



CONCEPT NOTE

Building Health Sovereignty and Strengthening
Health Systems in a Changing Global Order

Date: October 5th - 7th, 2026

Venue: Mlimani City Conference Centre, Dar es Salaam

BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

Tanzania Health Summit (THS) is the largest annual healthcare platform in Tanzania and one of the most influential forums in East and Central Africa for health policy, public-private dialogue, innovation acceleration, research dissemination, and multi-stakeholder collaboration. Founded in May 2014 as a non-profit initiative to improve healthcare access and outcomes, THS has consistently expanded its reach, impact, and strategic relevance over the past decade, evolving into a flagship convening for health systems transformation.

Between 2021 and 2025, THS has progressively grown both in scope and scale:

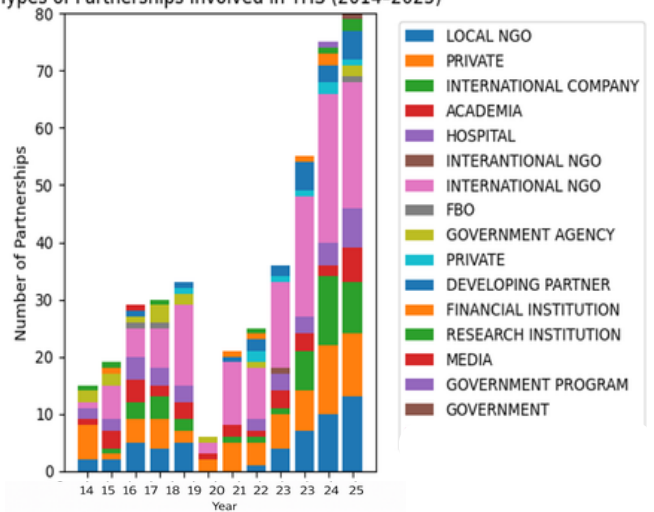
THS 2025 (12th Summit) convened from **1st-3rd October 2025** at the **Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre (JNICC)** in Dar es Salaam, bringing together:-

- 1,740+ Registered Delegates,
- 36 Partner-led forums,
- 2 Plenary sessions,
- 1 CEO Roundtable, and
- 53 Exhibition Booths.

Over the past five years, average annual participation increased from approximately **558 delegates** to over **1,800 delegates**, with international participation rising from an average of **15** to more than **250 international delegates** from over 25 countries.

Tanzania Health Summit (THS) has institutionalized a diverse program portfolio, including **197+ peer-reviewed research presentations** annually (up from an average of 90 previously), structured policy debates, technology showcases, youth capacity building (**YOCAB – 100 youth annually**), innovation awards (**CHIA – 40–50 innovations** submitted annually, with the top 3 supported through mentorship), national healthcare awards (13 award categories with 250+ nominations annually), large-scale health expos (50+ exhibitions), and targeted symposia for community health workers (CHWs) and district medical officers (DMOs).

Types of Partnerships Involved in THS (2014-2025)



THS 2026 IN NUMBERS



PARTICIPATION & REACH

- 2,000+ Total Delegates (projected)
- 25+ Countries Represented
- 60% National / 40% International Delegation Mix
- 250+ High-Level Speakers & Panelists
- 350+ Institutions Represented (Government, NGOs, Private Sector, Academia)



POLICY & DECISION-MAKERS

- 10+ Ministers & Deputy Ministers
- 20+ Permanent Secretaries, Directors & Agency Heads
- Regional & Multilateral Bodies: EAC, Africa CDC, UN Agencies
- High-Level CEO Roundtable: 30–40 senior executives



PROGRAM CONTENT

- 3 Keynote Sessions
- 1 High-Level Diplomatic & Climate Dialogue
- 40+ Thematic Sessions & Panels
- 1 Youth Capacity Building Workshop
- Healthcare Awards Ceremony
- Central Topics:
 1. Digital Health & AI
 2. NCDs & Pandemic Preparedness
 3. Health Financing & UHC
 4. Climate, Diplomacy & Health Security
 5. Health Industrialization & Local Manufacturing



RESEARCH, INNOVATION & KNOWLEDGE

- 200+ Abstracts Presented (academia & implementers)
- Health Innovation Awards
 - 3 Youth Innovations Showcased (CHIA)
 - 13 awards to healthcare professionals

