



# Digital Freedom and Innovation Day By The Chanzo

 April 20, 2024

The world has changed. You can make this statement, and it could mean something different every minute. Digital technology is changing the world faster than humanity could have imagined.

In this development, everyone tries to have a stake in the new world; some are doing it much better, and some are left as spectators. Tanzania still needs to catch up if its citizens are to have an adequate stake in the new and changing world.

If history teaches us anything, from the invention of the steam engine to the internet, there is a direct relation between freedoms and innovation in any society; societies, where people are free to think and imagine, have always been ahead.

To date, over 35 million Tanzanians have access to the internet. We all have a significant stake in Tanzania's digital sphere and global digital ecosystem.

Instagram has become a new shop and a showbiz stage for artists. YouTube has become a stage for creators to earn their living. X, formerly Twitter, has become an extension of the country's political dialogue for analysts, economists, and change-makers.

To many Tanzanians, digital platforms mean tens of billions of shillings, jobs, a space for creativity, political dialogues, learning new skills, and building communities.

Nevertheless, some risks associated with these new opportunities include fraud, cybercrimes, cyberbullying and harassment, laws, and practices that hamper innovation and limited skills among Tanzanians on recent trends and emerging technologies such as AI.

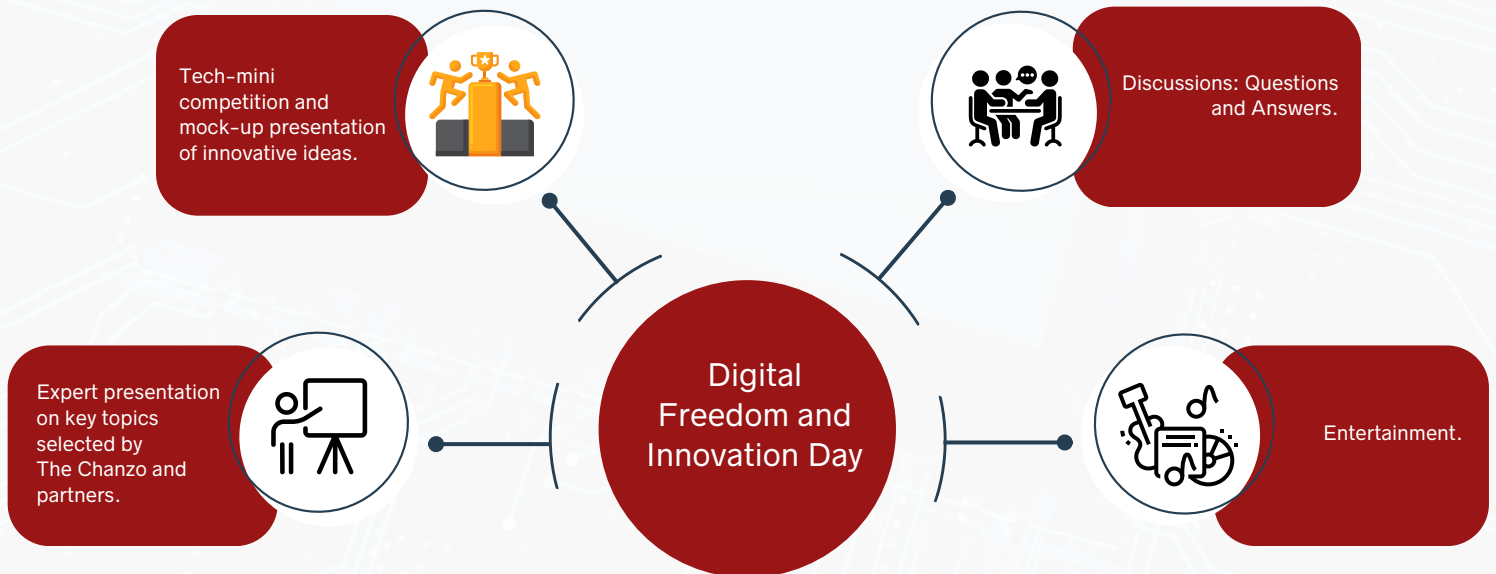


# The Chanzo Presents: Digital Freedom and Innovation Day By The Chanzo

April 21 is the world's Creativity and Innovation Day. Understanding the importance of freedom in enhancing innovation and creativity, The Chanzo will host Freedom and Innovation Day By The Chanzo on April 20, 2024, in Dar es Salaam.

