



IMPACT REPORT

A health, wealthy, and equitable Tanzania for all.

Ifakara Innovation Hub

2019 - 2024



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Since its inception in 2019, Ifakara Innovation Hub (IIH) has been a catalyst for innovation and social impact, fostering a transformative ecosystem that addresses the socio-economic and healthcare challenges facing rural Tanzania. Strategically positioned in Kilombero, IIH serves as a vital platform where local entrepreneurs, innovators, and stakeholders converge to create solutions that empower communities, uplift livelihoods, and drive sustainable growth. Our mission centres on empowering youth and women to develop impactful, locally relevant innovations through capacitation, mentorship, and strategic partnerships.

Over the past five years, IIH has supported over 200 entrepreneurs and nurtured more than 21 innovative ideas from concept to **commercial ready**. Our two main portfolios, the Rural Livelihood Portfolio and the Health Portfolio drive our **efforts** to create equitable access to wealth and healthcare. By integrating state-of-the-art facilities, robust training programs, seed funding, and community outreach, we have cultivated an environment where innovators can thrive. Through collaborations with local

maker spaces, academic institutions, and development partners, we have built an extensive support network that amplifies our mission and impact.

Our journey is marked by significant achievements, including the establishment of critical partnerships, launching innovation programs, and creating a co-working space that has become a nexus of collaboration. This report highlights the lessons learned, stories of transformation, and the pivotal role our partners play in advancing our vision of a healthy, wealthy, and equitable Tanzania. As we look to the future, IIH remains committed to expanding its reach, enhancing its capacity, and continually evolving to meet the needs of the communities we serve.



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The hub works through partnerships with maker spaces that help innovators in prototyping. They (makerspaces) provide their expertise and we learn from each other which makes it easy to work towards our shared goals.





Through the hub, I have been able to communicate my idea to my target audience clearly within a short duration. [The hub] has taught me how to brand my idea through social media and has equipped me with financial skills.

INTRODUCTION

The Ifakara Innovation Hub (IIH) is a vibrant community that promotes innovation and entrepreneurship in Tanzania, especially in rural areas. The hub empowers youth and women to come up with solutions that address societal challenges and contribute to the socio-economic advancement of rural Tanzania. The hub envisions a Tanzania where everyone has equal access to health and wealth. We aim to reach this vision by supporting locally relevant solutions through capacitation, mentorship, collaboration and resource mobilisation.

The hub is strategically located in the heart of Kilombero, in Ifakara-Morogoro, to expand the Tanzania innovation ecosystem to rural areas. Our physical space in Ifakara has been a pinnacle for entrepreneurship. Our hub provides co-working space and necessary resources for supporting innovations and solution development.

Moreover, our existence within the prestigious Ifakara Cluster community, consisting of seven (07) health and research institutions, complements what we do. Together, we have

established a strategic partnership that elevates health outcomes in the Kilombero Valley and Tanzania at large.

Collaboration is at the core of who we are that is why we work closely with academia, the private sector, government agencies and development partners. We have established a collaboration framework with maker spaces in Tanzania (e.g., Robotech and BongoTech); this is part of our support for developing medical device solutions. The intention is to maximise the existing resources and strengthen the capability of the maker spaces to provide better services to innovators. At the regional and global level, we have partnership agreements with like-minded organisations such as the University of Basel, the Essential Tech Centre of EPFL from Switzerland, and Villgro Africa from Kenya. We are also a member of AfriLabs -a network that builds African community technology hubs.



OUR JOURNEY

The idea of establishing a centre where research can be transformed into a tangible solution was first conceptualised in 2019 to empower and support entrepreneurship and address societal challenges in Kilombero. With support from our donors the Embassy of Switzerland in Tanzania and Foundation Botnar, we were on a mission to transform these ideas into marketable products. With operations beginning in 2020, we identified three strategic priorities:



Support innovators and entrepreneurs in transforming their innovations for livelihoods and health into marketable products and services.



Strengthen the IIH's institutional capacity and sustainability.



Enhance innovation ecosystems to ensure the flourishing of innovation and social entrepreneurship.