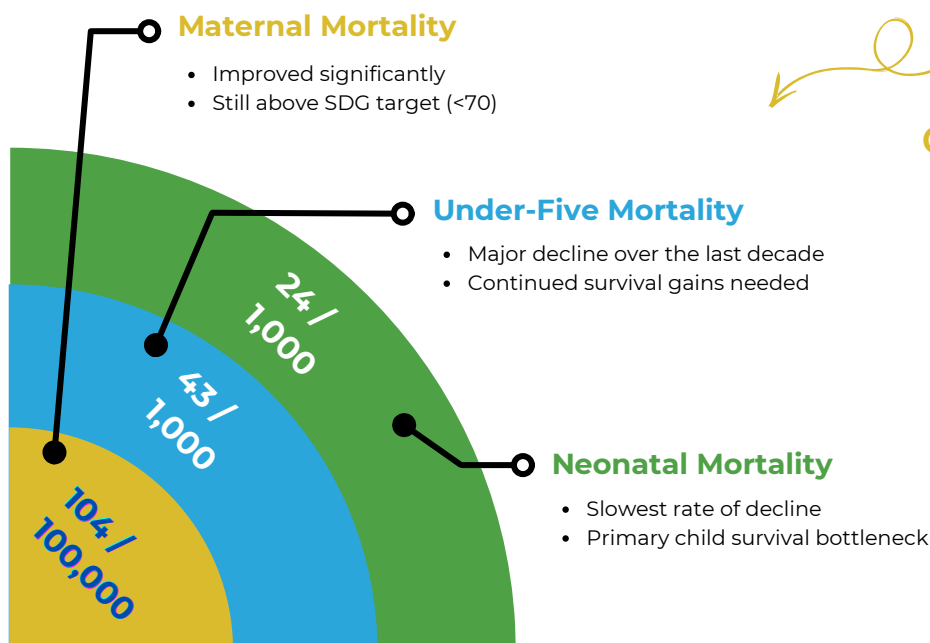


HEALTH CONTEXT: TANZANIA & GLOBAL IMPERATIVES

Global Health Nexus

Globally, health systems are entering a post-aid transition marked by declining development assistance, shifting geopolitical priorities, and increasing pressure on domestic financing. In this context, THS serves as a strategic convening platform for rethinking health financing, sovereignty, innovation, and resilience in a rapidly changing global order.

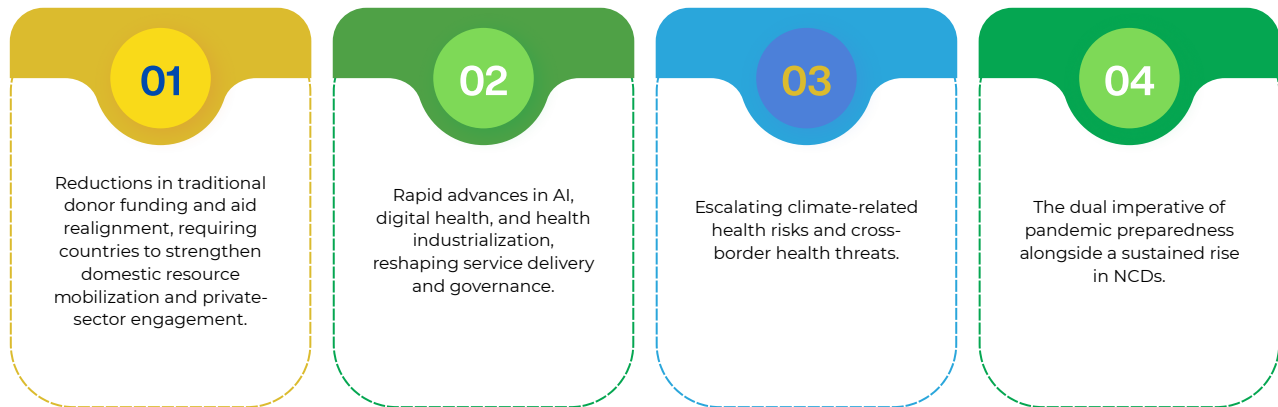
- Tanzania has an estimated population of approximately **60 million people (2022)**, reflecting a rapidly growing and youthful demographic structure. This population growth continues to increase demand for accessible, equitable, and quality health services nationwide.
- Life expectancy has improved in recent years, indicating progress in disease control efforts, expansion of primary health care services, and strengthened public health interventions.
- However, despite these gains, Tanzania continues to face a triple burden of disease. **Communicable diseases** such as malaria, HIV, and tuberculosis remain significant contributors to morbidity and mortality. At the same time, the country is experiencing a rapid rise in **non-communicable diseases (NCDs)**, including cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, cancers, and chronic respiratory conditions. Additionally, persistent **maternal, newborn, and child health challenges** continue to affect survival and long-term health outcomes.
- Addressing this complex epidemiological landscape requires integrated, system-wide approaches that strengthen prevention, early detection, and quality care delivery across all levels of the health system.



