



THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH
TANZANIA FOOD AND NUTRITION CENTRE



TFNC RESEARCHERS PROFILE

Profile

2026

1. DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH AND NUTRITION



Dr. Ray Masumo

Director of the Department of
Community Health and Nutrition

Dr. Ray M. Masumo (Ph.D. in Epidemiology and Applied Biostatistics from the University of Bergen, Norway) serves as a Chief Research Officer and the Director of the Department of Community Health and Nutrition at the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC). He is also an Adjunct Fellow with the School of Nursing and Midwifery at Western Sydney University in Australia. Dr. Masumo has built a distinguished career in public health research, with a strong focus on nutrition, oral health services, and broader population health challenges. Over the years, he has played a central role in designing, implementing, and evaluating a wide range of health and nutrition programs across Tanzania. His scholarly contributions include authoring or co-authoring more than 30 publications in reputable peer-reviewed journals, as well as two book chapters that address emerging issues in public health and nutrition. His recent body of work has emphasized the impact of social policies on public health outcomes in sub-Saharan Africa, particularly in relation to vulnerable populations. Dr. Masumo is widely recognized for his expertise in epidemiological methods, applied biostatistics, program evaluation, and policy-oriented research. In most survey/researches he provides technical leadership on the scientific components, including refinement of the methodology, data collection protocols, and data analysis strategies. He also plays a key role in ensuring that the survey findings are translated into actionable insights by linking the results with the Ministry of Health to facilitate policy dialogue and evidence-based decision-making.



Ms. Julieth Shine

Senior Research Office

Ms. Julieth Shine is a Senior Research Officer at the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC) with over 20 years of experience in public health and community nutrition. She currently heads the Community Nutrition Section, where she provides strategic leadership in the development, coordination, and evaluation of national community nutrition initiatives. Ms. Shine holds a Master's Degree in Public Health and has established herself as a leading expert in several key areas, including the prevention of micronutrient deficiencies, nutrition in the context of HIV and TB, maternal nutrition, and the prevention and management of wasting among vulnerable populations. Her work focuses on translating scientific evidence into practical interventions that strengthen nutrition service delivery at community and facility levels. Throughout her career at TFNC, she has contributed to major national programmes, guidelines, and policies aimed at improving nutrition outcomes in Tanzania. She has led multi-sectoral collaborations, supported capacity-building for health care providers and played an instrumental role in designing community-based strategies that address both immediate and underlying causes of malnutrition. Ms Shine is recognized for her strong technical expertise, commitment to excellence, and ability to work collaboratively with government ministries, development partners, and civil society organizations. Her dedication to improving the well-being of Tanzanian communities continues to drive her work, particularly in advancing evidence-based approaches that support women, children, and other vulnerable groups.



Dr. Hoyce

Currently working as a Principal
Researcher-Nutritionist

Dr. Hoyce is currently working as a Principal Researcher-Nutritionist at Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre. She holds a Ph.D. in Food & Nutritional Sciences, complemented by a Master's degree of Public Health and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Human Nutrition. She has more than 20 years' working experience in the field of public health and nutrition. Dr. Hoyce is also heading a dietetics section in the department of community health and Nutrition. Her main duties under this section include research, program implementation and monitoring, reviewing and evaluation of technical related Health and Nutrition programs and projects at national level. Before joining the TFNC she served in a position of Principal Public Health Officer at Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology Tanzania for ten years. She has also worked as a Dietician at the United Nations Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda in Arusha for about ten years. She has also participated in various research and surveys including TDHS, School Malaria and Nutrition Survey, Tanzania Household Consumption and Expenditure Surveys and Tanzania National Nutrition Surveys. In 2020 she won a number of awards including an award as a best female researcher WASH from RISE by SUNDARA foundation and Queen Elizabeth scholarship where she gained strong knowledge and experience on research, management, leadership, collaboration and networking. Dr. Hoyce is also a review committee member at Muhimbili University of Health Allied Sciences (MUHAS). She has also been supervising Masters students doing Nutrition Epidemiology at MUHAS as well as reviewing scientific manuscripts from various reputable journals including PloS One, BMC Public Health, Springer and Frontiers. Dr. Hoyce has a strong interest and passion on executing public health and nutrition assignments, particularly on management and prevention against malnutrition among vulnerable populations.



Dr. Fatma Abdallah is a Senior Research Officer I with extensive experience in nutrition research and program leadership at the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC). She served as a Nutrition Research Officer from 2002 to 2016 and led the national program for the Prevention and Control of Iodine Deficiency Disorders between 2007 and 2016. From 2016 to 2021, she was the Acting Director of the Community Health and Nutrition Department at TFNC. She holds an MSc in Public Health from Muhimbili, a Doctor of Medicine degree from Kazan State Medical University, and a Postgraduate Diploma in Food and Nutrition from Wageningen University. Dr. Abdallah has provided technical support to major national nutrition programs, including IMAM, DRNCs, micronutrient deficiency control, and nutrition care for PLHIV. She has played key roles in developing national guidelines, training manuals, and thematic areas for the Tanzania and Zanzibar Multisectoral Nutrition Action Plans. She also contributed to national surveys such as the 2016 TDHS and led important studies including salt sector mapping and micronutrient deficiency assessments. Dr. Abdallah has authored and co-authored numerous scientific publications on micronutrients, anemia, fortified foods, and iodine programs across Tanzania.

Dr. Fatma Abdallah
Senior Research Officer I



Aleswa Zebedayo is an experienced Tanzanian public health professional and Research Officer at the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC), specializing in maternal and child health, nutrition equity, and strategic planning. With over twenty years of dedicated experience, Aleswa has significantly contributed to national initiatives aimed at combating malnutrition and health disparities through evidence-based, food-focused solutions. Her impactful work includes key roles in high-priority projects such as a community-based trial testing nutrient-dense snacks to reduce adolescent anemia, serving as Co-Principal Investigator for the Shift framework to advance nutrition equity, and contributing to the National Multisectoral Nutrition Action Plan. She also provided technical expertise for the landmark "Cost of Hunger in Africa" (CoHA) study, which quantified the social and economic toll of child undernutrition in Tanzania to advocate for greater investment in maternal and child health. Beginning her career as a Clinical Officer at Machame Lutheran Hospital, she gained essential frontline experience in patient care. She later coordinated public health interventions and health data management at the Kinondoni Municipal Council, effectively bridging research with practical health service delivery. Aleswa holds an MSc in Health Informatics from the University of Dar es Salaam and an Advanced Diploma in Clinical Medicine. Combining clinical insight with expertise in data analysis and strategic planning, she remains a committed leader in using evidence to improve health equity and outcomes for adolescents, mothers, and children across Tanzania.