Our Journey in 2019



Our Journey Now

Five years later, IIH has marked significant strides in advancing the socio-economic development of women and youth through innovation and technology. Over 200+ entrepreneurs have passed through our programs, and over 21 innovative ideas have been transformed from idea to commercialization. By fostering a culture of collaboration and entrepreneurship, we strive to create sustainable solutions that empower individuals and uplift entire communities. Our dedication to inclusivity and sustainability drives us forward as we work towards a future where every member of society has the opportunity to thrive and prosper.

OUR TIMELINE

- The inception of the hub. Hosted by the Ifakara Health Institute (IHI). Funded by the Embassy of Switzerland in Tanzania and Fondation Botnar.

2019

2020

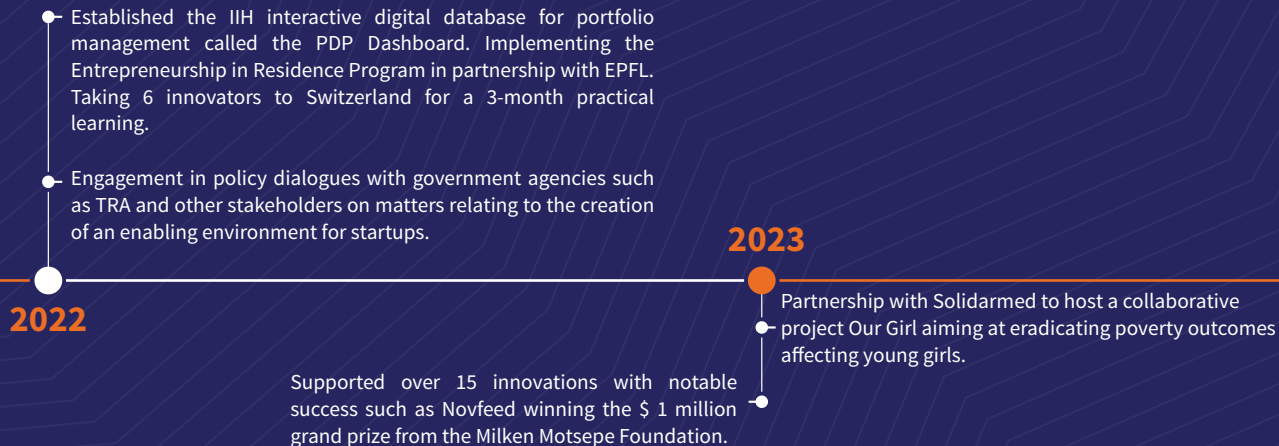
- Opening the IIH co-working space in Ifakara that will encourage collaboration and solution development.
- Launching the first Ifakara Hackathon with a focus on public health, nutrition, and food security. Two startups won the challenge and entered the support pipeline: Novfeed and Dada Lead.
- IIH conducted the Ifakara Idea marathon in collaboration with IHI and EPFL. The program provided a platform for 64 aspiring innovators to generate and improve their innovative ideas to solve health challenges.
- The Ifakara Bootcamp for Essential Medical and Health Innovation was held, with 10 innovators pitching their solutions. The first cohort of 6 health innovators was selected forming the PDP portfolio.