Key Health Indicators in Context of Policy Priorities

JUSTIFICATION AND STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE

THS 2026 responds directly to dynamic global health pressures, including;



Under the theme **“Building Health Sovereignty and Strengthening Health Systems in a Changing Global Order,”** the Summit will function as a policy and investment incubator, enabling stakeholders to shift from aid-dependence toward country-led, sustainable health system models.

Specifically, the Summit will:

- **Amplify health sovereignty** — supporting countries, institutions, and communities to design and lead context-specific, sustainable health solutions.
- **Mobilize public-private partnerships** — engaging insurers, manufacturers, hospitals, technology firms, and financiers through 40 structured forums and a high-level CEO Roundtable.
- **Catalyze innovation adoption** — accelerating the uptake of AI, digital health systems, local manufacturing, and predictive analytics through innovation showcases and CHIA awards.
- **Strengthen health systems resilience** — addressing governance, workforce development (including institutionalized integrated and coordinated CHW forums), service delivery, supply chains, and emergency preparedness.



SUMMIT STRUCTURE & THEMATIC FOCUS AREAS



THEME: “Building Health Sovereignty and Strengthening Health Systems in a Changing Global Order,”

Keynotes and High-Level Sessions



Keynote 1

Global Healthcare AI, Digitalization and Industrialization Strategy for Growth and Security



Keynote 2

How Health Systems Can Simultaneously Prepare for Pandemics and the NCD Surge



High-level Meeting

Health Beyond Borders: Climate Change, Diplomacy and Global Negotiations



THS 2026 RESULTS FRAMEWORK

Results Level & Timeframe	Outcome / Impact Statement	Key Indicators
LONG-TERM IMPACT (5+ Years)	Health systems demonstrate greater self-reliance, resilience, and sovereignty through sustained domestic leadership, institutionalized innovation, and integrated preparedness for pandemics, climate risks, and NCDs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased domestic financing share for priority health services (esp. PHC) Progress toward UHC service coverage and financial protection indicators National systems capable of rapid response to health shocks
LONG-TERM OUTCOME (3-5 Years)	Innovation ecosystems are institutionalized within national health systems, enabling continuous adaptation and scale rather than isolated pilots.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number and proportion of innovations integrated into national or sub-national programs CHIA-supported innovations scaled beyond pilot phase
	Frontline service delivery systems, including CHWs and district leadership, operate in a coordinated, data-enabled manner.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Functional CHW coordination frameworks Improved district-level performance indicators (coverage, quality, timeliness)
MEDIUM-TERM OUTCOME (1-3 Years)	National and sub-national institutions demonstrate stronger capacity for data-driven decision-making in health financing, governance, and performance management.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased use of HMIS, analytics, and dashboards in planning Number of policies and strategies informed by evidence
	Donor, private sector, and domestic investments are better aligned, reducing duplication and increasing value for money.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of co-financed or pooled initiatives Reduced overlap across major programs
	High-impact, evidence-based innovations transition from pilots to scale within national systems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of pilots transitioned to scale Adoption rate of validated innovations

Results Level & Timeframe	Outcome / Impact Statement	Key Indicators
SHORT-TERM OUTCOME (0-12 Months)	Actionable policy, technical, and implementation outputs produced and actively used by decision-makers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of policy briefs, roadmaps, and technical recommendations produced Evidence of uptake or endorsement
	Structured partnerships and formal MoUs established to accelerate implementation of proven interventions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of MoUs signed Joint action plans developed
	Investment-ready pipelines for digital health, workforce strengthening, and service delivery innovations established.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of innovations presented to investors Number of follow-up investment discussions







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**TANZANIA
HEALTH
SUMMIT**
2026



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