



Concept Note

Call for Abstracts (Oral and Poster Presentations) for the 2026 Annual General Meeting of the Tanzania Association of Food Scientists and Technologists (TAFST)

1. Background

Food systems today are under increasing pressure due to climate change, rapid urbanization, evolving consumer demands, and the need to strengthen food safety and ethical practices across value chains. These pressures call for stronger collaboration between researchers, industry, regulators, and other stakeholders to ensure that food production, processing, and distribution remain safe, sustainable, and responsive to emerging challenges.

The Tanzania Association of Food Scientists and Technologists (TAFST) continues to provide a platform for professionals, researchers, policymakers, and students to exchange knowledge and share practical solutions that strengthen integrity, innovation, and sustainability in the food sector.

As part of the **2026 Annual General Meeting (AGM)**, TAFST invites researchers and practitioners to submit abstracts for oral and poster presentations. In collaboration with the **Tanzania Journal of Science and Technology**, selected presentations will have the opportunity to develop full papers for publication in the journal.

2. Theme:

Integrity, Safety, and Value Creation in Sustainable and Resilient Food Systems

3. Subthemes

Abstracts are invited under the following areas:

- a) Food safety governance, food fraud, and ethical practices in food systems
- b) Indigenous and underutilised foods: value addition, nutrition, biodiversity, and climate resilience
- c) Policies, standards, innovation, and capacity building for ethical and inclusive food systems
- d) Climate change, agroecology, and resilience in food production and food safety
- e) Food processing, postharvest management, and sustainable value chains

4. Submission Guidelines

- Abstracts should have a **maximum of 300 words**.
- Submissions should be in Microsoft Word, Calibri font size 12, and double-spaced
- The abstracts should briefly cover the **background, objectives, methods, and key findings** and include 3–5 keywords at the end.
- The title should be concise and written in bold font size 14.

- Full names of all authors and their affiliations should be provided, and a clear indication of the corresponding author with full contact details.

5. Key Dates

- **Abstract submission deadline:** 26 March 2026
- **Notification of acceptance:** 4 April 2026
- **TAFST AGM:** 17–18 April 2026
- **Full paper submission for selected abstracts:** 18 May 2026

6. Opportunities

- Accepted abstracts will be presented during the AGM, providing an opportunity to engage with researchers, professionals, and stakeholders in the food sector.
- Selected authors will be invited to submit full manuscripts for consideration for publication in the **Tanzania Journal of Science and Technology**. The **full manuscript journal guidelines** are in the separate attachment titled "*Concept note - Attachment 1*".
- **Letters to the Editor** and **Short Communications** submissions are also invited for publication. The guidelines for these types of submissions are in the separate attachment titled "*Concept note - Attachment 2*".

7. Submission.

- **Abstracts should be submitted to:** agm@tafst.org
- Authors should indicate whether they prefer an **oral or poster presentation in the email subject line**.

TAFST welcomes contributions from **researchers, practitioners, industry experts, and students** working to strengthen ethical, safe, and resilient food systems!