



UNIVERSITY OF DAR ES SALAAM

The Office of the Deputy Vice Chancellor – Research

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ICT INNOVATION CHALLENGE – CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The UDSM Journal Visibility and Impact Coding 2026

The Office of the Deputy Vice Chancellor – Research invites talented students of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) – both Undergraduate and Postgraduate, and indeed any student with demonstrated talent in system development – to take part in a high-impact development challenge.

THE MISSION

The research published by UDSM journals is read across the globe, but evidencing global visibility and impact remains to be a challenge. We are challenging UDSM developers to build an interactive, real-time global readership dashboard. This is your chance to be a valued contributor to your institution by creating a solution that tracks and visualises UDSM's academic footprint worldwide.

THE REWARDS

- **Winner:** TZS 3,000,000 + Your system goes LIVE on the UDSM Journal Site.
- **1st Runner-Up:** TZS 1,500,000.
- **2nd Runner-Up:** TZS 1000,000.

THE CHALLENGE SCOPE

Teams will have 72 hours to build a functional prototype featuring:

- **Interactive World Heat Map:** Showcasing reader locations in real-time.
- **Live Metrics:** Dynamic counters for paper downloads and citations.
- **UDSM Integration:** A professional UI/UX that aligns with UDSM's branding.

IMPORTANT DATES

- **Application Deadline:** February 6, 2026
- **Technical Briefing:** February 10, 2026
- **The Hackathon:** February 13-15, 2026 (At CoICT Labs)

ELIGIBILITY & REGISTRATION

- Open to all UDSM Students at CoICT.
- Each team shall comprise **three to four members** with gender representation
- Selection is based on demonstrated coding proficiency and systems development knowledge.

Register your team at: <https://forms.gle/EDjxxpAyfzouNbJm6>