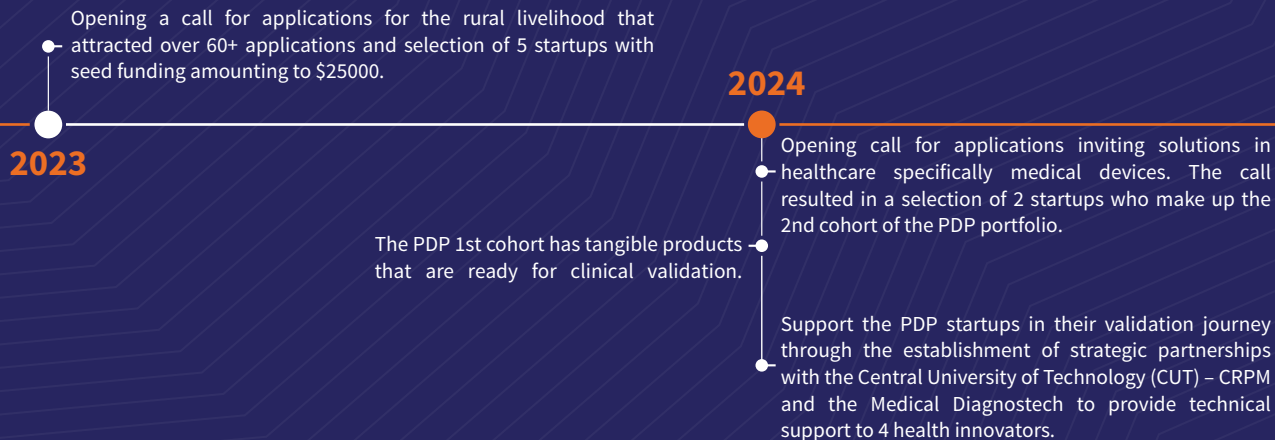
2021

- Conducted the first PDP symposium in Dar es Salaam. Inviting over 100 stakeholders from health including the government authorities, innovators, partners and key stakeholders.
- Conducted another Ifakara Hackathon that called for innovators with solutions in public health. 3 innovators were selected and enrolled in the IIH rural livelihood portfolio.
- Successfully narrowed down the existing gap between rural and urban innovation structures.

2022

- Establishment and capacitation of three maker spaces and design studios (Bongotech, Robotech and the IIH Fab lab) equipped with technical resources for product development.





Enhance exchange program for our inhouse startups such as Lab X who benefited from a 3-week internship at the University Hospital of Basel and FHNW. This program wasco-financed with the R. Geigy Foundation and the Ifakara Innovation Hub.

Development of the Mama Check rapid Diagnostic test, where by Mama Check was hosted at the Medical Diagnostech facility in South Africa for two months of training and capacity building on advancing diagnostic technologies .

Inviting the first cohort of the IIH Alumni network. These are startups that have successfully commercialized and transitioned from idea to market-ready products.



“ We continuously learn
from our
stakeholders ”
to serve the better

DEFINING IMPACT



what we do

At the hub, every action we take is measured by its ability to create a positive change. We prioritise initiatives that promise substantial and sustainable improvements in the socio-economic landscape of rural Tanzania. Our tangible impacts on communities, businesses and lives define our success. With experience working with hundreds of entrepreneurs and innovators through our support and guidance to address societal challenges, here is how we define impact.



Local entrepreneurs in Kilombero are provided with the necessary human skills that help their businesses. We do frequent training with entrepreneurs on design thinking business development and marketing.

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In turn, we defined impact through cultivating and implementing local economic strategies for the entrepreneurs. And for them to impact the lives of individual in the communities through their solutions.

We are dedicated to providing essential support and guidance to both young individuals and women to address societal challenges, especially for rural setups by cultivating and implementing impactful local economic strategies. Through the provision of vital resources and specialized technical aid, we assist in fostering an environment conducive to sustainable wealth generation via innovative business solutions.

As a result, we have worked with over a hundred individual to provide them with business skills essential to kick-start their business. We have worked with 20+ startups who we started by grooming their solutions from just an idea to an actual tangible product ready for impact. Our approach has always been collaborating and encouraging co-working to foster solution development.

SUMMARY

521



Local entrepreneurs
engaged in trainings,
workshops and
outreaches.

21



Innovators incubated

9



Solutions developed

5



Projects that scaled up

HOW WE DO IT

Development takes time; some places are quicker than others. In most cases, urban dwellers benefit more from the many advancements, including technology and access to resources, compared to rural dwellers. Communities with limited resources are affected by the rural-urban development disparities in two ways;

01

In most low-income countries, access to essential medical technologies is limited. This varies significantly between urban and rural areas due to infrastructure limitations and geographic isolation. As a result, most medical equipments are imported, which results in health services being expensive or not available in rural settings.

02

In Tanzania, 62.5% of the total population resides in rural areas. In rural areas, the major economic activities are agricultural activities or small businesses and informal works. The existing gap is that the limited resources cause a skill gap, forcing rural dwellers to engage in subsistence farming, leading to economic instability and hindering skill development, trapping them in poverty.

At Ifakara Innovation Hub, we firmly believe that innovation, entrepreneurship, and technological advancement are key drivers of development. This belief shapes our mission and is the reason we are strategically located in Ifakara, a remote town in the heart of Kilombero, Morogoro. From this vantage point, we aim to drive socio-economic progress in rural Tanzania, bridging the significant gap between rural and urban areas. Through our two (02) core portfolios, we implement initiatives that empower communities, foster local solutions, and create opportunities for sustainable growth. By focusing on these efforts, we ensure that innovation is not just a tool for change but a means to uplift underserved regions and improve lives.

