 98%.
- Virtual experience effectiveness achieved a 90% strong satisfaction rate.
- Timeliness of social media posting and engagement received a 84% strong satisfaction rate.
- Participants' engagement satisfaction rate reached 90%.
- Networking satisfaction rate was 96%.

Suggestions;

- Mentorship in groups and a YOCAB booth for potential investors.
- Innovation initiatives promoting Universal Health Coverage (UHC).
- Emphasis on communication skill and career development

12. ANNEXES

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

1. Dr Chakou Halfan
2. Dr Omary Chillo
3. Beatrice Joseph
4. Dr Mohamed Dahoma
5. Dr James Kengia
6. Rashid Maulid Rashid
7. Joseph Mhagama
8. Dr Mariam Ongara
9. Dr Anzibert Rugakingira
10. Dr Godfrey Kway
11. Innocent Deus
12. Nsiande Urassa
13. Anodi Kaihula

STEERING COMMITTEE NAMES

- Owen Mwandumba
- Frank Kimaro
- Hendry Samky
- Olayce Lotha
- Rebecca Mtengela
- Joyce Mwita
- Lerato Motseki
- Dr David Isaya
- Dr Syriacus Buguzi
- Chayoa Yateri
- Jovitha Mlay
- Anodi Kaihula
- Rashid Mdaki
- Pilly Ndobeji
- Jesca Kimati
- Prof Michael Mahande
- Rehema George
- Ashabilan Ephraim
- Anode Koresha
- King Mwalubandu
- Salma Hassan
- Grace Gathuri
- Patrick Maliyabwana
- Nsiande Urassa
- Innocent Deus
- Lisa Mahozi
- Abdul Mungi
- Dr Charles Wang
- Rehema George
- Neema Charles Magoti
- Dr. Hassan Barnabas
- Monica J

ABSTRACT REVIEWERS

1. Dr. Atiya Mosam
2. Prof. Eligius Lyamuya
3. Prof. Jeremiah Seni
4. Dr. Fredrick Haraka
5. Dr. Jane Rogathi
6. Dr. Susan Atuhairwe
7. Prof. Nazarius Mbona
8. Prof. Henry G Mwambie
9. Prof. Michael Mahande
10. Dr. Allen Kabagenyi
11. Dr. George Kiwango

Abstract oral presentation Judges

1. Dr. Atiya Mosam
2. Prof. Eligius Lyamuya
3. Prof. Jeremiah Seni
4. Dr. Fredrick Haraka
5. Prof. Sylvia Kaaya
6. Dr. Azan Nyundo
7. Prof. Japhet Kilewo
8. Prof. Benjamin Mtinangi
9. Prof. Michael Mahande
10. Prof. Daudi Simba
11. Dr. Moke Magoma
12. Dr. George Kiwango

**10TH TANZANIA HEALTH SUMMIT
JNICC, DAR ES SALAAM
OCTOBER 3-5, 2023**



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