



**MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND  
TRANSPORT**

**GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TOWARDS FULLY  
ADOPTION OF THE NATIONAL ICT POLICY  
AND STRATEGIES**

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# INTRODUCTION



- ICT
  - ✓ A crucial ingredient in the socio economic development,
  - ✓ Important for acceleration of economic activities,
  - ✓ Catalyst for achieving set goals more expeditiously.
- In recognition of the central role of ICT, the government has declared that all socio economic activities should embrace ICT.
- National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty (MKUKUTA) emphasis that efforts need to be stepped up in support of increased access and application of ICT as a crucial “soft” infrastructure that accelerates productivity in all fields of work.
- The government has therefore developed various policies related to ICT:
  - ✓ ICT Policy (2003)
  - ✓ Postal Policy (2003)
  - ✓ Telecommunications Policy (1997)
- These are the guidelines for the development or use of ICT in the country.

# VISION AND MISSION



- **Vision**

Tanzania to become a hub of ICT infrastructure and ICT solutions that enhance sustainable socio-economic development and accelerated poverty reduction both nationally and globally.

- **Mission**

- ✓ To enhance nation-wide economic growth and social progress.
- ✓ Encouraging beneficial ICT activities in all sectors.
- ✓ Providing a conducive framework for investments in capacity building and in promoting multi-layered co-operation and knowledge sharing locally as well as globally.
- ✓ Developing adequate, reliable, cost effective, efficient and seamless infrastructure.

# BRIEF STATUS OF ICT IN TANZANIA



## • Infrastructure

- ✓ While ICT facilities are growing very fast in the country, the level of infrastructure development is not moving in a pace with the real demand especially in the rural areas.
- ✓ Telecommunications network infrastructure is limited to the urban areas.
- ✓ The absence of the infrastructure remains a basic impediment to the provision of ICT services.
- ✓ Teledensity:
  - ❖ Is low
  - ❖ Fixed and mobile cellular lines - 7.2 telephone lines per 100 people
  - ❖ Number of mobile phone subscribers - 6.7 lines per 100 inhabitants.

# *BRIEF STATUS OF ICT IN TANZANIA*

## *.....Continued*



- **Internet Service Provision**

- ✓ The government has liberalized fully the provision of internet services in order to encourage competition.
- ✓ Internet Service Providers - 20
- ✓ **Most** of them are concentrated in urban areas.

# *BRIEF STATUS OF ICT IN TANZANIA*

## *.....Continued*



- **Hardware and Software**
  - ✓ No local manufacturer of ICT equipment in Tanzania.
  - ✓ All equipment is imported.
  - ✓ Unfortunately there are no standards guiding the imports of both hardware and software.

# **BRIEF STATUS OF ICT IN TANZANIA**

## **.....Continued**



- **Educational Access to ICT:**

- ✓ Tanzania has few educational institutions which have computer laboratories and other multimedia facilities.
- ✓ Even fewer of these facilities are connected to the internet.

- **ICT Workforce**

- ✓ There is shortage of well qualified professionals of ICT in Tanzania.



# **BRIEF STATUS OF ICT IN TANZANIA**

## **.....Continued**



- **Usage of ICT by the General Society**
  - ✓ Many ICT users in Tanzania access the internet through Internet Cafés.
  - ✓ Cost of Installation and subscription for ICT services for normal domestic consumption is still very high.
- **E-Commerce**
  - ✓ Limited e-business services.
  - ✓ Constrained by among others, lack of legislative framework appropriate for e-business.

# *BRIEF STATUS OF ICT IN TANZANIA*

## *.....Continued*



- **e-Government**

- ✓ Various government departments have made modest progress in deploying ICT in e-government solutions.
- ✓ However, there is no established coordination mechanism to ensure that these initiatives are progressing in a holistic manner.

# GOVERNMENT STRATEGIES



- **Proposed Strategies**

- ✓ To encourage coordination and interconnection
- ✓ Government intervention to supplement the resource requirements
- ✓ Establishment of Communications Access Development Fund
- ✓ Regional and global connectivity



# GOVERNMENT STRATEGIES

## .....Continued

- **Urgent steps needed to be taken to transform Tanzania to an information society include:**
  - ✓ Make information, communications and their underlying technologies central to development of the country (immediately)
  - ✓ Awareness of ICT availability and accessibility by the public, regardless of age gender, age, religion, financial status, location and race,
  - ✓ Promote ICT education in schools and universities and ICT skills training in workplace (through TENET),
  - ✓ Ensure that there is sufficient government understanding of ICT at all levels (immediate),
  - ✓ Initiate and maintain a comprehensive assessment of benchmarks, using relevant and realistic indicators,
  - ✓ See to it that best practices are followed and ICT experiences are exchanged horizontally across Tanzania within EAC, SADC, the African continent and with international ICT Community (short term),
  - ✓ Ensure computers and internet facilities are made available to the larger majority of the people (short term).



# GOVERNMENT STRATEGIES

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- **Priority Actions**

In order to achieve the goals stated in the MKUKUTA, the following are priority actions:

- ✓ **Universal Access:** In order to achieve affordable and universal access in basic services it is essential to develop connectivity for institutions accessible to the public such as schools, libraries, post offices etc.
- ✓ **ICT manufacturing capabilities:** Actions are being taken to by the government to encourage technology transfer and investment, including venture capital, in the creation of national ICT production facilities.



# GOVERNMENT STRATEGIES

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- ✓ **Capacity building:** human resources development, education and training. An ambitious and innovative approach is being developed to enhance capacity building, taking advantage of the opportunities offered by ICTs.
- ✓ **ICTs in education:** The use of ICTs could contribute to more efficiency and better quality in education services. Efforts are being taken to incorporate ICT in school curricular as well as training of trainers.

# GOVERNMENT STRATEGIES

## .....Continued



- ✓ **e-Government:** Public administration beginning to use ICT tools to enhance transparency, efficiency and accountability at all levels of the Government. In any case a lot more effort is needed to achieve the intended goals.
- ✓ **e-Learning:** Should contribute to achieving universal primary education countrywide through better delivery of education and better training of teachers, and to offer improved conditions for lifelong learning, encompassing people that are outside the normal education process, and for improving professional skills. The envisaged Tanzania Education Network (TENET) Project will go a long way to achieve this goal.

# GOVERNMENT STRATEGIES

## .....Continued



- One of the challenges for adequate implementation of the priority areas identified by MKUKUTA is to have in place an effective mechanism for regulating the ICT applications and services.
- Currently the government has strengthened the regulatory body for the communications and broadcasting sectors.
- In 2003 the regulator (TCRA) was given legal power to regulate broadcasting and communications sectors including ICT industry.





***THANK FOR YOUR ATTENTION!!!!***