Rural Livelihood Portfolio

Our mission to foster socio-economic development is guided by core values that we integrate into every project. We are committed to ensuring equitable access to wealth through innovation. By leveraging technology and creativity, we aim to develop sustainable solutions that empower communities and improve livelihoods. Sustainability remains at the heart of all our initiatives. Our efforts focus on supporting innovations that directly enhance the livelihoods of rural communities. Recognizing that rural populations are predominantly engaged in agriculture and small businesses, we prioritize these areas to maximize impact. By targeting these economic activities, we strive to add value and create opportunities that contribute to the long-term development and prosperity of these communities.

Health Portfolio

Our health portfolio addresses the critical issue of limited access to proper healthcare and essential medical equipment. We are dedicated to improving healthcare accessibility through innovative solutions. Our mission is centered on developing technologies that connect underserved communities with vital resources, empowering individuals with knowledge to practice self-care, adopt preventive health measures, and lead healthier lives. Collaborating with a network of partners has been instrumental in achieving significant progress. Together, we have established the Product Development Partnership (PDP) to capacitate the development of health solutions to the market.



OUR PROGRAM

State-of-the-art machinery: Heavily equipped maker spaces with machinery and tools to enable our innovators to build homegrown products that are fit for use while adhering to international and local standards.

Residency Program: The Ifakara Innovation Hub Residency Program supports entrepreneurs with mentorship, workshops, and access to facilities, fostering innovation and growth. It connects participants with industry experts and investors to develop impactful solutions for socio-economic challenges in rural Tanzania.

Community Outreach: At IIH, we are devoted to engaging our community as much as possible. The Ifakara community outreach program is intended to raise awareness of our services and facilities in order to encourage long-term innovations driven by market needs.

Skills training and mentorship program: IIH offers training on business development, product design testing, clinical knowledge, and regulatory requirements to create standard equipment. We provide innovators with enough skills and resources to navigate through from idea and product to business development.

Grant Fund: IIH empowers innovators with brilliant ideas by offering financial assistance through seed funding to help innovators turn their visions into reality and bring out substantial change.



CHALLENGES & LESSON LEARNT

Over the past years, the road to success has been nothing short of a journey of progressive learning that required adaptability, flexibility and innovative problem-solving.

As demand for IIH's services continues to increase to accommodate both our portfolios and the program in general, that has called for the implementation of strategic measures such as resource mobilisation and forming partnerships. By so doing, IIH has made significant progress in sustaining its program and extending its reach.

Working with disruptive problem solvers and innovators with groundbreaking solutions that constantly challenge our traditional systems, particularly in the field of medical device development. We've had to navigate the complex regulatory frameworks so as to reach the vision of developing local solutions for local problems. While the process posed delays in the development of medical devices, we have been keen to actively engage policy makers and regulatory bodies to create supportive environment for innovators and solution development.

Lastly, engaging a diverse range of stakeholders required careful alignment of objectives. We overcome this by making sure that we adopted a comprehensive communication strategy, fostering collaboration and ensuring shared goals with our partners and stakeholders are visible through all our platforms. This called for the IIH rebranding to make sure that we communicate with our partners better without leaving anyone behind.

Over the last five years, the challenges we have faced have not only tested our resilience but also strengthened our ability to innovate and adapt. We have come to understand the immense value of strategic partnerships, proactive communication, and flexibility in the face of uncertainty. These lessons have shaped how we approach problem-solving and reinforced our commitment to fostering an inclusive and supportive ecosystem for innovation. As we move forward, these experiences continue to guide us, ensuring that IIH remains a dynamic, adaptive, and impactful force in the development of sustainable solutions.

MEET THE STARTUPS

When asked what drives us to do what we do, we think about the difference we can make just by taking action. The journey of transformation—from identifying a pressing problem to nurturing an idea into a solution that addresses it—is nothing short of extraordinary. At IIH, we are inspired daily by the vision and resilience of startups and entrepreneurs who dare to dream of solving the challenges within their communities. Their passion and determination fuel our mission to empower them to create scalable, impactful solutions that touch lives, one step at a time.