Aleswa Zebedayo
Tanzanian public health
professional and Research Officer



Adeline Munuo is a Senior Researcher and Dietician at the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC), where she coordinates activities on Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) and serves as a National Facilitator on NCD risk factors. She has coordinated a national landscape analysis on overweight among children and contributed to the development of Tanzania's Food-Based Dietary Guidelines (FBDGs). Adeline is also a member of the national RECAP team developing a Nutrient Profile Model to address childhood overweight and obesity, and she participated in the Policy Analysis for Sustainable and Healthy Food in African Retail Markets (PASHFARM) project. Adeline also completed a six-month internship at Kenyatta National Hospital, where she gained practical experience in clinical nutrition. In her daily work, she provides dietary counselling and follow-up care to individuals with various medical conditions. Her professional interests focus on nutrition policy, healthy food environments, and sustainable diets to prevent NCDs and promote public health in Tanzania. She holds MSC in Foods Nutrition and Dietetics, Bsc Human Nutrition, Dip in Clinical medicine

Adeline Munuo
Senior Researcher and
Dietician



Aika Sarah Lekey is an experienced Research Officer in Food and Nutrition, with over 20 years of expertise in directing and executing nutrition research initiatives. She has a Master of Arts in Social Work and oversees qualitative food and nutrition research at the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre. Her competencies include proposal writing, data collection, quality assurance, analysis, and the creation of research publications and technical reports. She has overseen and engaged in several initiatives, including research on Nutrition and HIV, Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition, Food Taboos, and Barriers to Healthy Diets for Pregnant Women with HIV. Aika further underscores social-behavior change and communication (SBCC) within the domain of public health nutrition.

Aika Sarah Lekey
Research Officer in Food and
Nutrition



Elizabeth Lyimo is a nutrition researcher with a BSc in Home Economics and Human Nutrition and a Master of Public Health. She has served at the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC) for 13 years, supporting the Ministry of Health in shaping national food and nutrition initiatives across the country. Elizabeth possesses extensive knowledge of government health systems, with substantial experience in policy dialogue, health system strengthening, and coordination from national to subnational levels. Her work spans community-based nutrition interventions, epidemiological surveys, data analysis, guideline development, monitoring and evaluation, and designing training materials and nutrition communication messages. She has contributed to national nutrition policy processes, including the review of the Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM) guidelines (2018, 2024) and the development of the National Multisectoral Nutrition Action Plan II (NMNAP II) alongside government ministries and development partners. Elizabeth is an effective communicator with strong interpersonal skills and a proven record as a collaborative team player. She demonstrates initiative, manages time efficiently, and excels at multitasking across multiple projects. Her leadership experience includes serving as the PHI Tier 1 project lead for TFNC in 2023, developing the Tier 2 proposal, overseeing national surveys such as the Tanzania National Nutrition Surveys (2014, 2018) and the National Malaria and Nutrition Survey (2019), and conducting research on healthcare-seeking behaviors for children with acute malnutrition. She also completed a USAID consultancy for the Lishe Endelevu Project endline evaluation and contributed to the 2021 rapid assessment of IMAM implementation. Currently, she is collaborating with the FHI360 Intake Center for Dietary Assessment on the development of the Tanzania Food Consumption and Nutrient Intake Survey.

Elizabeth Lyimo
Nutrition researcher Officer



Mrs Nyamizi Julius Ngassa (Bsc & MSc. Human Nutrition) both from Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) is working as a Senior Research Officer-Nutrition at the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre. Nyamizi J Ngassa is a confident nutritionist with vast experience and knowledge on designing and implementing projects, studies and programs for more than 10 years. She has previously worked on food intake survey as a coordinator in Mbeya region Tanzania, which was successfully implemented. She has the necessary skills and expertise in conducting food and nutrients intake surveys including development of recipes, choice of appropriate methodological approach in relation to study design, type of variables, outcome and objectives, development of food based guide interventions and how to address and interpret questions related to food and nutrients intake among the population groups. Nyamizi J. Ngassa has best experience in analyzing, estimating food intake, portion size estimation and conversions as well as translating intake data into easy understandable way. She has been authored and /or Co-authored in several food and nutrition Peer reviewed publications and she is also a member of Tanzania Nutrition and Dietetics Association (TNDA)

Mrs Nyamizi Julius Ngassa
Senior Research
Officer-Nutrition



Ms. Rose is a Research Officer in Nutrition and National Coordinator for Prevention of Iodine Deficiency Disorders (IDD) program at Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC) under the Department of Community Health and Nutrition. She is responsible for coordinating and providing technical guidance in the overall implementation of the measures to prevent IDD in Tanzania; and contributing in generating new evidence to inform programming through research work. Her focus has been on designing and implementing a long term strategy for a scalable and sustainable program for improving micronutrient deficiencies especially iodine in Tanzania through Universal Salt Iodation (USI). She is also interested on research activities that seek to explore innovative methods that can make monitoring of nutrition interventions more cost-effective in Tanzania and globally. She has been providing her technical expertise at regional, national and sub-national levels in the strategic planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of high impact nutrition interventions for more than 14 years. Rose holds a Masters of Philosophy degree (MPhil) in Nutrition and Dietetics from the University of Newcastle, New South Wales Australia and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Human Nutrition from Sokoine University of Agriculture in Tanzania.

Ms. Rose Msaki

Research Officer in Nutrition and National Coordinator for Prevention of Iodine Deficiency Disorders (IDD) program



Erick Killel is a dedicated public health researcher currently serving as a research scientist at the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Center (TFNC), a key government institution under the Ministry of Health. He holds a Master of Science in Public Health Research from the Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology and a bachelor's degree in human nutrition from Sokoine University of Agriculture. Erick has over four years of hands-on experience in conducting and supporting research related to maternal, newborn, child, and adolescent nutrition in Tanzania. His work focuses on generating evidence to inform policies and improve health outcomes. He has co-authored 13 peer-reviewed publications and plays a leadership role as the permanent secretary of the TFNC Research Committee, contributing to the strategic direction and quality of the center's research portfolio. You can find more details on ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0009-0006-3592-3069>.

Erick Killel

Dedicated public health researcher currently serving as a research scientist



Glory Benjamin, (BSc. ND: MPH), Is a passionate, proficient dietician and public health officer, trained at the University of Eastern Africa, Baraton (UEAB), and the Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) respectively, with over 5 years of working experience. Glory is fascinated by how health compliance can have a profound impact on quality of life. Glory has experience with maternal and childcare practices and compliance in achieving better health. Glory exerts interest in Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) related to Nephrology dietetics, Oncology dietetics, and Endocrinology dietetics. Glory has had the privilege of practicing dietetics as part of a multi-specialty hospital and as part of a nutrition-based research institution, Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC), where she is currently part of a dietetics research team that does not only find associations with NCDs but also provides awareness and solutions on the community's challenges. Today, Glory's mission is to create sustainable solutions addressing nutrition challenges and advocate for policies supporting healthy living. Glory loves adventure, music, socializing, and nature.

