

YOUNG WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS FIRST QUARTER REPORT

January to March 2025



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ABBREVIATIONS

SDG: Sustainable Development Goals

YWE: Young Women Entrepreneurs

YWE CHAIRPERSON STATEMENT



Dear Friends, supporters, and well-wishers of Young Women Entrepreneurs (YWE).

I'm delighted to share with you the achievement's we have had in the past quarter. Reflecting on the strides and accomplishments, we've achieved in the first quarter of 2025, I am immensely proud to lead a dynamic and impactful organization like Young Women Entrepreneurs. Throughout the quarter we have focused our efforts on conducting capacity building workshops and business trainings that are in line with our mission to empower and connect young women entrepreneurs with the resources that they need to succeed in business. During this quarter we have conducted our coffee with YWE session to equip YWE with budgeting skills. Our Top 50 Alumni have conducted opportunity sharing workshops and more than 3000 young women have benefited from the workshops to date. We have collaborated with The Esthetic Zone and Baobab Bistro to conduct the wellness event in celebration of women's month. Additionally, we have launched our program formalize her business to help young women entrepreneurs to formalize their businesses. The sessions will be facilitated by Gabriel Bakilana from KMC Associates. Additionally, KKB Attorneys will manage a dedicated hotline to support young women entrepreneurs to register their businesses. Our participation in government level meetings has enabled us to advocate for a better business environment for young women entrepreneur's this has also allowed us to highlight various Moving forward we remain committed to our mission of economically empowering young women entrepreneurs in Tanzania and across the globe. Thank you for your unwavering support. We look forward to your continued support and engagement.

Yours Sincerely,

Dr.Jesca Nkwabi

Chairperson

PROFILE

Young Women Entrepreneurs (YWE) is a membership organization established by young women entrepreneurs in 2021 and formerly registered as a company limited by guarantee in 2022. The aim is to promote entrepreneurship among women between the ages of 20-35. YWE does not primarily exist to pursue members' interest, but to empower and create conditions for other young women to successfully start and navigate the entrepreneurial journey. Being entrepreneurs themselves, members understand that compare to their male counterparts, young women entrepreneurs face disproportionately higher barriers in terms of skills, information, inspiration, and compliance with regulations and YWE seeks to address the challenges by providing business consultancy services, entrepreneurship workshops, as well as business visibility to its members and advocating for an enabling policy environment.

The vision of YWE is “to become the focal organization that promotes multisectoral economic activities to empower young women entrepreneurs with presence in all regions in Tanzania”.

The mission is “to promote and connect young women entrepreneurs to the resources and tools and give them knowledge needed to advance and succeed in business”.

YWE VALUES



- **Accountability:** We ensure that we are all accountable for our actions.
- **Transparency:** We promote open communication across our organisation and with various stakeholders.
- **Integrity:** We promote integrity across our organisation.
- **Trust:** We promote trust and teamwork fostering all with a conducive working environment.
- **Diversity:** We have inclusive programs that target youth between the age of 20 to 35.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

SDGs	Title	How YWE Contributes – with examples
SDG 1	No Poverty	YWE empowers young women entrepreneurs with business skills, mentorship, and resources. For example, through the Leadership Development Training and Top 50 YWE Programme, over 3,000 women have benefited directly or indirectly—reducing financial dependence.

SDG 3	Good Health and Well-being	YWE promotes wellness by creating safe, inclusive environments for peer learning and self-development.
SDG 4	Quality Education	Through structured programmes such as Coffee with YWE and Kijana Amka Changamkia Fursa, young women gain practical knowledge in marketing, financial literacy, and digital skills—providing quality, non-formal education opportunities.
SDG 5	Gender Equality	This is at the heart of YWE’s mission. The Top 50 YWE Recognition Programme celebrates women leaders.
SDG 8	Decent Work & Economic Growth	YWE equips members with skills and resources to start or grow businesses, creating jobs and livelihoods. Over 50 million TZS has been invested in training and workshops.
SDG 9	Industry, Innovation & Infrastructure	YWE supports innovation by exposing women to digital tools and formalisation strategies.
SDG 10	Reduced Inequalities	By focusing on young women, YWE reduces access gaps in economic opportunity and education.
SDG 16	Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions	YWE participates in government meetings to advocate for better policy and reduced business barriers for women.
SDG 17	Partnerships for the Goals	YWE collaborates with organisations like ABWCI and participates in global forums, such as COMFWB and AGRA Africa workshops.

YWE FOUNDERS AND BOARD MEMBERS



Dr. Jesca Nkwabi
Chairperson



Njile Bwana
Vice-Chairperson



Irene Simon Ivambi
Board member



Mercy Marrealle
Board member



Beatrice Kimaro
Board member



Dorice Mgetta
Founder

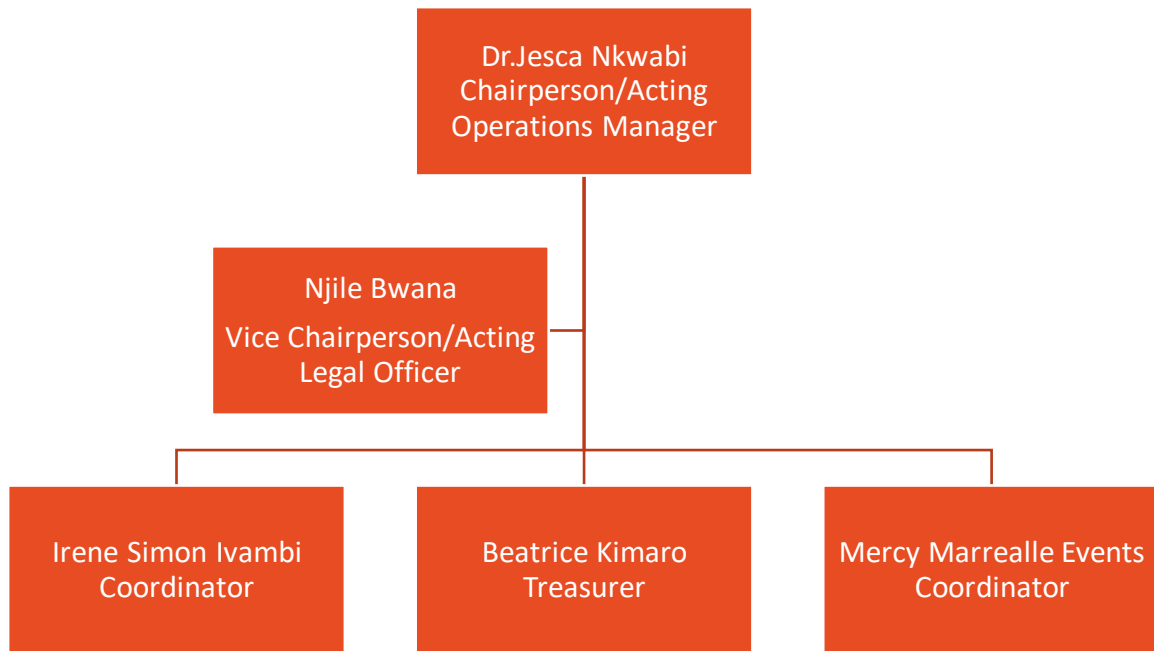


Munira Ndossy
Founder



Jessica Mshama
Founder

YWE Management Team



OUR 2025 ACTIVITIES

COFFEE WITH YWE

On 18th/01/2025 YWE conducted its coffee with YWE session where young women entrepreneurs were trained on how to work with, develop and present budgets aligned with business strategic goals. Additionally, the participants were trained on how to prepare and to analyse budgets.



KIJANA AMKA CHANGAMKIA FURSA

Our Top 50 Alumni through our flagship program Kijana Amka Changamkia Fursa conducted a series of virtual workshops on various opportunities available in their sectors and shared their business experiences. Our Kijana Amka Changamkia Fursa platform which was launched in 2022 enables TOP 50 YWE Alumni to share opportunities mentor and guide aspiring entrepreneurs wishing to start and grow businesses. To date more than 20 workshops have been conducted both virtually and physically to share opportunities and guide other young women entrepreneurs to start managing and grow businesses in their respective sectors. More than 200 young women have benefitted directly, and more than 3000 young women have benefitted indirectly from the workshops.