Our collaborations go beyond developing solutions. We believe in forming meaningful connections with the startups we work with, offering coaching, mentorship, and ongoing support to help them continue refining and growing their ideas. These relationships are built on trust, mutual learning, and a shared commitment to creating transformative impact. By investing in their growth, we aim to equip these entrepreneurs with the tools and knowledge they need to navigate challenges and deliver real change in their communities.

In this section, we proudly introduce the startups that are currently in our pipeline. These teams are behind groundbreaking solutions that are truly game-changing. Many of them began their journey with little more than an early-stage prototype, yet their commitment and perseverance have been nothing short of inspiring. Their willingness to overcome challenges and refine their ideas shows their unwavering dedication to creating an impact. Together, we share a vision: to see their solutions reach the market, where they can bring about the change they were designed to achieve. By working hand-in-hand with these remarkable innovators, we believe in our shared capacity to catalyze development and build a better future for all.



Startup name: SandC Technology Company Limited

Product: Leo Leo App

Location: Mbeya, Tanzania

Industry: Agritech

Achievement:

- 🕒 Established since 2022
- 🕒 Development of the LeoLeo App that is already been tested by the users
- 🕒 They have managed to raise upto 23 MillionTZS
- 🕒 They application has a total of 1,556 users.
- 🕒 In 2023, SandC Technology won the Tigo Hackathon.





SandC Technology became part of the Ifakara Innovation Hub in 2023 as the third cohort in the Rural Livelihood Portfolio, following a successful bootcamp. Their flagship product, the LeoLeo App, is designed to empower farmers and vendors by facilitating digital inclusion and improving access to markets for agricultural products. The app provides real-time market prices, connects farmers with buyers, and enables users to track their business performance.

Through the IIH incubation program, SandC received a \$5,000 grant to support market research and business development. Since then, the app has gained significant traction, with 1,556 active subscribers across three regions, comprising both farmers and vendors. With plans to expand to nine regions in Tanzania, LeoLeo is set to make a broader impact on agricultural livelihoods.

A key milestone for LeoLeo has been its partnerships with Tigo and Azam Pesa, enabling the app to provide additional services such as loans and seamless financial transactions. These partnerships enhance the quality and range of services available to subscribers, contributing to increased financial inclusion and improved economic outcomes for farmers and vendors.

Startup name: Mchongoo Company Limited

Product: Mchongoo

Location: Dar Es Salaam

Industry: Human Resources and Consulting

Achievement:

- ➡ Established since 2022
- ➡ Mchongoo app is available for download on android and iOS.
- ➡ Have a total number of users making 270+ users of the platform.





Julius David, the founder of Mchongoo prides himself on creating a platform that offers more than just application. The platform offers meaningful connections between clients and service providers by understanding the individual behind the service.

Mchongoo was founded in 2021 as a platform that simplifies the hiring process. This digital platform is on a mission to revolutionise the job market in Tanzania by offering a wide range of industries and services that everyone can leverage, from freelancers to job seekers to employers.

In 2023, we (IIH) joined Mchongoo to work on their vision. The team was awarded 5000 USD as seed funding with the main goal to develop a viable product and accelerate to the market. This facilitated the development of the Mchongoo application in both iOS and Android.

Mchongoo has shown that nothing can stop them, and although the app has not yet been released, the team are still offering opportunities to job seekers, on-call, and USSD. When asked what they are looking forward to, Julius said they were looking forward to launching the application to the public for testing and, later on, commercialisation.

Startup name: Afya ya Mnyama Digital Limited

Product: Mnyama Check Platform

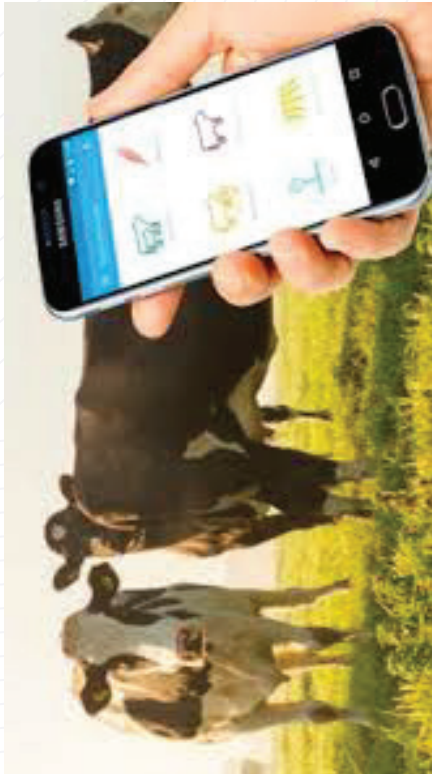
Location: Morogoro

Industry: Agritech (Livestock and Fishery)

Achievement:

- ➡ Established the Mnyama Check Platform
- ➡ Pilot the platform in a few selected farms
- ➡ Recognized as the Best startup of the year under Global startup Awards 2024.