Glory Benjamin

(BSc. ND: MPH)



Samira Spilloh
Research Officer



Ms. Samira is a Research Officer at the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC), focused on maternal health, nutrition, and public health research. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Food, Nutrition and Dietetics and is currently pursuing a Master of Science in Public Health Research at the Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology (NM-AIST). She has been working as a Nutrition Officer providing clinical nutrition care and counseling at the Aga Khan Hospital and Ebrahim Haji Charitable Health Centre. At TFNC, she supports research and evidence-based initiatives aimed at improving maternal nutrition and strengthening health outcomes in Tanzania.



Dr. Nangida Jeska Mchome
Medical Doctor and Researcher



Dr. Nangida Jeska Mchome is a Medical Doctor and Researcher at the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC) in the Department of Community Health and Nutrition. Her work focuses on research and program implementation within the Universal Salt Iodization(USI)/Prevention of Iodine Deficiency Disorders (IDD) program. At TFNC, Dr. Nangida has contributed to several research initiatives, including a Human-Centered Design (HCD) study to develop contextualized, innovative solutions along the USI program supply chain in high-burden regions of Tanzania, a study identifying alternative food sources contributing to iodine nutrition among the Tanzanian population, and a pilot study implementing the Fortification Monitoring and Surveillance (FORTIMAS) methodology for monitoring universal salt iodization. She has also co-authored publications on topics such as food taboos among women and children in Tanzania and the acceptability of novel ready-to-use foods for managing moderate acute malnutrition (MAM). Her technical interests include micronutrient deficiencies and maternal and child health, alongside an emerging focus on women's health and non-communicable diseases. Dr. Nangida holds a Doctor of Medicine degree and is currently pursuing a Master of Medicine (MMed) program at Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS).



Juma Mbaruku
Research Officer in the
Epidemiology Section



Juma Mbaruku is a Research Officer in the Epidemiology Section at the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC). He holds a Degree of Bachelor of Science in Human nutrition from Sokoine University of Agriculture. His research focuses on public health, with a particular interest in maternal, adolescents and children's health and nutrition improvement. He is dedicated to advancing evidence-based research that informs policy and supports effective nutrition interventions. Juma is also an active member of the Tanzania International training program (ITP322) on social protection and sustainable development, implemented by TASAF, where he contributes to initiatives aimed at improving nutrition outcomes among children under five years of age in poor households. Through his work, he strives to enhance the nutritional well-being and health of communities across Tanzania.

2. DEPARTMENT OF NUTRITION EDUCATION AND TRAINING



Dr. Esther Mbela Nkuba

Principal Nutrition Research Officer and
Director of Nutrition Education and Training



Dr. Esther Mbela Nkuba is a Principal Nutrition Research Officer and Director of Nutrition Education and Training, a distinguished leader and strategist with over 18 years of experience driving integrated nutrition programming, research, and Training in Tanzania. Her career is dedicated to transforming food systems to improve nutrition security, dietary diversity, and sustainable livelihoods, particularly for vulnerable populations.

As the Director of Nutrition Education and Training at the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC), she provides strategic leadership for national initiatives such as the dissemination of Food-Based Dietary Guidelines (FBDG), Maternal, Infant, Young Child, and Adolescent Nutrition (MIYCAN), and school feeding programs. She co-developed the National Multisectoral Nutrition Action Plan (NMNAP II) and led the adaptation of the SADC Action Framework for young child diets. Dr. Nkuba has served for a decade on critical technical working groups and is a trusted consultant for international agencies, including Oxford Policy Management and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).

Dr. Nkuba's core expertise lies in mainstreaming nutrition into agricultural development. Through innovative research in postharvest handling, value addition, and agrobiodiversity, she works to reduce nutrient loss and enhance dietary outcomes. She holds a PhD focused on dietary modifications to meet micronutrient needs for children under five and is a recognized authority on: Integrating gender perspectives into agriculture and nutrition; Human-Centered Design and Social Behavior Change Communication (SBCC); Nutrition-sensitive value chain analysis (e.g., banana, sweet potato).

A committed innovator and educator, Dr. Nkuba has developed government-accredited functional foods and builds capacity among farmers, extension workers, and communities using both traditional and digital platforms. She is also an accomplished academic, lecturing in the MSc Nutrition Epidemiology program at Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) and serving as an external examiner for other leading institutions. Additionally, she contributes to the scientific community as a published author and peer reviewer.

Dr. Nkuba holds comprehensive IFAD certifications in various areas, including Code of Conduct, anti-corruption, safeguarding (SEA), security (BSAFE, Cyber Security), Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI), Gender Equality, and administrative policies. Proficient in managing major grants from partners such as BMGF, UNICEF, and Nutrition International, she continues to shape policies and practices that foster resilient food systems and improve community well-being across Tanzania and beyond.



Mr. Eliasaph Kurwijila Mwana

Research Officer



Mr. Eliasaph Kurwijila Mwana works at Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC) as a Research Officer in the department of Nutrition Education and Training. He is responsible for developing and coordinating training courses at the Centre. Eliasaph completed his MSc degree in Public Health Nutrition at Ghent University-Belgium (2013) and BSc degree in Home Economics and Human Nutrition at Sokoine University of Agriculture-Morogoro Tanzania (2006). Eliasaph has worked with local and international NGOs offering his expertise in the field of Public Health Nutrition at national, region, district and community levels. He has skills and experience in coordinating community-based activities including capacity building to local government staff, Community Health Workers and community-based organizations. Since 2014 he has been working as a researcher with different organizations on qualitative and quantitative researches in the public health sector, also coordinating in-service training on food and nutrition for strengthening the capacity of health service providers and other nutrition intervention implementers. Eliasaph is consistently self-driven, adaptable to changing circumstances and methodical.



Penina Sebastian

Research Officer

Penina Sebastian is a Research Officer in the Nutrition Education and Training Department at Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre. She holds an MSc in Food Technology from Wageningen University and Research Netherlands (2016) and BSc in Food Science and Technology from Sokoine University of Agriculture Morogoro Tanzania (2009). She is committed to developing and reviewing food and nutrition curricula and training guidelines in collaboration with relevant institutions; coordinating the development and dissemination of food and nutrition information to the public; coordinating and conducting in-services training to food and nutrition intervention implementers and other health service providers; and conducting food and nutrition research. Her research interests lie in food chemistry, food microbiology, and food biotechnology. She enjoys being part of, as well as leading, a successful and productive team. She is quick to grasp new ideas and concepts, and to develop innovative and creative solutions to problems. She is able to work well on her own initiative and can demonstrate the high levels of motivation required to meet the tightest of deadlines.



