TANZANIA'S NATIONAL STI SYSTEM REFORM AND REPOSITIONING FOR ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS - AGENDA, EXPECTED BENEFITS AND PROCESS

Evelyne I. Mbede, John S. Kasonta
Ministry of Communication, Science and Technology
and
Bruno J. Ndunguru, Tea Research Institute of Tanzania

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The Reform Program: Introduction

- The Government of the United Republic of Tanzania (URT) recognizes the important role of Science, Technology and Innovation in building a modern economy

- In June 2007 H.E. The President of the URT (Dr. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete)) requested the Director General of UNESCO (Mr. Koichiro Matsuura) to undertake a major review and repositioning of the country's National Science, Technology and Innovation system.

The Reform Program . . .

- In September 2007 UNESCO accepted the request and agreed to provide technical support.
- UNESCO was selected because of
  Leadership in STI matters;
  Expertise and experience in carrying out   STI work in many countries such as Congo, Nigeria, mongolia, Nepal and Lebanon etc. and
  Accumulation of relevant social capital

The Reform Program . . .

- In Oct. 2007 implementation of the STI Reform Programme was then directed to the Minister responsible for Science and Technology, at that time the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology and now MCST.
- The Reform programme has been packaged as a set of seven interlinked 'stand alone' projects.

The interlinked 'stand alone' projects

- **Flagship project–NIS Reform project (main project for which a project document was developed in 2008) -** This is the main project being implemented since 2009

- **Capacity Building on STI Management in Tanzania**

  - This is to be implemented with Japanese Funds-in-Trust as from April 2012

- **Development of STI Statistics and Indicators**

- **Developing appropriate mechanisms for STI financing and budgeting**

- **Strengthening research capacity for knowledge generation**

- **Strengthening Science Education**

- **Strengthening Vocational Training**

WHAT IS A NATIONAL INNOVATION SYSTEM

- *"NIS or NSI or STI system is a network of institutions in public and private sectors whose activities and interactions initiate, import, modify and diffuse new technologies. It is made up of units that interact through linkages and are shaped by various factors".*

- *Key issue are the close interactions, collaborations, linkages and synergies within which the institutions work*

NIS PERSPECTIVES

- Moves away from the linear model which is based on perspectives of R&D

- Focuses on broad based technological and managerial capabilities across sectors for development

- Emphasizes on STI resources for development – not just broader physical and economic factors e.g. land, capital and finances .

Socio – Economic Returns: Why Embark on the Reform process?

- **In a global knowledge economy, STI is the prime driver for sustainable development and competitiveness**

- **It is hoped that a revitalized NIS in Tanzania will lead to expected results, such as:**

  - Enhanced economic growth and competitiveness of the national economy

  - Improved living standards and quality
   of the population – better incomes, health, housing, etc

OBJECTIVES OF THE NIS REVIEW/REFORM PROJECT

- *To strengthen Tanzania's STI system*
- *To enhance the economic functions of the STI system*
- *To build capacities needed for the efficient development and management of STI strategies*

OBJECTIVES OF THE NIS REVIEW/REFORM PROJECT…

- *To develop short term STI action plans (Policy Briefs) for implementation during the course of the Review*

- *To develop end of the review STI Action plan consisting of a set of measures and interventions for implementation in order to enhance innovation and technological dynamism in the local economy for economic growth and competitiveness.*

CONTENT OF STI REVIEW PROCESS

The essence of the STI Review Process is to *conduct a thorough examination and analysis of STI system so as to arrive at a revitalized and repositioned STI System for improved economic development and competitiveness*