AMDL

Afya ya Mnyama Digital (AMDL) is a platform that is digitizing the livestock and fishery sector in Tanzania. The platform offers a solution to farmers whereby the application monitors animal health, market health and financial and insurance services.

The company was established in 2023, and with their flagship project “Mnyama Check” , we (IIH) where joined the team to facilitate the development of the platform as a solutions to livestock keepers challenges. AMDL was part of our third cohort in 2023. The team was awarded 5000 USD as seed funding and together we aimed to establish the platform, for testing and launching.

To date, the AMDL has developed a functioning platform that provides data to the users on the health of their livestock, track movements and animal reproduction. The system is now being tested on selected farms and AMDL is still collecting feedback and recording real time data through the platform.

Moreover, AMDL was awarded as the Best startup of the year under Global startup Awards 2024. The startup was also funded by HUAWEI and Vodacom to visit to China to learn from leading technology companies.

Startup name: WOTe Stove

Product: WOTe

Location: Mwanza

Industry: Clean energy and waste management

Achievement:

- Establish a waste filtering facility with capacity to filter 1,000 litres daily.
- Develop an advanced prototype with added features for efficiency.
- Successfully tested the emission released from the stove ensuring environmental and human safety.





WOTe Stove is a pioneering social enterprise dedicated to providing eco-friendly, energy-efficient cooking solutions. The stove uses recycled cooking fuel derived from waste oil and other clean alternatives like ethanol gel. The innovative approach promotes clean cooking practices, reducing environmental impact and improving household energy efficiency. By addressing the challenges of high fuel costs and pollution, WOTe Stove aims to make sustainable cooking accessible to underserved communities.

WOTe Stove joined the IIH incubation in 2023 whereby they were awarded 5000 USD to work on the development of a most viable product of the stove. Now, WOTe stove has developed a filtering system, developed an advance stove with added features, and tested the performance of the product.

The impact of WOTe Stove's extends beyond economic benefits. By recycling waste oils and reducing reliance on firewood and charcoal, Their clean-burning fuel significantly reduces smoke emissions, improving indoor air quality and lowering health risks, particularly respiratory issues. As they prepare to launch their products in the market, WOTe Stove is poised to transform cooking practices in Tanzania, promoting energy inclusion and sustainable development in the communities they serve.

Startup name: Nyahende Company Limited

Product: Portable ventilator with an Ambu bag.

Location: Arusha

Industry: Medical Device

Achievement:

- ➡ Successfully developed a working prototype for the baby warmer.
- ➡ Successfully performed lab testing for the devices.
- ➡ Certified and Patented devices
- ➡ The device is registered by TMDA
- ➡ Raised 22,000,000 TZS from the government.





Nyahende Baby Incubator is an innovative, affordable and locally manufactured solution that aims to help to provide neonatal care. The Nyahende Baby incubator consists of a portable ventilator and an Ambu bag offering a user friendly equipment that requires minimal training for operation, making it an accessible option for health facilities even in remote areas.

Nyahende joined the IIH incubation after being selected as the second cohort in the PDP Health portfolio, where he was awarded \$5000 with a mission to facilitate the product to undergo clinical trials before mass manufacturing. Moreover, the product already holds a certification from the Tanzania Medicine and Medical Device Authority (TMDA), and patent right, a significant milestone in its journey to market.

Nyahende aspires establishing a medical device manufacturing facility to produce other local designs for healthcare solutions. This exemplifies the impact of local ingenuity in addressing pressing healthcare challenges. Fun Fact: Nyahende named the incubator after himself, proving that when you create something this good, you have every right to put your name on it!

