

CHOICE Project Dissemination Workshop

Focus SDGs: SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 13 (Climate Action)

Date: 18th October 2025

Background

The CHOICE Project dissemination workshop convened national stakeholders from government, academia, civil society, and the private sector to deliberate on the intersection of climate change, gender equity, and health within the Tanzanian context.

Discussions focused on how Public–Private Partnerships (PPPs) and technocratic engagement can accelerate progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals by promoting climate-resilient, gender-responsive, and health-centered interventions.

Participants emphasized that the impacts of climate change on human health—particularly among women, children, and vulnerable communities—require integrated policies, sustained collaboration, and evidence-based action across sectors.



CHOICE Tanzania Dissemination workshop – Oct 18th, 2025

Key Findings

Fragmented Approaches: Current policy and institutional frameworks addressing health, gender, and climate are largely siloed, limiting synergy and collective impact.

Limited Private Sector Engagement: Despite potential influence, the private sector's participation in climate-smart health initiatives remains minimal and largely uncoordinated.

Research–Implementation Gap: Evidence generated by technocrats and researchers often does not translate into actionable programs or policy uptake.

Rising Mental Health Concerns: Climate stressors disproportionately affect mental well-being, yet this dimension remains underrepresented in both policy and practice.

Opportunities for Leadership: Tanzania can position itself as a regional leader by mainstreaming climate and gender considerations in health programming through PPP-driven innovations.

Key Policy Recommendations

1. Strengthen Public–Private Partnerships (PPPs) and Technical Collaboration

Build capacity and share knowledge among private sector actors (health facilities, pharmaceutical industries) on climate-friendly and sustainable practices—drawing lessons from AKHST's green initiatives.

Incentivize development and uptake of climate-friendly health technologies (e.g., energy-efficient cooling systems, solar-powered equipment).

Provide tax and financial incentives to organizations investing in climate-smart innovations.

Ensure transparency and accountability in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) contributions through joint public–private monitoring mechanisms.

Support technocrats and researchers in conducting context-specific studies on the health impacts of climate change to inform local adaptation strategies.

Enforce regulatory frameworks for emission monitoring and sustainability reporting in both public and private sectors.

2. Promote Integrated Policy Frameworks

Review the National Mental Health Policy to include provisions linking climate change, gender equity, and mental well-being.

Establish a National Steering Committee to oversee integrated policy responses to climate change, gender, and health challenges.

Institutionalize structured engagement with Parliament through policy briefs and testimonies to strengthen legislative understanding of climate–health linkages.

Recognize and engage technical experts and think tanks in national policy development—particularly for maternal, child, and reproductive health adaptation strategies.

Institutionalize an Annual Multisectoral National Dialogue on Climate and Health to assess progress, align actions, and sustain collaboration among ministries, development partners, civil society, and the private sector.

3. Promote Mental Well-being and Community Resilience

Develop tailored policies addressing mental well-being among health care workers, including psychosocial support systems.

Integrate climate change and mental health into school and university curricula, moving from extra-curricular to mainstream teaching.

Shift national discourse toward “mental well-being” terminology to reduce stigma and foster inclusivity.

Translate existing policies into community-based action, drawing from traditional knowledge systems and supporting peer-led mental health initiatives.

Establish community mental health champions and localized peer-support groups that reflect cultural and contextual realities.

Conclusion

The CHOICE dissemination workshop reaffirmed Tanzania’s commitment to advancing climate-resilient, gender-equitable, and health-promoting development pathways.

Sustained collaboration through Public–Private Partnerships, stronger technocratic engagement, and policy integration will be critical in bridging current gaps and accelerating progress toward SDGs 3, 5, and 13.

To maintain momentum, stakeholders agreed to pursue annual joint dialogues, institutionalize cross-sector coordination mechanisms, and continue evidence-based advocacy for climate-smart health policies that safeguard both the planet and its people.