In This quarter a total of six workshops has been held. The workshops held have addressed medical supply and services sector, design sector, basket weaving sector, script writing sector, meat sector and restaurant and catering sector.



Key Takeaways from the Sessions:

1. Each session provided valuable knowledge on market trends, business opportunities, and industry challenges within its respective sector. Participants gained practical understanding from experts and experienced entrepreneurs.
2. Challenges and Opportunities: Entrepreneurs in various sectors shared common struggles, including limited access to funding, market competition, and supply chain issues. However, discussions also highlighted innovative solutions and untapped opportunities for growth.
3. The Importance of Networking: Many participants emphasized how connecting with others in their field opened doors to collaborations, mentorship, and business partnerships. The sessions reinforced the value of building a strong professional network.
4. Scaling and Business Growth Strategies: Experts provided actionable strategies on how to scale a business, differentiate from competitors, and leverage technology to enhance operations.
5. Entrepreneurial Mindset and Resilience: A recurring theme was the importance of adaptability, problem-solving, and persistence in entrepreneurship. Many successful entrepreneurs shared their personal experiences on overcoming setbacks and staying motivated.

OBSERVED CHALLENGES DURING THE SESSION

Throughout the sessions, the following challenges were identified

1. Limited Engagement Many participants appeared to lack commitment or genuine interest in actively engaging with the program. While some individuals were enthusiastic, others seemed passive, which limited meaningful discussions and knowledge sharing.
2. Time Management: Coordinating online meetings and ensuring participants punctuality was a challenge. The virtual format may have contributed to distractions, reducing active participation.
3. Resource Mobilization: There is a need to mobilize more resources to reach more participants.

YWE BOARD MEETING

On 27th/02/YWE held its first quarterly general meeting. During the meeting policies were reviewed and various strategies of strengthening our program reach were discussed.



WELLNESS IN BUSINESS

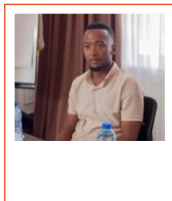
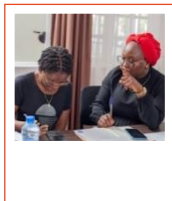
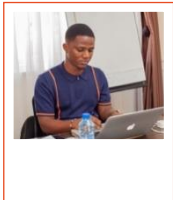
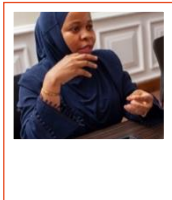
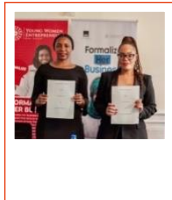
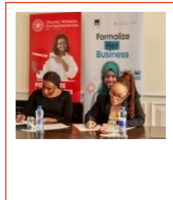
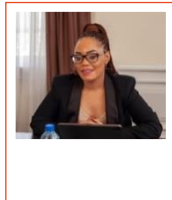
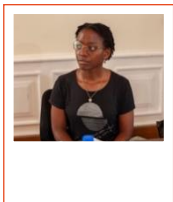
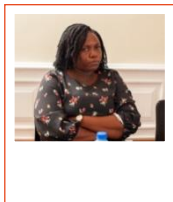
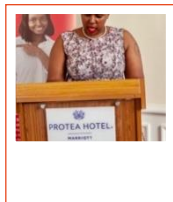
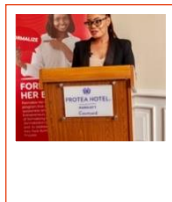
YWE collaborated with The Esthetic Zone and Baobab bistro to organise the wellness in business event. The wellness in business event took place on 15th/03/2025 and focused on providing awareness on oral and dental health to young women entrepreneurs. The participants of the program had an opportunity to visit the Esthetic Zone and received free consultations as part of the women days celebration month. The program was sponsored by The Esthetic Zone and Baobab bistro.



FORMALIZE HER BUSINESS PROGRAM

YWE launched the Formalize Her Business Program on 22nd/03/2025. The program aims to help young women entrepreneurs to formalize their businesses and to navigate taxation and compliance issues. The program will involve physical workshops and online webinars.

The first workshop dived deep into the business formalization process in Tanzania, benefits, and challenges, and offer insights and support on numerous areas including formalization of digital businesses, tax compliance issues, labor laws and intellectual property rights.



Furthermore, YWE represented by Dr.Jesca Mhoja Nkwabi signed an MOU with KKB Attorney's represented by Deodatha Micheal to help formalize young women businesses. KKB will be managing a dedicated business formalization hotline to help young women entrepreneurs to formalize their businesses.

Business & Finance



16 DAILY NEWS MONDAY, MARCH 24, 2025

BoT Governor: Economy resilient amid global uncertainties

By HENRY LYIMO

DESPITE global economic uncertainties, Tanzania's economy remains resilient, showing steady growth and controlled inflation, according to Bank of Tanzania (BoT) Governor Emmanuel Tutuba.

Speaking at an Inter-

hosted by the BoT in Dar es Salaam on Friday, Governor Tutuba said the economy's growth remained positive after a dip caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Governor Tutuba said that Tanzania's economic growth is expected to reach 5.6 per cent in 2024, surpassing the initial 3.4 per

cent forecast and the global average of 3.2 per cent.

Growth is projected to hit 6 per cent in 2025, positioning Tanzania among Africa's fastest-growing economies.

He also highlighted the country's success in maintaining price stability, with inflation at 3.1 per cent in

2024, well below the global rate of 4.7 per cent and the medium-term target of 5 per cent, aligning with EAC and SADC convergence criteria.

Other positive indicators include a 16.8 per cent growth in private sector lending, surpassing the 15 per cent target and a non-performing loan rate of 3.3

per cent, below the central bank's 5 per cent benchmark.

The current account deficit decreased to 2.7 per cent of GDP in 2024, down from 3.7 per cent in 2023, while foreign exchange reserves reached 5.5 billion US dollars covering 4.7 months of import requirements.

The BoT Governor highlighted the growth of financial services, driven by mobile money, regulatory frameworks and a focus on financial inclusion for women, rural populations and SMEs.

He credited sound sector management and Microfinance growth for this expansion.

However, he warned of challenges like unlicensed providers, 'shark loans' and pyramid schemes, urging citizens to use licensed services and assuring that the BoT would act against violators.

The Chief Sheikh and Mufti of Tanzania, Dr

Abubakar Zuber Bin Ally, called on the BoT to intensify its financial education efforts.

He stressed the importance of empowering citizens to make informed financial decisions, identify reputable loan sources and manage businesses effectively.

Initiative to boost Tanzania's fintech, startup innovation

By DAILY NEWS Reporter

ABSA Bank Tanzania has teamed up with Hindsight Ventures to launch the 'Wazo Challenge Tanzania', a flagship initiative designed to foster innovation and drive entrepreneurship within the country's FinTech and startup ecosystem.

The launch event, held in Dar es Salaam, was graced by the Bank of Tanzania Director of Financial Deepening and Inclusion, Mr Kennedy Kombu, who represented the Governor.

"We have assessed technological challenges and recognised that without technology, the financial sector cannot progress effectively.

"As banking services evolve over the next decade, government efforts to foster a digital economy are crucial. A key element in this is user data, which must be protected and leveraged to enhance services," he said.

Mr Kennedy Kombu commended Absa for launching the Wazo Challenge, highlighting it as a key initiative to promote the use of technology in the country.

"We have explored opportunities to create an enabling environment that helps technologists and innovators access financial services within the regulatory frameworks set by the Central Bank. This will enable them to bring their products to market in a simplified and supportive ecosystem," said Mr Kombu.

Themed 'Bank of the Future', the Wazo Challenge Tanzania invites FinTech startups

and innovators to showcase cutting-edge solutions that have the potential to redefine the future of banking.

The initiative is part of a three-year partnership between Absa Bank Tanzania and Hindsight Ventures, designed to support the growth and scalability of Tanzania's entrepreneurial ecosystem.

The bank's Managing Director Mr Obaid Laiser emphasised the bank's commitment to innovation and financial inclusion.

"The Wazo Challenge Tanzania reflects our belief in the power of innovation to drive growth and create value for our customers.

"It aligns directly with our purpose of 'Empowering Africa's tomorrow, together, one story at a time,' and our brand promise 'Your story matters.' We're excited to partner with Hindsight Ventures to empower Tanzania's innovators and entrepreneurs," he said.

Co-Founder & CEO of Hindsight Ventures, Mr Ajay Ramasubramanian, stated, "We look forward to partnering with Absa Bank Tanzania to strengthen the local FinTech ecosystem by providing innovative products and solutions.

Startups and innovators will gain access to Absa's network, along with our global FinTech connections, making this initiative a cornerstone for sector innovation."



KKB Attorneys At Law Administration Manager Deodatha Michel (left) and Young Women Entrepreneurs (YWE) Chairperson Dr Jesca Nkwabi sign Memorandum of Understanding to help formalise young women's businesses in Tanzania through the Wazo Challenge, a headline, launched during the Formalise her Business programme in Dar es Salaam over the weekend. (Photo by Robert Okanda)

EASEA endorses regional index for capital markets

By FLORIAN JAMAX

THE East African Securities Exchange Association (EASEA) has agreed to implement the EAC Regional Index, which is set to officially launch on April 2 this year.

The regional index is designed to pave the way for the launch of a regional structured exchange-traded fund (ETF), positioning East Africa's capital markets as a key gateway for investments across the continent.

EASEA Chairman and

CEO of the Uganda Securities Exchange, Mr Paul Bwiso, stated that the index will track market performance using specific criteria developed by regional technical teams.

"It will showcase the top five companies from each market, based on market capitalisation. As companies grow and evolve, new firms will be added.

"The index will spotlight East Africa's financial markets at a regional level while providing both local and international investors with a

benchmark for market performance," he added during EASEA's Annual General Meeting (AGM) at the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) headquarters on Friday.

EASEA is the umbrella body for stock exchanges and securities central depositories in Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, Uganda, Somalia, Burundi and Ethiopia.

Its primary goal is to accelerate investment and capital market growth in East Africa, ensuring efficient capital

mobilisation to support regional economies.

The EAC market index will feature the top 20 listed companies in the region, representing 85 per cent of the total equity market capitalisation.

Five new exchanges have joined EASEA as members namely the Somali Stock Exchange, Burundi Securities Exchange, CSD Rwanda, Ethiopia Securities Exchange and the National Securities Exchange of Somalia.

Mr Bwiso highlighted that

TVLA board urged to adopt business-focused approach

By DATIVA MINJA

THE Tanzania Veterinary Laboratory Agency (TVLA) Advisory Board has been urged to adopt a business-focused approach to actively participate in domestic and international tenders, driving the nation's economic growth.

Minister for Livestock and Fisheries, Dr Adamu Kijaji, emphasised the need for discipline among staff failing to perform their duties at the launch of the TVLA Board over the weekend.

"We expect you to run this institution with a business mindset, prioritising vaccine research. Take disciplinary action against employees undermining government directives or exploiting services meant for Tanzanians' benefit," he said.

She added, "We must work with integrity and trust. Tanzanians depend on us as both service providers and regulators, not just regulators."

The government aims for regulation to support investment and business, with directives designed to empower investors.

Dr Kijaji also urged the Ad-

visory Board to align TVLA's new strategic plan with the country's Vision 2050, starting in 2026.

She emphasised the need for effective management of livestock health, making TVLA a centre of excellence in animal disease and pest research, both locally and internationally.

Deputy Permanent Secretary of Livestock and Fisheries, Mr Abdul Mhame, highlighted TVLA's crucial role in the livestock sector's development.

"We expect TVLA to go beyond domestic vaccine distribution and engage internationally, exporting vaccines and services," he said.

TVLA Advisory Board, Prof Amanda Mhuruwa, thanked Minister Kijaji for ensuring this initiative over the weekend, emphasising that with overseeing TVLA's development, a key institution for improving livestock health in the country.

Prof Mhuruwa emphasised TVLA's critical role in livestock disease diagnosis, vaccine production and distribution and designed research to boost productivity and farmer income.

NBC commits to supporting business, economic growth

By DAILY NEWS Reporter

THE National Bank of Commerce (NBC) has reaffirmed its dedication to driving business growth and investment by providing comprehensive financial services, thereby playing a pivotal role in the country's development and economic progress.

The bank's Head of Transaction Banking, Mr Mangire Kibanda, unveiled this initiative over the weekend, highlighting the bank's loans and transactions are tailored for businesses and investors operating in the modern commercial properties of the National Housing Corporation (NHC).

Mr Kibanda made the statement during a brief ceremony marking the preliminary launch of the new Morocco Square Mall, located at the intersection of Mwai Kibaki and New Bagamoyo Roads.

"This partnership highlights our commitment to collaborating with businesses and aligns with NBC's strategic focus on promoting digital banking services, especially during the festive season leading up to Eid el-Fitr and Easter," he stated.

During the ceremony, NHC Director of Property Management, Mr Elias Mese, expressed gratitude to President Samia Suluhu Hassan for her pivotal role in advancing the project, which had faced previous delays.

He announced that the project is now 100 per cent complete and reaffirmed the corporation's commitment to

creating more opportunities for businesses and investors through modern, accessible facilities.

"We achieved this with strong support from President Samia and senior government and NHC officials.

Every aspect of this including offices, residential and commercial spaces and hotels. We invite the public to see for themselves," he said.

Hope Holding's Marketing Manager, Mr Micky Decha, praised NBC for its collaboration, highlighting the 20 per cent discount for customers.

He commended NBC's digital banking initiatives, emphasising their safety and convenience, which also help businesses maintain accurate payment records.

Partnership to foster inclusivity, growth in gaming sector

By DAILY NEWS Reporter

THE National Lottery has partnered with Tanzania Posts Corporation to expand nationwide access to lottery gaming, promoting inclusivity and supporting the growth of the gaming sector.

Director at ITHUBA Tanzania, Kelvin Koka, stated that this partnership reflects the company's commitment to inclusivity and national development.

"Partnering with Tanzania Posts Corporation is a major step in our mission to make lottery participation accessible to all Tanzanians."

Leveraging Posta's trusted network allows us to reach communities nationwide, giving everyone the opportunity to engage with the National Lottery," he said.

He added that the collaboration is expected to contribute to national progress, with proceeds benefiting various social initiatives and public welfare programmes.

This collaboration will see National Lottery terminals installed at 207 Posta outlets, significantly expanding the reach of lottery games to both urban and rural Tanzanians.

With Posta's network of 430 post offices, serving an average of 79,140 people per outlet, the partnership provides a strong platform for nationwide accessibility.

By integrating lottery services into these outlets, the National Lottery ensures that even remote communities can participate, fostering inclusivity and engagement.

Tanzania Posts Corporation, Director of Electronic

Business and Financial Services, Constantine John Kassee, stated, "At Tanzania Posts Corporation, we are committed to connecting people and services nationwide."

Partnering with the National Lottery aligns with our vision of delivering relevant services that meet our customers' evolving needs.

By offering lottery games at our outlets, we are enhancing convenience and supporting national initiatives that benefit our communities."

By leveraging Tanzania Posts Corporation's established infrastructure, the National Lottery of Tanzania aims to provide a seamless, secure and convenient experience for all participants, reinforcing its commitment to enriching the lives of Tanzanians nationwide.

- Enhance our programs reach in Tanzania.
- Explore diversified funding opportunities to ensure the organisations financial stability.
- Collaborating with sponsors, including banks and business development organizations, to provide resources, funding, and networking opportunities for participants. This support would enhance our program’s sustainability and impact.
- To create an inclusive environment to ensure that people with disabilities can also fully engage in YWE programs.

OUR PARTNERS, SPONSORS AND PARTNERS

To all our esteemed partners, thank you for your steadfast dedication, commitment, and support to driving entrepreneurship among young women in Tanzania. Together we are building a brighter future of economically empowering young women entrepreneurs who are transforming the economic development of Tanzania.

Let us keep joining hands to empower and develop entrepreneurs in Tanzania. Together, we can achieve greatness, together we can make lasting impact.



KOM GROUP OF COMPANIES



MREMBO NATURALS



BRAD REALTY



REVEURSE



KKB ATTORNEY'S AT LAW



TRADEMARK AFRICA



NAKUA NA TAIFA LANGU



SOUTHWAVE COASTALFREIGHT LIMITED



KISENGA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTER



MOVING WOMEN EMPOWERMENT NETWORK

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