It'll be a one-day event featuring 500 people, including opinion leaders, innovators, and changemakers from Tanzania's civic, creative and artistic communities, who will participate in discussions about the intersection of freedom and innovation in an era of digital technologies.

The event aims to celebrate triumphs made, remaining challenges, and imagining a better tomorrow where people are freer to innovate, create, exchange and express their ideas. Key components of the events will include:



## THE PROGRAM

### Expert presentation on key topics

Topics identified:

- Tanzania's Digital Future: Ready or Not? Examining tech development through experiences from Tanzania, Africa, and beyond.
- Digital Media and the future of journalism in Tanzania
- Digital platforms as a medium for public discourse: From elections and civic engagement to online misinformation and disinformation.

Format: These discussions will feature Ted-style presentations by experts and a panel discussion involving actors on the ground.

### Tech-mini competition and mock-up presentation of innovative ideas

A 45-minute session of 'elevator pitch' presentation of innovative ideas in the market or some still in the pipeline.

### Discussions: Question and answers

Members of the audience will have an opportunity to ask questions and share comments.



## About The Chanzo

*The Chanzo Initiative*, or simply *The Chanzo*, is a bilingual multimedia company based in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. With its network of journalists across Tanzania, *The Chanzo* has been the most reliable source of analytical, independent, and objective journalism.

As a multimedia company, *The Chanzo* has been known for going beyond the news through analysis and reports that examine issues in depth and using creative short videos, audio, and infographics to tell stories that break down issues into more consumable pieces for the wider audience.



Here are some of the past reference stories from The Chanzo around freedom and innovation:

- Tanzania's Tech Start-Ups Looking to Take on Africa Market- <https://shorturl.at/rtGMT>
- YoungBoldDigital: 'Start-Ups Are At the Bottom of the Start-up Ecosystems'- <https://thechanzo.com/2022/06/17/youngbolddigital-start-ups-are-at-the-bottom-of-the-start-up-ecosystems/>
- Bridging the Digital Divide: This Tanzania's Village is About to be Connected, See What Will Change- <https://shorturl.at/chPX4>
- Infographic: Banks And Mobile Networks In Tanzania Have Issued Loans Amounting To 50.9 Trillion- <https://shorturl.at/hmK37>
- Why Internet Censorship Is Counterproductive- <https://thechanzo.com/2020/11/03/why-internet-censorship-is-counterproductive/>
- The Internet Is More of a Necessity Than a Luxury. Why Make It Expensive Then?- <https://thechanzo.com/2023/03/18/the-internet-is-more-of-a-necessity-than-a-luxury-why-make-it-expensive-then/>
- What Happens When Your Personal Data Are Used for Malicious Motives?- <https://thechanzo.com/2022/08/12/what-happens-when-your-personal-data-are-used-for-malicious-motives/>
- #YoungBold&Digital:Tanzania's Tech Start-Ups Looking to Take on Africa Market- <https://thechanzo.com/2022/06/08/youngbolddigitaltanzanias-tech-start-ups-looking-to-take-on-africa-market/>
- The Metaverse Will Open Up New Opportunities for Africa – And the Globe- <https://thechanzo.com/2022/09/26/the-metaverse-will-open-up-new-opportunities-for-africa-and-the-globe/>
- #YoungBoldDigital: How Regulatory Environment Is Working Against Tanzania's Tech Start-Ups- <https://shorturl.at/kpBPX>
- Experts: Struggle For Influence in Africa Has Shifted Online <https://thechanzo.com/2023/11/09/experts-struggle-for-influence-in-africa-has-shifted-online/>
- Tanzania's Digital Paradox: Affordable Data, Unaffordable Connectivity <https://thechanzo.com/2023/11/28/tanzanias-digital-paradox-affordable-data-unaffordable-connectivity/>



- Tanzanian Bank Warned of Cybersecurity Threats: ‘Robbers Don’t Come in Through the Front Door Anymore’ <https://thechanzo.com/2024/03/12/tanzanian-bank-warned-of-cybersecurity-threats-robbers-dont-come-in-through-the-front-door-anymore/>
- Digital Currency: The Future of Money or Just a Speculative Bubble?-  
<https://thechanzo.com/2021/06/16/digital-currency-the-future-of-money-or-just-a-speculative-bubble/>

