Enhancing youth employability through expanded digital skills and resilient learning opportunities in Tanzania's higher education sector

AUGUST 2026

THE WORLD BANK

1. Introduction to Participant Selection Criteria

The Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MoEST) is implementing a pilot project titled ***"Enhancing Youth Employability through Expanded Digital Skills and Resilient Learning Opportunities in Tanzania's Higher Education Sector,"*** across selected Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), and vocational centres in both Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar.

The success of this pilot depends on the careful selection of participants who can meaningfully benefit from, contribute to, and sustain the project's digital skills and EdTech interventions. The selection criteria are therefore designed to ensure equity, relevance, gender inclusion (with particular focus on young women and girls), and practical impact.

Across the five higher learning institutions and one vocational centre participating in this pilot, Dar es Salaam Institute of Technology (DIT), VETA Dodoma, State University of Zanzibar (SUZA), Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA), Institute of Accountancy Arusha (IAA), and Mbeya University of Science and Technology (MUST), participants will be selected to reflect diverse economic, cultural and academic backgrounds as well as digital readiness levels. This approach will ensure that the pilot project generates scalable and evidence-based lessons for strengthening digital skills development nationwide.

2. General Eligibility Criteria (Applicable to All Participants)

Participants must meet the following minimum criteria:

a) Must be able to attend physically;
b) Must commit to actively participate in the training for all the days;
c) Must commit to participate in mentoring, pilot activities, and evaluations;
d) Must commit to knowledge sharing and peer learning within their institution/ organization or surrounding communities.

3. Special consideration will be given to:

a) Participants from underserved or rural areas
b) Persons with disabilities, where feasible and appropriate
c) Young women and girls

4. Selection Criteria

Target Participants

a) Youth entrepreneurs and/or small business owners;
b) Youth, aged between 18 and 35 from Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar;
c) Have access to a digital device (laptop/tablet/smartphone);
d) Must commit to act as digital champions or peer trainers in their organizations or to the communities they are coming from.

The Institutions will ensure:

a) Gender balance, with special consideration to female participants;
b) Representation from diverse cultural and livelihood groups.

5. How to Apply

Interested and eligible participants diverse cultural and livelihood groups are invited to apply to participate in the pilot initiative under the project. The application process is designed to be transparent, inclusive, and aligned with the project's objectives of equity, gender inclusion, and practical impact.

Application Procedure

a) Required Application Information: Each application must include the following information:

(i) **Personal and/or Institutional Details:** Full name, gender, age, affiliation to an institution/organization and indicate the type of business (*where applicable*).

(ii) **Digital Readiness:** Must have an access to a digital device (laptop, tablet, or smartphone).

(iii) **Proof of residence:** The applicant must submit a letter from local government authority/village/Street or Sheha leadership as evidence of residence, together with a valid identification card, such as a National ID, ZanID, or Electoral ID.

(iv) **Commitment**: Commitment for participation, mentorship and knowledge-sharing and peer learning shall be accomplished by filling in a specially prepared application form.

(v) **Certificate of completion:** Participants who attend at least 80% of the training sessions will receive a Certificate of Completion recognized by Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MoEST) of Tanzania.

b) Selection and Notification

Applications will be reviewed based on the established eligibility and selection criteria, with special consideration given to young women and girls, participants from underserved or rural areas, and persons with disabilities. Shortlisted applicants will be notified through their emails and/or their mobile phone numbers.

c) Training time and location

The training will be conducted in each institution from 7th to 11th September, 2026 from 8AM to 4PM.

d) Submission Channel and Deadline

Applicants are advised to complete the online application form accurately through the following link: https://surl.li/ercaip

The submission deadline is **30th August 2026**