CORE ACTIVITIES OF THE STI REVIEW PROCESS IN TANZANIA

- **Self evaluation of key STI institutions**
- **Development of a Background Document**
- **External Review based on findings in the Background Document**
- **Production of a Synthesis Review Report and STI Action Plan**
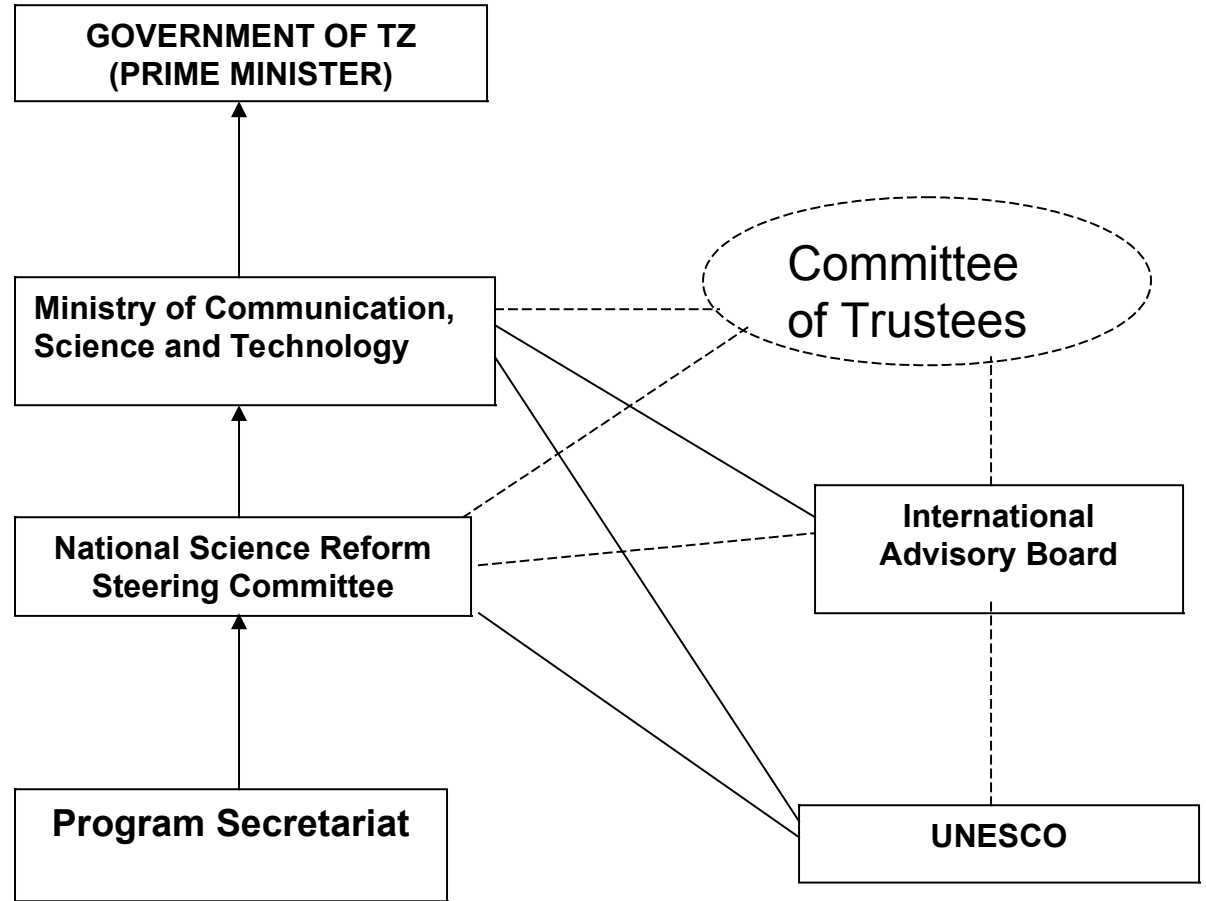- **Development and implementation of the STI Action Plan**

NON CORE (BUT NECESSARY) ACTIVITIES OF STI REVIEW PROCESS

- **Sensitization of stakeholder groups**
- **Capacity building - build competences**
- **Establishing and operationalization of Management and Administrative structures for the review process**
- **Sourcing and mobilizing resources for the process**

EXPECTATIONS AT THE END OF PROJECT

- **Strengthened Human Resource Capacities and Management – in all elements of the Tanzania's NIS**

- **Strengthened networking, collaboration and linkages amongst elements of Tanzania's NIS**

- **Enhanced competitiveness in local productive and service enterprises (public and private)**

- **Enhanced political support in implementing the action plan**

COORDINATION ARRANGEMENT

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

- **Revision and validation of Project Document**
- **Setting up and operationalize the Program Secretariat**
- **Setting up and operationalize the National Science Reform Steering Committee**
- **Mobilize Resources for Program implementation**
- **Launching of the NIS Program**

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

- **June 2008: A Task Force was formed that after going through the literature and visiting South Africa came up with a programme write-up**

- **December 2008: Programme write-up was presented to stakeholders from within and outside Tanzania and was accepted**

- **Feb. 2009: Programme document sent to UNESCO Headquarter in Paris**

- **Aug. 2009: Received funds from ILO for *Development of programmes in innovation management and technological entrepreneurship***

- **Nov. 2009: Received funds from UNDP for *Capacity building for management and implementation of the STI Programme***

- ***Apr. 2010: UNESCO provides funds for the management of Programme Secretariat***

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION . . .

- **April 2010:** **Programme Secretariat set up and operational**

- **April 2010:** **National Steering Committee set-up and operational**

- **June 2010:** **Visit to Finland**

- **Feb. 2010:** **Visit to Tshwane University of Technology**

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION . . .

- **March 2011:**   Sensitization workshops on the STI Programme (Steering Committee, Multi-sector STI Stakeholders, Higher Education and R & D Institutions)

- **April 2011:**   Survey questionnaire development workshops (Higher Education Institutions, R & D Institutions, MDAs, Private sector)

- **May–June 2011:**   Questionnaire collection, coding, analysis and interpretation of the results

- **July 2011:**   Submission of zero draft of the Background Report

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION . . .

- **March 2012:** *Forthcoming* **- 6th Steering Committee meeting**

    - Receive comments from   Steering Committee members

    -Internal Review Team for and editing of Background Report

    -Stakeholders meeting

    - Editing of Background Report

    -External Review

    -Submission of final document

CONDITIONS FOR THE EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT OF THE REVIEW PROCESS

- **Firm and sustained Government and other stakeholders' commitment**
- **Clear goals and objectives**
- **Identification and engagement of local stakeholder groups**
- **Identification and engagement of competent coordination and review teams**

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- **For technical support:**
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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION