

TANZANIA DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION CENTRE

SUPPORT FOR THE CREATION OF A MULTI-PARTNER'S TANZANIA DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION CENTRE (TDIC)

BACKGROUND

The Government of Tanzania made a deliberate effort to better improve communication with the public and to enhance its relations with key stake holders and development partners as part of its overall commitment to good governance, openness and accountability. Such efforts are meant to increase involvement of the public and the development partners in the development agenda including the ongoing reform programmes.

The need to increase the level of development information is shared among Government, development partners, civil society and the general public, and has thus led to the idea of collaborating in establishing a multi-partner development information centre.

Having recognized the need for broader sharing and dissemination of development information, the Government of Tanzania supported the creation of a multi-partner development information hub – the **Tanzania Development Information Centre (TDIC)**.

The TDIC is a joint effort of The Office of the President, Public Service Management, Institute of Finance Management (IFM), development partners, civil society, academia and the private sector.

OBJECTIVES

The overall objective of TDIC is to create a one-stop centre of information on development issues, activities and results from interventions by various actors and partners, including constraints and lessons learnt. By making such information readily available, the Centre supports better coordination, reduce duplication of efforts, and thus enhance time efficiency and effectiveness of interventions of the different partners.

The TDIC provides a platform for:

- ◆ Public access to information on development issues of the virtual and physical collection as well as internet access to global development concerns
- ◆ Participation to events such as launch of publications, roundtables and consultations
- ◆ Dialogue events on development topics
- ◆ Dissemination of vital Government's information
- ◆ Encouraging writing of documents in a less technical language and when – appropriate – translating them into Kiswahili and availing them to the public
- ◆ Forming partnerships with local institutions to effectively reach out to every region of Tanzania

As part of the harmonization efforts in Tanzania, the TDIC provides a one-stop place for accessing multi-partners' information and will be a platform for knowledge sharing and feedback gathering on the national development process.

TARGET GROUPS

The TDIC provides its services to different clients, including:

- Government Departments
- Development Partners
- Private Sector
- Academic Institutions
- Civil Society
- Non-Governmental Organizations, including Faith based organizations, and the Media

BENEFITS

The establishment of such a facility will generate some benefits to the user groups mentioned above. Such benefits will include:

- A better understanding of projects undertaken by the multi-partners and their overall performance in Tanzania
- Offering to the stakeholders the opportunity to be engaged with and participate in discussions on the current portfolio, results achieved, and lessons learned
- Improved performance and a climate of openness between the Government, multi-partners and stakeholders as a result of informed feedback
- Facilitate sharing of knowledge and building capacity of informed decision makers.
- Increase the reach to desired participants in global dialogues and videoconferences delivered by the Tanzania Global Distance Learning Centre
- Access to information at all levels can help the government in its fight against corruption, as well as ensure greater accountability
- Wider dissemination of Government's achievements on the Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS)

MANAGEMENT

The TDIC is hosted and managed by the Tanzania Global Development Learning Centre (TGDLC) at the Institute of Finance Management. The TGDLC is one of more than 100 networked development communication hubs under the Global Distance Learning Network (www.gldn.org). TGDLC is expected to manage the TDIC and ensure the envisaged sustainability and will be monitored through the existing TGDLC Board. The Permanent Secretary – President's Office, Public Service Management is the Chairman of the TGDLC Board.

The performance indicators for the TDIC are:

- Reference/Reader services records and visitor statistics
- Number of new publications
- Feedback and service evaluations

Reporting on performance are made quarterly and shared with stakeholders.

The TDIC multi-partner initiative faces a number of challenges in its operations. One key challenge is the need to move towards sustainability. The Centre thus needs to identify ways and means of generating revenue from its operations to cover the running costs. In this

connection, cost recovery categories under consideration will include those for printing, photocopying, promotional wall banners and use of the discussion room.

ACTION PLAN/MILESTONES

Completed events

The Government has made a contribution of prime space to accommodate the TDIC at the Institute of Finance Management and funds for consultancy services to design and supervise refurbishing and retrofitting work. The World Bank has provided support to the tune of 35,000 USD towards retrofitting costs and equipment, including 5 computers and accessories. Part of the second phase refurbishing work has almost been completed and the Centre will open soon in its full swing with prime space for our esteemed clients.

Other completed activities include:

- Engaged Consultant to supervise work
- The second phase of the reconstruction and retrofitting is nearly completed
- Space for TDIC at ground floor of Samora Avenue/Shaaban Robert Street
- Full time staff/librarian for the TDIC provided by IFM
- Five Computers and accessories has been provided by the World Bank
- Publications from the World Bank has been received, (old consignments) from WB PIC
- Photocopier machine, Plasma Screen, DVD, VHS (Tape) recorder, Computer for the need and overhead projector has been provided by TACAIDS.
- The Government through the President's Office- Public Service Management (PO-PSM) has provided the funds for extension works, furniture, ducting , signage and payment for internet connectivity for ONE year.

Partners with TDIC

The following partners have joined with TDIC in a specific area of collaboration:

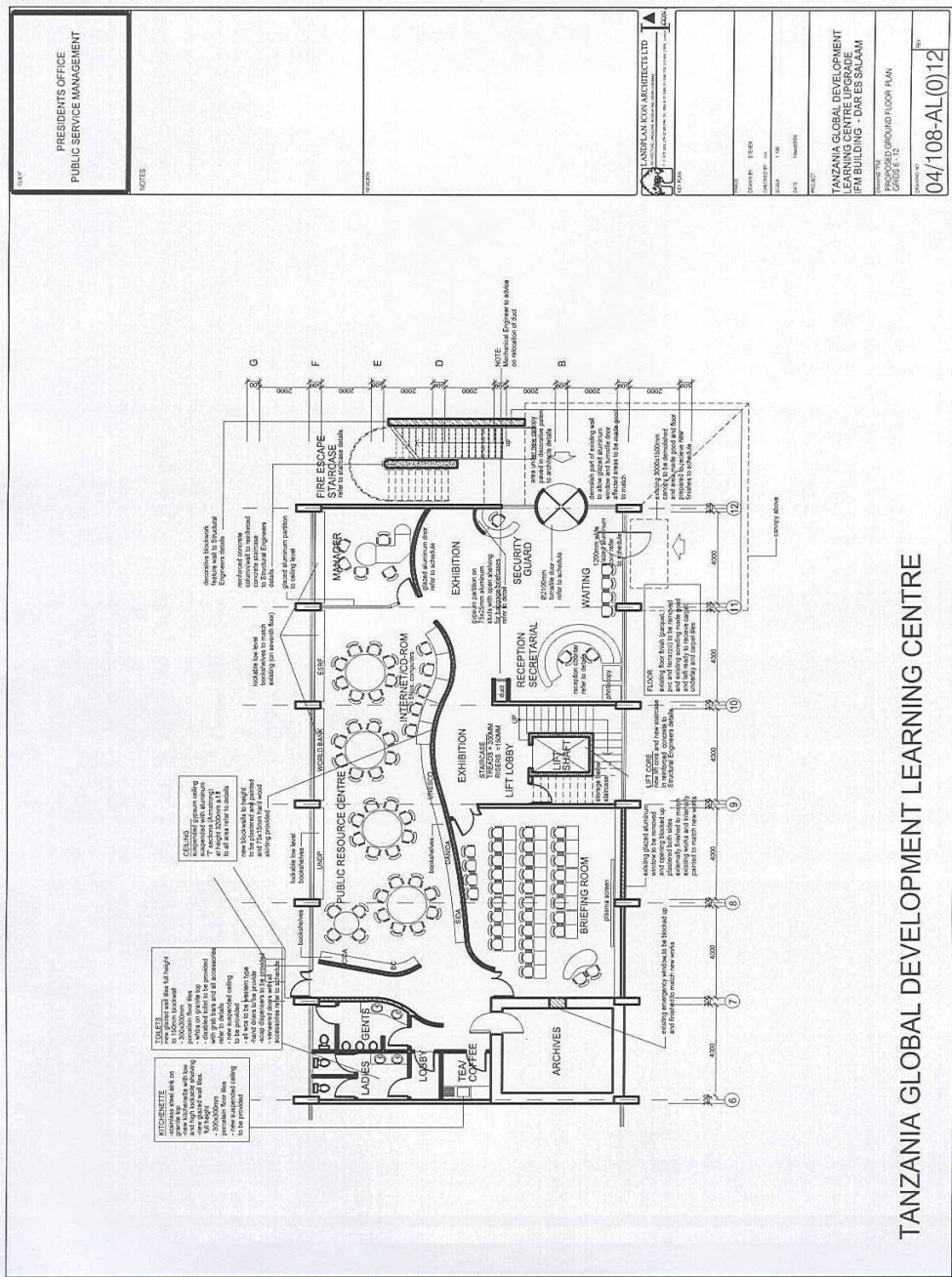
- Internet Connectivity for six months, 5 computers / accessories have been provided by the **World Bank**. The World Bank will also provide between 200-250 publications of the World Bank per year.
- **Economic and Social Research Foundation (ESRF)** provided InMagic Software for the Centre. They proceeded with installation and training on the use of the software , transfer the database from the World Bank's Global Jolis Programme into InMagic and other technical assistance like Website design and hosting.
- The Government through the **President's Office- Public Service Management (PO-PSM)** have supported for erecting a booth for publications at the Saba Saba Trade Fair Ground as part of the promotional activities, payment of Internet facilities for at least one year etc.
- **TACAIDS** have joined recently by contributing on the purchasing of important facilities to make the Centre stand fully. These facilities are intelligent Photocopier machine/printer, LCD Tv, Projector, Computer and accessories for the need (blind) etc.
- The following have also subscribed publications PO-PSM, British Council, NEMC, IFM, UNDP, UNIS, TCCIA, BOT and CIDA
- TDIC staff training and exchange with British Council and World Bank.
- IFM is a host Institution and have provided one qualified staff.

APPENDIX 1: COST ESTIMATES

Identified cost items, which have not been covered yet include:

- **Operational costs** [stationery, consumable (\$20,815.00), stipend for full time staff/librarian – (\$24,000 per annum estimate); internet connection for one year (\$13,200 per annum), publicity and promotion (\$3,000 per annum), daily cleaning and security of the centre (\$4,200)].

Appendix 1II: Floor Plan of Tanzania Development Information Centre



Appendix IV

**COMMENTS AND SUPPORT FOR THE CREATION OF MULTI-PARTNERS
INFORMATION CENTRE (TDIC)**

Name of Organization: _____

Phone: _____ **e-mail:** _____

Authorizing name: _____ **Title:** _____

Input / Comments:

Commitments on deposition of publications and other areas of support in our collaboration as addition to (tick/add):

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. Rental for TDIC Dialogue Room | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Contribute to Reference Publication | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Contribute take away publications/flier | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Provide staff at attachment weekly, monthly/annual | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Rental of exhibition space | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Online resource | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Staff stipend 1/2/3 years | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Computers and peripherals | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. Running costs | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Name _____ **sign** _____

Title _____ **Date** _____

Official Stamp:



Appreciate to receive input immediately



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