Startup name: Afya Lead Limited

Product: Mkanda Salama

Location: Dar Es Salaam

Industry: Medical Device

Achievement:

- Developed a postpartum hemorrhage (PPH) device to reduce risk of maternal death due to PPH.
- Managed to perform laboratory trials on the functionality of the device.
- Received funding from COSTECH, Villgro Africa and Vodacom Accelerator





Afya Lead is a startup dedicated to revolutionising the way healthcare is delivered, making it more accessible, efficient and effective for all. One of their solution, Mkanda Salama, is a user-friendly device aiming to reduce maternal death through Postpartum haemorrhage (PPH).

The device is designed for accessibility and can be applied by trained attendants or even mothers themselves. Its affordability and ease of use make it a valuable tool in low-resources environments, contributing to the reduction of maternal mortality rates associated with PPH. We happily joined forces with Afya lead as our 2nd cohort startups in the PDP health portfolio, early 2024. Whereby with an award of \$5000, we are working towards product refinement and clinical testing for the device.

As we are currently working towards the intended product refinement and clinical trial trials, we look at Mkanda Salama to critical public health challenges. By effectively managing PPH, Mkanda Salama contributes to improved maternal health outcomes that aligns with efforts to reduce maternal mortality rates in Tanzania.

CURRENT STARTUPS IN THE PIPELINE

Health Portfolio



Focus: Maternal health
Solution: Rapid diagnostic tool for preeclampsia
Achievement: Successfully conducted a laboratory testing for the diagnostic test and currently developing the preeclampsia reader.



Focus: Treating respiratory distress syndrome in newborns.
Solution: Locally made bubble CPAP for neonates.
Achievement: Successfully developed a bubble CPAP for clinical testing.



Focus: Neonatal health, targeting high infant mortality due to low body temperature.
Solution: A locally made infant radiant
Achievement: Successfully developed LIRA and currently testing at the Mwananyamala Hospital.



Focus: solution for occupational orthopaedic injuries.
Solution: a hospital bed with hydraulic mechanism made to lift cadavers to high cabinets in the mortuary.
Achievement: Developed a body lifter, tested the product in the hospitals and currently conducting market research.



Focus: Additive Manufacturing using 3D Printing
Solution: Making dental crowns using 3D printing technology.
Achievement: Successfully developed dental crowns using clinically approved materials, currently conducting clinical testing for the dental crowns.



afya lead

Focus: Maternal death due to postpartum haemorrhage (PPT)
Solution: A locally made compression belt that is used to reduce bleeding in women after giving birth.
Achievement: Successfully developed and tested Mkanda Salama.

Rural Livelihood Portfolio

Nyahende Co. Ltd

Health Portfolio

Focus: Neonatal health and infant mortality.

Solution: A locally made portable ventilator with an Ambu bag.

Achievement: Successfully performed testing on the functionality of the product and devices registered at TMDA.

WOTe Stove

Focus: Clean energy and waste management.

Solution: A high-efficiency cook stove repurposes waste engine oil into clean cooking energy.

Achievement: Developed an advanced prototype and established a filtering system with a capacity of 1,000 litres daily. Tested and validated for safety and environmental sustainability.



Focus: Livestock and Fishery (Agritech)

Solution: A digital platform, "Mnyama Check," for monitoring animal health, and market trends, and providing financial and insurance services for livestock keepers.

Achievement: Piloted on select farms, recognized as the Best Startup of the Year by Global Startup Awards 2024, and funded by Huawei and Vodacom for further development.



Focus: Human Resources and Consulting

Solution: A digital platform connecting job seekers with opportunities, including freelance gigs and full-time roles.

Achievement: Developed an app available on Android and iOS, supported over 270 users, and provided various job opportunities through additional services like USSD.



Focus: Agritech

Solution: A digital platform connecting farmers and vendors to markets, offering real-time price updates and business tracking tools

Achievement: Developed and tested the application in 3 regions with over 1556 users.



Focus: Smart Irrigation

Solution: An automated, remotely controllable irrigation system that ensures efficient water use and supports agriculture in areas with unpredictable rainfall.

Achievement: Currently in development and testing stages, focusing on establishing production facilities and scaling up operations.

IIH ALUMNUS



NovFeed
Science. Future. Feed

Focus: Promoting food security and sustainability in aquaculture.

Solution: Sustainable fish feed using biotech to transform organic waste into protein.