Monica Samuel Chipungahelo

Librarian and researcher

Monica Samuel Chipungahelo has been a librarian and researcher at Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre since 2007. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Agriculture General from the Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA), a Bachelor's degree in Library and Information Management from the Open University of Tanzania (OUT), Post Graduate Diploma in Education and Master's degree in Information Studies from the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM). She has played a key role in leading and coordinating the library and documentation section, Ms. Monica has focused on the identification and delivery of evidence based information at the point of need: in the training, clinical setting and research. She has actively participated in the development of competence based curriculum for health information science training in Tanzania. She has also led the promotion of public access to nutrition and health related information in health libraries. Her research interests include; knowledge management, nutrition information literacy, nutrition and social behaviour communication, health information promotion and dissemination. She has several publications including journal articles and articles in conference proceedings.



Emmanuel Twaha Mwindadi

Library Officer II

Emmanuel Twaha Mwindadi is a dedicated Library Officer II at the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC) in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. With a strong academic background and extensive professional training in librarianship, he brings over two decades of experience in library and information management. Mr. Mwindadi holds a Bachelor of Library and Information Management (Second Class Honours, Upper Division) from The Open University of Tanzania, awarded in November 2022. A Diploma in Library, Archives, and Documentation Studies from the School of Library Archives and Documentation Studies in Bagamoyo, obtained in 2005. Prior to this, he earned a Certificate in Library Studies in 2001, as well as a Certificate of Attendance in Elementary Library Training completed in December 1999. Throughout his career, he has gained expertise in cataloguing, reference services, information organization, and broader library and information management functions. His professional contributions include participation in various national and regional exhibitions, showcasing his commitment to promoting knowledge services and information accessibility. Mr. Mwindadi is recognized for his attention to detail, strong organizational skills, and passion for modern library practices. Outside of his professional responsibilities, he enjoys reading books, gardening, and listening to religious music.



Ms. Nusura Lulengelule
Nutrition Research Assistant

Ms. Nusura Lulengelule is a Nutrition Research Assistant with a Bachelor of Science in Family and Consumer Studies from Sokoine University of Agriculture (2022).

She specializes in maternal, infant, young child, and adolescent nutrition, focusing on the design, implementation, and evaluation of nutritional programs across critical life stages from conception through adolescence. Her areas of research interests include: Improving nutrition across critical life stages by tackling anemia and micronutrient deficiencies in pregnant women and adolescents, examining how maternal nutrition shapes infant growth, and understanding the dietary choices and health behaviors of children and adolescents to guide effective nutrition programs and policies

Beyond research, Nusura is actively engaged in nutrition education and training. She provides education through media platforms to raise awareness on key nutrition issues and conducts training sessions to build capacity among communities, health workers, and youth.

Professional Focus

Driven by a commitment to advancing nutritional science and improving public health outcomes, Nusura combines research, education, and training to address pressing nutritional challenges in community. Her work emphasizes evidence-based approaches that empower individuals and communities to make healthier choices across generations.



Ms. Fatma Iddy Juma
Nutrition Researcher.

Ms. Fatma Iddy Juma is a dedicated Nutrition Researcher. Specializing in maternal, infant, young child, and adolescent nutrition. With a strong academic background in Bachelor of science in Human Nutrition from Sokoine University Agriculture, she brings expertise in nutrition training, education and research, supporting evidence-based nutrition interventions and community health initiatives.

Fatma's work is guided by a strong commitment to improving nutrition status and combating forms of malnutrition. She is skilled in delivering capacity-building sessions, supporting nutrition interventions and research that promote healthier communities.

Her research interests focus on Maternal, Infant, Young Child, and Adolescent Nutrition, with a passion for advancing practical and sustainable solutions that improve nutritional wellbeing particularly for vulnerable populations.

Fatma Iddy Juma is a dedicated Nutrition Researcher. specializing in maternal, infant, young child, and adolescent nutrition. With a strong academic background in Bachelor of science in Human Nutrition from Sokoine University Agriculture, she brings expertise in nutrition training, education and research, supporting evidence-based nutrition interventions and community health initiatives.

Fatma's work is guided by a strong commitment to improving nutrition status and combating forms of malnutrition. She is skilled in delivering capacity-building sessions, supporting nutrition interventions and research that promote healthier communities.

Her research interests focus on Maternal, Infant, Young Child, and Adolescent Nutrition, with a passion for advancing practical and sustainable solutions that improve nutritional wellbeing particularly for vulnerable populations.



Ms. Abela Twin'Omujuni
Senior Research Officer

Ms. Abela Twin'Omujuni is a Senior Research Officer at Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC) under the Department of Nutrition Education and Training. She has played a key role in leading, coordinating, and contributing to various national initiatives, including programmes on the prevention and control of nutritional anaemia, nutrition and HIV, and adolescent nutrition.

Ms. Abela holds a Diploma in Clinical Medicine from Mafinga Clinical Officers Training Centre (COTC), awarded in 2000. She served as a Clinician for more than ten years in various health facilities within Temeke District, Tanzania. During this period, she worked across multiple departments including maternal health, pediatrics, surgery, and specialized clinics gaining extensive experience in outpatient and inpatient care, reproductive health services, HIV/AIDS counselling and testing, health and nutrition education, data collection and report writing, as well as administrative functions.

She further advanced her training by earning a Master of Science in Human Nutrition in 2013 and a Bachelor of Science in Home Economics and Human Nutrition in 2007, both from Sokoine University of Agriculture in Morogoro, Tanzania.

Ms. Abela has collaborated with local and international governmental and non-governmental organizations, offering her expertise in health and nutrition from national to community levels. Her work includes designing and implementing projects, conducting research, and supporting capacity-building initiatives.

She is committed to strengthening nutrition interventions that improve the wellbeing of disadvantaged and marginalized groups, empowering women, and addressing adolescent health needs through enhanced nutrition awareness and the use of locally available resources and emerging technologies.



Ms. Maria Paul Ngilisho
Nutritionist



Ms. Maria Paul Ngilisho, a distinguished Tanzanian nutritionist holds an MSc and a BSc in Human Nutrition and a Diploma in Education. She has worked as a professional teacher for a vast number of years; currently she is a senior officer at Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre where she has worked for eleven years. Maria has held key leadership roles in multiple national initiatives such as being the National Coordinator for the development and launch of Tanzania's Food-Based Dietary Guidelines, Leading the Women's Empowerment and Nutrition report writing team in Annual Agriculture Sample Survey, Leading the technical part of nutrition education in Girl-Led Nutrition Sensitive Agriculture Tour Campaign and Co-chair of the Tanzania National Nutrition Survey among others. With an extensive career dedicated to human nutrition, education and leadership roles, she has made significant contributions to nutrition research and nutrition education in Tanzania. Her passion for improving public health through research, education and advocacy has contributed in improved dietary behaviours nation-wide. Her areas of research interest include overweight and obesity, dietary habits and any nutrition-related topic that is in line with her expertise.



