



**THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
TANZANIA COMMISSION FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
(COSTECH)**

**“Mashindano ya Kitaifa ya Sayansi, Teknolojia na Ubunifu (MAKISATU)”**

**Guideline for Application of MAKISATU 2026**

**May, 2026**

## **1. Introduction**

The Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MoEST) through the Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH) is supporting Tanzanian innovators to develop their innovative processes, services and products to reach the stage of commercialization and utilization. The innovators are identified, recognized and supported through their participation in the National Innovation Competition known as “Mashindano ya Kitaifa ya Sayansi, Teknolojia na Ubunifu (MAKISATU)”.

The programme aims to support technology and product development from Tanzanians that contribute to job creation and formation of startup and/or spin-off companies. The call is open to all Tanzanians (mainland and Zanzibar), regardless of age and education level, who have innovative technological interventions in terms of products, processes and/or services. The support is given to both research-based innovations and innovative reverse engineering. In this context, innovation is referred to as a process of translating an idea or invention into a good, process or service that creates value for intended beneficiaries or customers. It may be in the form of new or improved products, new or improved services, or new organizational and managerial measures.

MAKISATU program provides both technical and financial support to develop technologies coming from individual innovators, research institutions, universities, vocational colleges, enterprise domain and the informal sector in competitive manner. The purpose is to contribute to the technological advancement and innovation in Tanzania.

## **2. Purpose**

The purpose of this call is to support innovations to reach investment readiness and commercialization.

## **3. The Context**

The call is open for all Tanzanians with innovations for supporting all transformative and productive sectors.

#### **4. Who can Apply**

Any Tanzanian with innovation streamered in the productive and transformative sectors, may apply to this call.

#### **5. Types of Support**

The successful candidates will be supported based on their technology readiness levels. The team of experts doing the evaluation will collaborate with the successful candidates to establish the appropriate technology readiness level of the innovation hence determining the type of support and funding to be provided. In summary, the technology readiness levels are grouped in three main categories which are:

##### *5.1 Prototype Development:*

This level involves advancing research and technological outputs to develop prototypes, establish proof of concept and validate business cases. Attain a lab scale product with low fidelity.

##### *5.2 Technology Development*

This level involves advancing technologies along the innovation value chain, from proof of concept/prototype to technology demonstration, which is, attaining minimum viable product tested in a real environment resulting in a high-fidelity product.

##### *5.3 Commercialization*

This level involves market testing and validation of the high-fidelity product. Establish production value chain and potential for mass production as well as connecting technology innovators to onward businesses and investment opportunities. This simply means a proven product is taken to market.

## **6. Assessment Criteria**

All applications will be assessed against the following criteria:

### 6.1 Innovation

- i. Competitiveness of the product or service in the market
- ii. Newness of the product, service or business model in Tanzania OR a significance improvement on an available product, service or business model
- iii. Newness in a way to make an existing product or service available to the targeted group

### 6.2 Viability

- i. Affordability of the solution to the targeted end users
- ii. Sustainability of the project beyond the funding period
- iii. Practicability and how realistic is the innovation

### 6.3 Impact

- i. The societal and economic impacts aimed to be achieved through the project.
- ii. How the project will minimize the negative impacts

### 6.4 Team effectiveness

- i. The team could be an individual or a group of persons. Expert outsources outside the team are also allowed with evidence of any kind of agreements.
- ii. Availability and accessibility of necessary competences
- iii. Commitment of the team members.

### 6.5 Commerciality and competitiveness of the application

- i. Innovation with significant potential for commercialization
- ii. Competitiveness of the innovation

## 6.6 Relevance of the intervention to the call

- i. Whether the innovation is scalable with industrial application
- iv. Whether the project timeline is feasible given the scope of the project activities
- v. Whether a clear and relevant need has been articulated by the applicant;
- vi. Whether the planned budget and activities will enable the applicant's objectives be realized.

## 7. Application process

- i. The applications will be received via a digital platform (COSTECH website) through the link: <https://makisatu.costech.or.tz>
- ii. Application package must include: Dully filled application form attached with innovation project concept note and any other relevant support documents;
- iii. The call is open for MAKISATU 2026; and
- iv. Applications may be submitted in Kiswahili or English Language.