Achievement: Raised \$1,000,000 from the Milken-Motsepe Foundation; impactful in protein feed and other biotech products for farmers.



mkaa safi
renewable energy for living organisms

Focus: Climate and sustainable energy

Solution: Sustainable, affordable charcoal made from waste materials.

Achievement: Successfully secured markets in Morogoro, selling to small businesses, restaurants and homes.



ponicks
stay green

Focus: Tackling food insecurity with organic, space-efficient farming.

Solution: An aquaponics system integrating aquaculture, horticulture, and poultry.

Achievement: Graduate from the IIH incubation and installs the system to households and businesses.



DADA LEAD

Focus: Sexual reproductive health and hygiene

Solution: A non-disposable sanitary towel for girls in underserved communities.

Achievement: Developed sanitary pads and distributed to school girls in Ifakara.



Pace Initiative
for Smallholders

Focus: Climate and sustainable energy

Solution: A sustainable gasifier stove with pellets made from waste materials.

Achievement: Successfully developed the gasifier stove and distributed among 100 households in Ifakara.



mama's uyoga

Focus: Food and Nutrition

Solution: cultivating oyster mushroom with dietary benefits.

Achievement: Installation of an automatic irrigation system to overcome hot weather and supplying mushroom to households in Morogoro.

OUR PARTNERS

At Ifakara Innovation Hub (IIH), we believe that meaningful change is only possible when we work together. Over the past five years, our journey has been defined by the invaluable support of our partners. These partnerships have enabled us to achieve milestones that would have been impossible on our own, combining our in-house capabilities with external expertise and resources to amplify our impact.

Our partners have been instrumental in addressing critical gaps through technical assistance, mentorships or the creation of opportunities for knowledge sharing and capacity building. This collaborative spirit has allowed us to create innovative solutions, expand our reach, and sustain the momentum needed to support startups and foster meaningful development. We are deeply grateful for these partnerships, which have been the backbone of our success.

Looking forward, we remain committed to building on these foundations and forging new partnerships. Each collaboration brings fresh ideas, perspectives, and strengths that propel us closer to our shared goals. To every organization and individual who has joined us on this mission, we extend our heartfelt gratitude. As we continue to work towards a common goal, we continue to invite more partnerships and collaboration propelling to success.

So cheers to our partners and collaborators who have been pivotal to our journey and the impact we continue to create together.

OUR PARTNERS



OUR PARTNERS

The Ifakara Innovation Hub is proudly sponsored by the Embassy of Switzerland in Tanzania, Foundation Botnar and hosted by the Ifakara Health Institute:



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Embassy of Switzerland in Tanzania



ISO 9001:2015 certified

IFAKARA HEALTH INSTITUTE
research | training | services

foundation
BOTNAR

LOOKING FORWARD;

While we take pride in the progress we have made so far, IIH is determined not to rest on its laurels. Our journey is far from over, and as we begin the second phase of IIH as a program, we are guided by a renewed strategic focus and a commitment to even greater achievements. The coming year is set to be a productive chapter, one that aligns with the evolving demands of the innovation ecosystem and positions IIH for sustained impact. Looking ahead, IIH will prioritize the expansion of its programs to reach more innovators and entrepreneurs, ensuring that support is accessible to a broader audience across Tanzania and beyond. This includes developing initiatives that cater to underrepresented sectors and communities, fostering inclusivity, and amplifying the reach of our impact. Strengthening partnerships with both regional and global stakeholders will remain central to our approach. Through collaboration, we aim to leverage diverse expertise, mobilize resources, and co-create solutions that address pressing challenges and opportunities.

In addition to scaling our programs, IIH will focus on enhancing its institutional capacity. This involves continuous improvement of operational frameworks, adoption of innovative technologies, and investment in capacity-building for both the IIH team and the innovators we support. Resource mobilization will be a key priority, ensuring that our initiatives are not only impactful but also sustainable in the long term.

A thriving innovation ecosystem is at the heart of IIH's mission, and we are committed to fostering it by actively engaging with policymakers, investors, and other key players. This includes advocating for policies that enable innovation, creating platforms for dialogue and collaboration, and promoting an environment that supports local solutions for local challenges. By aligning these efforts with a forward-thinking, comprehensive approach, IIH is dedicated to remaining a leader in innovation and entrepreneurship, driving sustainable development and transformative impact in Tanzania for years to come.

Thank You !

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