Mr. Hamza Abdallah Mwangomale
Research Officer in Communication



Mr. Hamza Abdallah Mwangomale is a Research Officer in Communication and SBCC at the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Center. Before joining the Centre, he was the District Information Officer at Mbeya District Council from 2015 to 2018; also he was serving as tutor in various academic institutions at different time; whereby at Morogoro School of Journalism he served from 2012 to 2014 and at A Three Institute of Professionalism from 2014 to 2015. He holds Bachelor Degree in Mass Communication from Muslim University of Morogoro. Hamza is committed to conduct/managing PR campaign and developing SBCC materials for generation information and knowledge to raise public awareness on taking optimal nutritional practices against all forms of malnutrition.

With more ten years of experience in Research and the field of Mass Communication, Hamza made significant contributions, including leading a campaign in 2016 intended to cutoff the shortage of desks in primary and secondary schools of Mbeya District Council; Capacitate journalists to accurate reporting of nutrition issues to different news genre including news stories, features stories, Radio and TV programs, as well as special documentaries; Development of various SBCC materials for stimulating positive behavior changes including Lishe App, Braille books for blind people, comic book and fun nutrition games for pupils in primary schools.

3. DEPARTMENT OF NUTRITION, POLICY AND PLANNING



Deborah Donald Charwe is a Senior Research Officer–Nutrition at the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC) with over 15 years of professional experience in nutrition programming, research, and policy analysis and translation. She holds a Master of Science in Human Nutrition and a Bachelor of Science in Home Economics and Human Nutrition from Sokoine University of Agriculture. Deborah has extensive expertise in nutrition research design, development and management of routine health and nutrition information systems, and advanced data analysis using statistical software such as Stata SE and Epi Info. She currently leads the Nutrition Policy and Planning Department at TFNC, where her responsibilities include mainstreaming nutrition into sectoral plans through advocacy, generating and disseminating high-quality nutrition data for decision-making, and coordinating the planning, monitoring, and evaluation of nutrition interventions as well as advocate nutrition policy. Her research portfolio focuses on maternal, neonatal, child, and adolescent nutrition and health outcomes in Tanzania and across sub-Saharan Africa.

Deborah Donald Charwe

Senior Research Officer–Nutrition
and Director of Nutrition Policy and Planning



Mr Geoffrey Emmanuel Chiduo is an experienced Nutrition Policy and Planning Specialist with over 25 years of progressive leadership in advancing Tanzania’s national nutrition agenda. Geoffrey has demonstrated leadership in national nutrition agenda-setting through roles at the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC), including Acting Director of Policy and Planning responsible to support the Managing Director in all matters relating to strategic leadership in the national nutrition response, programme and project management, budgeting, information management, consultancy and research among departments.

Geoffrey is currently serving as Head of Policy and Advocacy at the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC) responsible for assisting the Director of Policy and Planning in planning, supervising and coordinating all activities in the policy analysis and advocacy Section. Mr Chiduo upholds a strong track record in nutrition policy development, multi-sectoral coordination, strategic planning, and food security and nutrition analysis.

Mr Geoffrey Emmanuel Chiduo

Nutrition Policy and Planning
Specialist



Mr Chiduo has played a central role in major national processes, including the development and review of the National Food and Nutrition Policy, NMNAP I and II, the Tanzania Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan, and the national nutrition SMART surveys. Mr Chiduo’s expertise spans policy analysis, advocacy, monitoring and evaluation, strategic plan development, and high-level technical guidance to government and partners. With reasonable experience in research, data analysis, and technical facilitation, Mr Chiduo is committed to strengthening nutrition governance and supporting evidence-based, multi-sectoral approaches to improve health and nutrition outcomes in Tanzania. Mr Chiduo is also passionate about policy innovation, capacity building, and systems strengthening that advance sustainable nutrition security. Mr Chiduo holds (among others) a Postgraduate Diploma in Food and Nutrition Security from the International Agricultural Centre (IAC), Wageningen – The Netherlands and a Bachelors of Business Administration from Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Michigan – USA.

Mr. Samson Ndimanga

Senior Research Officer -
Economics and Head of Planning

Mr. Samson Ndimanga is a Senior Research Officer - Economics and Head of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Section under the Department of Nutrition Policy and Planning (TFNC). He holds a Master Degree in Economics (Msc. Economics) from Mzumbe University (MU) and a Bachelor of Arts in Economics (Ba Economics) from the Open University of Tanzania (OUT). Also he is the Budget Officer responsible for preparations of Centre’s Plans and Budget, he ensures the financial integrity of departmental, grant, and designated budgets by monitoring balances and expenditures, coordinates budget preparations from other Departments/Units; receives and scrutinizes the budgets from the Departments/Units and revise them if necessary; and forecasting expenditures based on current and previous expenses or other appropriate factors.

For over 10 years, he has collaborated with various development partners in preparing plans and budgets to mobilize funds and provide guidance on donor fund management. He has worked and continues to work with partners such as the World Food Programme (WFP) in managing funds disbursed to the Centre for program implementation, including fund requests and liquidations. He also serves as a UNICEF focal person, supporting the Government through the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre in managing funds, which includes coordinating fund requests from departments, overseeing liquidations, and submitting financial reports.



Ms. Shufaa Uvila is a Research Officer - Biostatistician and Head of the Nutrition Information System (NIS) at the Department of Nutrition Policy and Planning (TFNC). She manages the Multisectoral Nutrition Information System (MNIS), coordinates cross-sectoral data integration, and conducts statistical analyses to support national nutrition policy, planning, and programming. She holds a MSc in Epidemiology and Applied Biostatistics from Kilimanjaro Christian Medical University College (KCMUCo) and a BSc in Applied Statistics from Mzumbe University.

With over 15 years of experience in data analysis and quality management, Shufaa has contributed to major national and international research projects, including the DREAMS project at the Africa Health Research Institute in South Africa (HIV Research Trust Fellowship, 2019), where she applied advanced expertise in multiple imputation for missing data, advanced statistical modeling, and rigorous epidemiological methods. She has also improved service delivery through ISO 9001:2015 implementation at Tanzania Posts Corporation, contributed to peer-reviewed publications, and presented research at international conferences. Shufaa is highly committed to strengthening national nutrition information systems and advancing evidence-based decision-making, with strong proficiency in R, STATA, SPSS, Geospatial Analytics, and Impact Evaluation. ORCID link: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6540-8774>

Ms. Shufaa Uvila

Research Officer



Mr. Dillan Lyimo is a Research Officer at the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC), working under the Department of Nutrition Policy and Planning, with three years of professional experience specializing in statistics. He is recognized for providing technical support to researchers in study design and data analysis. Dillan has participated in multiple research projects, including collaborations with the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) on data analysis related to food security, nutrition, women's employment and nutrition, and the compilation of the national food balance sheet.

