



Dr Fausta Michael (MD, Mmed Pediatrics, Dipl EPI leadership & Management) a Child Health Specialist aspiring to use her expertise making a lasting Impact in Tanzania's Health system. Currently she serves as Technical Lead on Vaccine Preventable Diseases (VPD) surveillance at Immunization and Vaccine Development (IVD) program under the Ministry of Health (MOH). She is a great Mentor. She has mentored more than 100 MD graduates on the field of Pediatrics and Child Health and More than 150 Clinicians and Public Health personnel in the field of vaccine preventable diseases. She has managed to Publish several papers and received several awards the most recent being 'Public Health Officer of the year' in Oct 2023 during Tanzania Health Summit.

In Her role as She has significantly contributed to Country achievement of milestones towards Eradication of Poliomyelitis, Elimination of Measles, Rubella & Congenital Rubella Syndrome, and control Rotavirus gastroenteritis. She coordinated establishment of the first Environmental Surveillance site (ES) for Poliomyelitis in Tanzania in 2019 to improve the sensitivity and timely detection of Poliomyelitis in events of importation. To date ES sites have been established in 11 high-risk regions. She coordinates Polio and Measles/Rubella technical Committee to implement their technical roles through quarterly meetings and documentation of annual updates on Polio surveillance and laboratory containment in the country.

In Measles and Rubella surveillance, she coordinated documentation and progress of the surveillance working in close collaboration with the National Verification Committee (NVC) for Measles & Rubella and successfully submitted the First Country Report to the Regional Verification Committee (RVC) for Measles of the WHO African Region. Dr Fausta has worked in close collaboration with the Measles & Rubella Laboratory team in coordinating capacity building and infrastructure for serological testing and Molecular sequencing surveillance for Measles, Rubella, CRS, and Rotavirus. This work led to documentation of the circulating Measles genotypes using the National Public health Laboratory for the first time in 2022.

As a Vaccine Safety Expert, Dr Fausta has served as a consultant on Novel Oral Polio Vaccine type (nOPV2) for the World Health Organization (WHO) in the East Mediterranean Regional Office (EMRO). providing technical guidance to Country teams for preparation to use the vaccine, implementation, data collection and Compilation for nOPV2 safety monitoring through Adverse Events of Special Interest (AESI) as well as Adverse Events Following Immunization (AEFI) systems. She has served a member of the Global nOPV2 vaccine safety monitoring subgroup since 2021 to date.

At the country level, she is coordinating safety monitoring for Rotavac vaccine (Intussusception surveillance) in selected sentinel sites. She is also coordinating Rotavirus gastroenteritis surveillance for Monitoring the impact and effectiveness of Rotavac vaccine on morbidity and mortality caused by Rotavirus gastroenteritis.

She received her education at the Tongji Medical College of Huazhong University of Science and Technology (HUST) in the Peoples Republic of China graduating with a Master's in Pediatrics and Child health. She holds a bachelor's in medicine from Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) in Tanzania and Diploma in EPI leadership and Management (EPI LAMP) from University of Global Health Equity in Rwanda. She also has immense training in immunization and infectious disease control attained through short courses, workshops, and online training.

She recognizes that there is no single approach that works for everywhere even within the same province, so she continues to educate herself on new and proven strategies to infectious diseases control and achieving universal immunization coverage towards improving child health.