



Organized by

United Republic Of Tanzania
Prime Minister's Office
Policy, Parliament, and Coordination
(PMO-PPC)



4TH TANZANIA MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND LEARNING (MEL) CONFERENCE 2025

**Theme: Community-Led M&E: Building Local
Capacity and MEL Ownership for Sustainable Impact**

 **10th – 13th September 2025**  **Malaika Beach Resort, Mwanza – Tanzania**

CONCEPT NOTE

Introduction

Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) are critical pillars in the governance and development architecture of any nation. In Tanzania, these elements have taken centre stage in shaping effective policy design, implementation, and assessment. MEL Week 2025 provides a national platform to convene MEL stakeholders from government, civil society, academia, and the private sector to share insights, strengthen collaboration, and advance MEL practices that drive evidence-based decision-making.

MEL Week 2025 builds upon the success and momentum of the past three MEL Week events hosted in Dodoma (2022), Arusha (2023), and Zanzibar (2024). Each year has marked progressive growth in fostering a national MEL ecosystem, with increasing interest and participation across regions and sectors. This year’s conference will prioritize community-led MEL, localization of MEL systems, technological innovations, and climate-sensitive development.

Background and Rationale

Over the past decade, the Government of Tanzania has progressively institutionalized MEL systems to improve transparency, accountability, and performance in public service delivery. The alignment of MEL frameworks with national development strategies such as Vision 2025, FYDP III, SDGs, and Agenda 2063 has led to a more coherent and results-oriented planning and implementation culture.

The importance of institutionalizing MEL cannot be overstated. Embedding MEL systems across public institutions, civil society, and private sector initiatives ensures timely assessment of program performance and provides essential feedback loops for adaptive management. It also enhances stakeholder participation, resource optimization, and long-term sustainability of interventions.

MEL Week is a strategic event to drive national momentum on evaluation culture. It enables stakeholders to share practical lessons, innovations, tools, and challenges in MEL implementation. MEL Week 2025 will aim to deepen the conversation on decentralizing MEL practices and strengthening the role of local communities and regional authorities in monitoring and learning.

Evolution of MEL Week

The MEL Week has evolved significantly over the past three years, marking important milestones in the country’s MEL journey. Each edition has built upon the lessons and achievements of the previous year, helping Tanzania strengthen its MEL capacity and infrastructure:

Year	Location	Focus Areas
2022	Dodoma	Introduction of national MEL policies and frameworks
2023	Arusha	Regional MEL integration, sectoral MEL strategies, partnerships
2024	Zanzibar	Technology-driven MEL, AI integration, digital dashboards

Objectives

1. Strengthen MEL systems across local, regional, and national levels
2. Promote evidence-based policy-making and service delivery
3. Foster partnerships in MEL financing and institutional development
4. Build capacity for community-led MEL initiatives
5. Enable knowledge-sharing through case studies and best practices

Theme and Sub-Themes

Main Theme: “Community-Led M&E: Empowering Local Communities Through Effective M&E and Learning”

Sub-Themes:

Strengthening Community-Led MEL for Policy and Governance

Digital Transformation and Innovation in MEL

Climate-Sensitive MEL and Resilience Building

Impact investment and MEL: How data-driven evaluations attract investors

Key Activities

Pre-Conference Regional Zonal Engagement (June – Mid-August 2025)

A dedicated MEL delegation will visit regions across seven zones to engage stakeholders including Regional Secretariats (RSs), Local Government Authorities (LGAs), and MDAs. Objectives of this engagement include:

Encouraging participation in MEL Week 2025

Aligning regional MEL efforts with national frameworks

Collecting MEL case studies, challenges, and innovative practices

Supporting preparation of zonal presentations for the main conference

Zonal Divisions and Suggested MEL Focus Areas

Zone	Regions	Focus	Topics	Economic Importance
Lake Zone	Mwanza, Mara, Kagera, Geita, Simiyu, Shinyanga	M&E in Fisheries, Agriculture, and Mining	Performance tracking of Lake Victoria fisheries, value-chain assessments in agriculture, mining oversight	Gold, cotton, coffee, fishing, rice, mining
Northern Zone	Arusha, Kilimanjaro, Manyara, Tanga	Tourism, Minerals, Agribusiness	M&E in tourism revenue, wildlife conservation, coffee/horticulture chains	Serengeti, Ngorongoro, Kilimanjaro, horticulture
Central Zone	Dodoma, Singida, Tabora	Governance, Infrastructure, Climate Resilience	Monitoring national development plans, infrastructure project tracking, semi-arid adaptation	Government HQ, transport, sunflower farming
Western Zone	Kigoma, Katavi, Rukwa	Cross-Border Trade, Agriculture, Fisheries	Lake Tanganyika trade evaluation, crop monitoring	Trade with DRC/Burundi, palm oil, beans, maize
Southern Highlands Zone	Mbeya, Iringa, Njombe, Ruvuma	Commercial Agriculture and Forestry	Cash crop evaluation (tea, avocado), forestry sustainability	Timber, fertile land, tea, coffee
Southern Zone	Lindi, Mtwara, Ruvuma	Energy, Gas, Minerals, Agribusiness	Gas economy impact, cashew assessments, port logistics	Gas fields, cashew, Mtwara port
Coastal and Eastern Zone	Dar, Pwani, Morogoro	Urbanization, Industrialization	MEL of SEZs, industrial policies, coastal conservation	Manufacturing, trade, urban growth
Zanzibar & Offshore Islands	Unguja, Pemba, Mafia Island	Maritime and Tourism Economy	MEL in blue economy, sustainable fishing, tourism GDP tracking	Spice trade, tourism, autonomous governance

Keynote speeches

Keynote speakers will be drawn from leading national, regional, and international experts in monitoring, evaluation, and learning (MEL), policy formulation, governance, and accountability. These high-profile speakers will deliver insightful addresses on global best practices, emerging MEL trends, and evidence-based policy frameworks that are shaping development evaluation and decision-making.

Round-table discussions

Round-table discussions at the conference will serve as an interactive space where participants engage in high-level knowledge exchange, case study analysis, and evaluation reflections.

Poster presentations

Poster presentations will showcase research, evaluations, innovative methodologies, and policy recommendations relevant to MEL. These presentations will provide a visual representation of findings and offer an opportunity for researchers, practitioners, and policymakers to engage in direct knowledge-sharing and peer review.

Exhibitions

The exhibition space at the MEL Conference 2025 will provide a platform for stakeholders, institutions, businesses, and development partners to showcase their products, services, research, and innovations related to monitoring, evaluation, and learning.



Professional development workshops

MEL Conference 2025 will feature specialized training sessions designed to enhance participants' technical skills and practical knowledge in evaluation, data management, and policy application. These workshops will provide an interactive, skills-based learning experience for MEL practitioners at different levels of expertise.

Conclusion

MEL Week 2025 serves as a platform to celebrate progress, confront challenges, and collectively envision the future of MEL in Tanzania. Through pre-conference engagement and collaborative sessions, the event will catalyse national efforts toward institutionalizing MEL and enhancing service delivery. The localization of MEL practices and the empowerment of community actors remain central to achieving sustainable development outcomes.

Let us work together to build a robust, inclusive MEL ecosystem that supports learning, transparency, and development across all levels of governance in Tanzania.



For more details, contact the organizing committee at:



+255 762 359 264
+255 759 843 428



melconference@pmo.go.tz
cc: tzmelweek@pmo.go.tz



www.event.pmo.go.tz

WhatsApp text only—no calls!



Tanzania
MEL Week 2025