Mr. Dillan Lyimo

Research Officer



Ms. Upendo Joseph Mlengu is a statistician with strong experience in data analysis, monitoring and evaluation and nutrition research. She currently serves as a Research Officer at the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC), where for the past ten months she has supported the design of nutrition studies, conducted data analysis, and contributed to the preparation of scientific reports that inform national nutrition policies and programs.

She holds a Master's Degree in Applied Statistics and a Bachelor of Science in Applied Statistics from Mzumbe University, complemented by specialized training in data management, reporting systems, and pediatric and adolescent HIV/AIDS case management. Upendo previously worked as a Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Officer at NAFGEM Tanzania, leading data quality assessments and project performance tracking.

She is committed to advancing high-quality data systems and contributing to nutrition-focused research that enhances program effectiveness and improves well-being across communities in Tanzania and the wider region.

Ms. Upendo Joseph Mlengu

Statistician

3. DEPARTMENT OF NUTRITION, POLICY AND PLANNING



Ms. Zahara Daudi
Research Officer



Ms. Zahara Daudi is a Research Officer at the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC), specializing in social work, nutrition and related issues. With over 23 years of experience at TFNC, she has transitioned from administrative roles to impactful research, focusing on food and nutrition security, food based dietary guidelines, and maternal-child nutrition. Zahara holds a Master of Arts in Social Work from the Open University of Tanzania and an Advanced Diploma in Social Work. Her research includes studies on food taboos and preferences among women of reproductive age in mainland Tanzania, barriers to healthy diets for HIV-positive pregnant women, and initial survey for a rural food fortification programs.

She authored a qualitative study on food taboos and preferences among adolescent girls, pregnant women, breastfeeding mothers, and children aged 6-23 months in Mainland Tanzania, exploring barriers to accessing healthy diets among pregnant women living with HIV in the Njombe region, Tanzania, assessing the school food environment and its role on healthy eating behaviors among school age children in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, and contributed to the National Multi-sectoral Nutrition Action Plan, Mid-Term Review of NMNAP. Her international training in social protection (South Africa/Sweden) underscores her commitment to sustainable development. Zahara's expertise spans qualitative research, policy reviews, and community nutrition interventions.

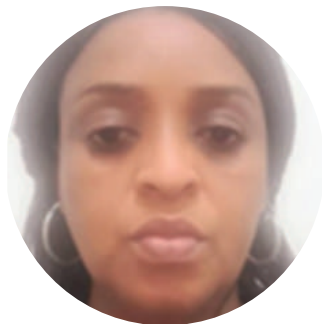


Ms. Martha Kibona
Research Officer in the Policy and
Advocacy Section



Ms. Martha Kibona is a Research Officer in the Policy and Advocacy Section and holds an MSc in Human Nutrition. She is committed to generating knowledge that informs policy, supports effective program implementation, and enhances the capacity of communities and institutions to respond to nutrition challenges.

Her scholarly contributions include research that examining how livelihood settings influence infant and young child feeding practices, particularly comparing pastoralist and crop-farming communities in rural Tanzania. Her work has also analyzed differences in the nutrition status of children under two years of age within these communities, highlighting the factors that shape growth outcomes and the need for context specific nutrition interventions. She continues to strengthen her expertise in nutrition research, policy analysis, and stakeholder engagement.



Ms. Josephine Manase Rusage
Research Officer



Ms. Josephine Manase Rusage is a self-motivated social science practitioner and Research Officer with extensive experience in counseling and research across the fields of Social Work, Sociology, Food Security, HIV Counseling, and Rural Development. Her long-standing service within government institutions has strengthened her adaptability, self-reliance, and professionalism. These experiences have also enriched her communication, interpersonal, and reporting skills.

Josephine currently serves as a Senior Research Officer at the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC) under the Nutrition Policy and Planning Department, specifically in the Planning, Budgeting, Monitoring and Evaluation Section. With over 23 years of professional experience, she supports the development of the Centre's periodic performance reports, including quarterly and annual reports. She has participated in numerous research activities involving data collection, data entry, and statistical analysis in various nutrition-related studies.

Her key research engagements include coordinating the Nutrition Stakeholders Mapping (2021) and contributing to the Food Systems Assessment on the Impact of COVID-19 (2022) in collaboration with FAO. She also serves as a national facilitator in pre-planning and budgeting sessions for councils as a trainer for Regional and Council Nutrition Officers.

4. DEPARTMENT OF FOOD SCIENCE AND NUTRITION



Dr. Analice Kamala

Director, Department of Food Science and Nutrition

Dr. Analice Kamala, has over 25 years of experience with extensive background and expertise in food safety, analytical chemistry, food science and nutrition, and food regulatory affairs. Dr. Analice Kamala currently is Acting Director, Department of Food Science and Nutrition at the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC). In this position, she oversees and manages significant policy initiatives for the Institution. She currently focuses on implementation of the various nutrition interventions such as product development including food fortification, prevention/reduction of food safety hazard contamination in food to reduce their effect on health and food security, food safety risk assessment to inform risk management option and policy change. Prior, Dr. Kamala worked for the then Tanzania Food and drugs Authority (TFDA) Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) where she was responsible for various activities including; (1) food risk assessment focusing on hazards with negative impact on nutrition outcome, (2) science-based regulatory and legislative activities and (3) technical consultation as a member of National and Regional Technical Working Group and Technical Committees in various areas of food and nutrition including Food labelling, Food Contaminants, Food Hygiene and safety management, and Codex Committee on Food Labelling.

Her Research interest is in the area of food safety and mycotoxin contamination, integrating analytical chemistry, exposure modelling, and community-based interventions to reduce mycotoxin contamination in staple crops and complementary foods in Tanzania. Her work has significantly contributed to the understanding of mycotoxin risks associated with maize, a staple food in the region, and its implications for public health. Dr. Kamala's recent publications highlight her commitment to addressing the challenges posed by aflatoxins and fumonisins in maize. Notable studies include investigations into the outbreak of acute aflatoxicosis in Tanzania and the effectiveness of post-harvest interventions aimed at reducing mycotoxin levels and dietary exposure among vulnerable populations, particularly infants. Her research employs rigorous methodologies, including cluster randomized-controlled trials, to assess the impact of local agricultural practices on mycotoxin contamination. In addition to her research contributions, Dr. Kamala has collaborated with various institutions within and outside the country, including SUA, UDSM and UGent, to promote awareness and develop strategies for mitigating mycotoxin risks. Her work not only advances scientific knowledge but also seeks to improve food safety and health outcomes in affected communities. Through her dedication to research and community engagement, Dr. Kamala continues to be a leading voice in the field of food safety, making significant strides in understanding and combating mycotoxin contamination in Tanzania and beyond. Dr. Kamala is also a part-time lecturer at Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences and University of Dar es Salaam. Dr. Kamala holds a Ph.D. in Applied Biological Sciences (Food and Nutrition) from Ghent-University, Belgium, an M.Sc. in Food Technology from the KU Leuven-Ghent Inter-University Programme, Belgium and a B.Sc. in Food-Science and Technology from Sokoine-University of Agriculture, Tanzania.



Dr. Ladislaus Manaku Kasankala

Senior researcher

Dr. Ladislaus Manaku Kasankala (Ph.D.) is a senior researcher at the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC) with over 20 years of experience in food and nutrition research. He currently serves as Head of the Food Quality and Safety Section within the Department of Food Science and Nutrition. His expertise spans food product development and formulation, with leadership in research areas including fish fermentation, gelatin extraction, antioxidants, food fortification, and cassava processing. He is also actively engaged in capacity building and technical innovation to address food safety, malnutrition, and the transformation of Tanzania's food systems.

Professional Roles and Responsibilities

Dr. Kasankala leads strategic research initiatives and proposal development for food and nutrition projects. He supports small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and food processors through capacity building in food safety management systems, including Good Manufacturing Practices (GMPs) and Good Hygiene Practices (GHPs), as well as product formulation. His work also emphasizes advocacy for sustainable, climate-smart food systems and circular economy approaches.

His research interests include food product development and formulation, bioactive compounds and nutraceuticals, fermented foods and probiotics, food safety and allergen profiling, circular economy and climate-smart food systems, and strengthening food safety systems through GMPs and GHPs.

Dr. Kasankala holds a Ph.D. in Fish Fermentation and an M.Phil. in Gelatin Extraction from universities in China, and a B.Sc. in Food Science and Technology from Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania. He has also received professional certifications in HACCP auditing and enterprise planning in the food processing sector. His recent projects include bioprospecting spirulina for sustainable food, energy, water, and health (2025); combating malnutrition using grain amaranth (2024); development of nutrient-dense snack bars from biofortified beans for school children and adolescents (2022–2025); and the DualCassava project on climate-resilient cassava for improved food security in Tanzania's Lake Zone (2018–2021).



Wessy Meghji
Senior Research Officer



Wessy Meghji is an experienced Senior Research Officer in Food Technology at the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre, specializing in food preservation, product development, and nutrition-focused innovations that enhance community health and wellbeing in Tanzania. Committed to tackling malnutrition, she leads the development of nutrient-dense food products for children under five and guides research initiatives that support the creation of safe, nutritious, and culturally appropriate food solutions. She also serves as the institutional focal person for the national food fortification program, where she plays a key role in strengthening strategies that improve micronutrient intake across the population.

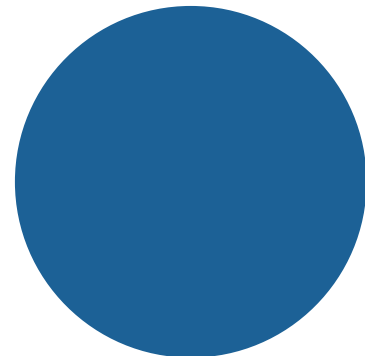
Wessy currently heads the Food Preservation and Product Development Section, where she oversees research activities and coordinates product development efforts related to food technology interventions. She holds an MSc in Food Science and Technology and brings extensive experience working at the intersection of nutrition, food preservation and product innovation. Passionate about improving public health through practical and sustainable food solutions, Wessy remains dedicated to building a healthier future for all especially for vulnerable children.



Devotha Gabriel Mushumbusi
Food scientist



Devotha Gabriel Mushumbusi is a dedicated Food scientist at Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre with expertise in Food quality, safety, research, development of education/training materials and product development. She has more than 8 years of working experience in the field of Food science and nutrition. Currently, she is working as a Research scientist in the Department of Food Science and Nutrition at TFNC. Her main duties under this section include research in food and nutrition related, programs and projects implementation, Training food vendors on Good Hygienic Practices and Good Manufacturing Practices, and development of food and nutrition products. She has a good work experience in research and surveys. She has participated in Soil transmitted helminths and schistosome in pre-school aged children survey as a coordinator, Post- event coverage Survey of Vitamin A supplementation as a Regional supervisor, Bottleneck analysis study on Child health and nutrition month services coverage in 6 regions of mainland Tanzania 2022 as a supervisor. Now she is working on the development of (food consumption questionnaire) research tools for Food consumption and nutrient intake among women of reproductive age (15-49 years) in Tanzania using the 24 hours' dietary recall method survey.



Dr. Beatrice Samson Bachwenkizi

Agricultural economist with rich experience in commodity value chain development



Dr. Beatrice Samson Bachwenkizi is an agricultural economist with rich experience in commodity value chain development. She has experience in carrying out the economics analysis of production, processing, marketing of agricultural commodity as well as linking farmers to market. Beatrice is also responsible for conducting and disseminating food and nutrition researches to alleviate nutrition problems for human wellbeing. She holds a PhD in Agricultural Economics, Msc degree in Agricultural Economics and Bsc degree in Home Economics and Human Nutrition at Sokoine University of Agriculture.

Beatrice also had worked for the local Government Authority as a Community Development Officer where she was responsible for facilitating, mobilizing and sensitizing communities on issues pertaining to their development including formation of women and youth income generation groups, capacity building of the groups in business skills, record keeping, business plans development, and economic empowerment through loans provision. She has authored and co - authored six food and agricultural research publications in various forms.



Cypriana Cyprian Moshi

Food scientist with a strong academic and research background in food science, nutrition, and food systems

Cypriana Cyprian Moshi is a dedicated food scientist with a strong academic and research background in food science, nutrition, and food systems. She is currently pursuing a PhD in Food Science and Technology at Eduardo Mondlane University in Maputo, Mozambique. Her doctoral work focuses on addressing critical challenges within food systems through scientific innovation and evidence-based solutions. Her research specifically aims to analyze the nutritional and bioactive chemicals found in seaweeds cultivated in Tanzania, thereby enhancing the understanding of the significance and application of seaweeds as a novel and underexplored marine resource in functional food production. Also, currently she is employed as a Senior Research Officer at the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Center.

Cypriana Cyprian Moshi has a Master's Degree in Life Science and Engineering, specializing in Food and Nutrition Sciences, at the Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology (NM-AIST) in Arusha, Tanzania. Her master's training strengthened her skills in food analysis, nutritional assessment, food product innovation, and scientific research. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Food Science and Technology from the Sokoine University of Agriculture in Morogoro, Tanzania, where she built a solid foundation in food processing, food chemistry, and the preservation of agricultural products.

Her research interests span a wide range of areas within the food sciences, including: advancements in food processing, sensory evaluation, quality control, sustainable and innovation food product designing, food engineering and process optimization. Driven by a passion for improving food security, consumer health, and sustainability, Cypriana Cyprian Moshi aims to contribute to effective solutions in the food sector through research, innovation, and professional practice.



Francis Millinga

Research scientist specializing in biochemistry

Francis Millinga is a dedicated research scientist specializing in biochemistry, with extensive expertise in the fields of nutrition biomarkers, application of stable isotopes techniques in nutrition interventions, food chemistry, food safety and food fortification. He holds a bachelor of science in Molecular Biology and Biotechnology and a Master of Science in Biochemistry, his significant experience in method validation within food chemistry and biochemistry laboratories ensures analytical procedures are accurate, reliable, and compliant with international standards.

His research spans a broad spectrum of areas including food safety assessment, nutritional biomarkers, food fortification and the evaluation of nutritional quality in food. Francis has played a pivotal role in advancing food fortification programs, contributing to the development of strategies that enhance the nutritional value of foods and improve public health outcomes.

Through his work, Francis has demonstrated a strong commitment to scientific rigor, innovation, and the practical application of biochemistry in addressing real world challenges in nutrition and food quality. His expertise continues to support the advancement of laboratory standards, food fortification initiatives, and nutritional research, making him a respected figure in the field of food science and biochemistry.



Jubilate Mremi

Research Officer

Jubilate Mremi is a Research Officer at the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC), where she contributes to research and program development aimed at improving the country's nutrition and food safety outcomes. She holds a Master of Science degree (MSc.) in Food Quality and Safety Assurance and a Bachelor of Science degree (BSc.) in Food Science and Technology. With a strong background in food safety and quality management, product development, and nutrition improvement, she contributes to research and initiatives related to food safety, dietary improvement, and the development of nutritious food products. Her work supports TFNC's mission of fighting all forms of malnutrition in Tanzania through evidence-based research, capacity building, and advocacy.



Kaunara Azizi

Health researcher with over seven years of working experience in hospitals, academia, and research institutions

Kaunara Azizi is a health researcher with over seven years of working experience in hospitals, academia, and research institutions. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Health Laboratory Sciences and a Master of Science in Medical Microbiology, Immunology with Molecular biology from Kilimanjaro Christian Medical University.

As a dedicated Public Health Researcher at the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre, He is committed to advancing maternal and child health and combating micronutrient deficiencies and infectious diseases across Tanzania. His work leverages epidemiological and laboratory methodologies to unravel the complex determinants of micronutrient deficiencies, particularly iron, folate, and vitamin B12, among pregnant women and children.

His research provides crucial evidence to inform targeted public health interventions, strengthen health and nutritional programs, and enhance disease surveillance in resource-limited settings. He is passionate about translating scientific insights into actionable strategies that directly improve health outcomes.

Expertise includes: Public Health Research, Micronutrient Deficiencies, Maternal and Child Health, Microbiology, Molecular Biology, and Infectious Disease.



Mr. Malimi Emmanuel Kitunda

Research Officer

Mr. Malimi Emmanuel Kitunda is a Tanzanian holds an MSc in Food Technology from Katholieke Universiteit of Leuven (Belgium) and BSc in Food Science and Technology from Sokoine University of Agriculture. Mr. Malimi is an employee of Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC), with main duties in conducting research on Food Science and Technology. He has been involved in implementing interventions aimed at preventing and controlling micronutrient deficiencies. Mr. Malimi is participating in developing new food products specifically designed to combat malnutrition in children and other vulnerable groups. He has been working in cassava value chain for over 10 years under two projects currently implemented in collaboration with TFNC: Cassava: Adding Value for Africa (C: AVA), funded by BMGF and Small Scale Cassava Processing and Vertical Integration of the Cassava Sub-sector in East and Southern Africa funded by the Common Fund for Commodities (CFC), focused on improving the livelihood of smallholder farmers through commercialization of higher-value cassava products. Furthermore, he has published several scientific peer-reviewed articles.



Stephano K. Nguzwa

Research Officer

Stephano K. Nguzwa is a Tanzanian professional with a Bachelor of Science in Food Science and Technology, dedicated to advancing nutrition, food safety, and public health through evidence-based research and practical field experience.

He currently serves as a Research Assistant (Food Science) at the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC), where he supports scientific studies, dietary assessments and product development aimed at improving national nutrition outcomes.

He previously worked as a Nutrition Officer at Tabora Municipal Council, contributing to planning, implementing, and monitoring key nutrition programs, including growth monitoring, maternal and child health interventions, and community nutrition.

His career began as a Food Science and Nutrition Tutor at Mahinya College of Sustainable Agriculture, where he trained and mentored students in food science and sustainable agriculture. Stephano remains committed to strengthening food systems, promoting innovative nutrition solutions, and supporting policies that enhance community well-being.



Tedson Edward Lukindo
Senior researcher and Head of Nutritional
biochemistry section



Tedson Edward Lukindo is a senior researcher and Head of Nutritional biochemistry section in the Department of Food and Nutrition at Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC). He also serves as Head of food and nutrition laboratory services at TFNC.

He holds Masters in Life Sciences and bioengineering specializing in Health and medical biosciences from Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology (NM-AIST, Tanzania). He has extensive knowledge and experience in research and laboratory sciences in the areas of food, nutrition and infectious diseases. Previously, he participated in Malaria genetics research at KCMC, Joint Malaria Malaria program as well as assessment of immunogenicity of vaccine candidates of Tuberculosis and Malaria including RTS'S malaria vaccine at Ifakara Health Institute, Tanzania.

His most recent work as researcher and Head of nutritional biochemistry section at TFNC focuses on conducting nutrition genetics studies and assessment of body nutrition profile in health and diseases. His scope of work include coordinating the process of integrating body nutritional biomarkers as assessment tools in nutrition research, surveillance and in intervention program monitoring. He have been participating in designing, planning, coordinating and reporting Micronutrient studies in several national and sub-national nutrition surveys including the most recent Micronutrient survey under 2022 Tanzania Demographic and Health Survey. He also conducted nutrition efficacy studies to assist formulation and development of nutrient rich food products at TFNC.

Tedson Lukindo also hold a position of head of laboratory services at TFNC. His work include overall management of laboratory services, validation of laboratory methods and optimizing field protocols for nutrition biomarker assessment. In the year 2020 to 2022 he assisted planning and coordinating activities of food fortification program under TFNC.



Benson Kusirie Mushi
Research Assistant



Benson Kusirie Mushi is a dedicated Food Scientist and Research Assistant at the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC). With a background in BSc Food Science and Technology and over three years of experience in quality control within the meat industry, he has developed strong expertise in food safety, product development, and nutrition research. His work focuses on improving the nutritional quality of locally available foods for vulnerable groups and promoting food security through innovative, evidence-based solutions. Benson aspires to become a chief researcher capable of addressing national nutritional priority problems and advancing sustainable nutrition strategies in Tanzania.

