

OECD/DAC DONOR-Developing Country Dialogues on
National Strategies for Sustainable Development

Country Dialogue Report for
Tanzania

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Chapters 1 & 2

1. Introduction

1.1 Background Information

The National Strategies for Sustainable Development (NSSDs) programme is an effort at looking into the status of various strategies formulated in the Country after the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The purpose is to establish the status of the strategies in terms of the content, approaches used to formulate them as well as the extent of implementation. It is anticipated that this process would result in developing guidelines on how Tanzania can formulate and implement better strategies for sustainable development and how donors can assist Tanzania in this initiative.

This report includes stakeholders' contributions which were made during the workshops held in Mbeya from December 1 to 2nd, 2000 and Arusha from January 25 to 26th, 2001. The report is divided into seven sections. Section one which is the introduction is followed by the conceptual understanding and a presentation of the conditions for planning for sustainable development in section two and three respectively. Section four presents the planning framework and section five presents information used in planning. The relationships between sustainable development and donors is discussed in section six. Conclusions and recommendations are provided in section seven.

1.2 Methodology

1.2.1 Study Coverage

This study was divided into two phases namely, the Status Review and the Dialogues Process. In carrying out the Status Review, the strategy documents were collected and reviewed, and different stakeholders were interviewed on the respective strategies. This phase was completed and the final Status Review report came out in October 2000.

The second phase was the Dialogue Process, which was conducted in Mbeya and Arusha regions. During the process, key stakeholders were involved in discussing the status of the strategies, how to improve them and how to strengthen their impact on sustainable development.

1.2.2 The Approach

The following steps were used in conducting the dialogue process (Fig. 1).

- Step 1: Preparation of Interview Checklist
- Step 2: Identifying of Stakeholders for the Interview/Focus Group Discussion
- Step 3: Conducting Focus Group Discussion
- Step 4: Identification of Workshop Participants
- Step 5: Report Writing
- Step 6: Stakeholders Workshop
- Step 7: Compilation of Deliberations
- Step 8: Preparation of the Country Dialogues Report
- Step 9: Holding National Stakeholders' Workshop
- Step 10: Finalization of the "*Country Dialogues Report*"

After the dialogues held in Mbeya and Arusha regions, a National Stakeholders workshop was organised in Dar es Salaam in February 2001, to synthesize the collected views.

Fig. 1: The Approach to Conducting the Dialogue Process

<i>Step 1:</i>	<i>Preparation of Interview Checklist</i>
<i>Step 2:</i>	<i>Identifying of stakeholders for the Interview/Focus Group Discussion</i> Focus Group Discussions were conducted to stakeholders representing the following:- (i) NGOs (ii) Village community (iii) Traders/business community (iv) Religious organizations (v) Government officials
<i>Step 3:</i>	<i>Conducting Focus Group Discussion</i> Focus Group discussions were held with each of the above groups. In each group men and women were interviewed separately except for government officials.
<i>Step 4:</i>	<i>Identification of Workshop Participants</i> From each focus group, one or two persons were identified and invited to participate in the workshop in Mbeya and Arusha (Gender considerations were taken into account).
<i>Step 5:</i>	<i>Report Writing</i> A brief report reflecting major issues raised during focus group discussions was prepared. This report was then used as the basis of discussion in the respective workshop.
<i>Step 6:</i>	<i>Stakeholders Workshop</i> During the workshop, stakeholders (the same persons who were met during the interviews), were organized into focus groups. In Mbeya the groups were on the basis of the districts and in Arusha on the basis of villages. A Workshop Guide was provided to each group to assist group members to go through the issues and reach consensus in respect of strengths, weaknesses and recommended solutions. Each group presented its deliberations in a plenary, followed by discussion.
<i>Step 7:</i>	<i>Compilation of Deliberations</i> In each region, the group deliberations and plenary presentations were compiled into one document.
<i>Step 8:</i>	<i>Preparation of the Country Dialogues Report</i> The two documents (Mbeya and Arusha) were then compiled into one document: <i>Country Dialogues Report</i> , which was used for discussion during the National Stakeholders' Workshop held in Dar es Salaam.
<i>Step 9:</i>	<i>Holding National Stakeholders' Workshop</i> Participants to this workshop were identified during the Regional Workshops taking into consideration the area and gender representation.
<i>Step 10:</i>	Finalization of the " <i>Country Dialogues Report</i> "

2. Conceptual Understanding

2.1 Sustainable Development

The statement below from the *World Conservation Strategy* (IUCN/WWF/UNEP, 1980) appears to be the first actual attempt to defining “*sustainable development*”:

“For development to be sustainable, it must take account of social and ecological factors, as well as economic ones; of the living and non-living resource base; and of the long-term as well as the short-term advantages or disadvantages of alternative action”

However, the World Conservation strategy was frequently criticised for being concerned mainly with ecological sustainability rather than sustainable development per se. The most universally quoted definition is the one produced in 1987 by the **World Commission on Environment and Development** (WCED), also common by the name “**the Brundtland Commission**”.

“Economic and social development that meets the needs of the current generation without undermining the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”.

In the field, stakeholders found it equally difficult to define the concept of sustainable development as was the case with the strategies for sustainable development. Some stakeholders defined sustainable development as “*agriculture, health or education*”. A few defined sustainable development as that *type of development which involves both men and women and which takes into account the relationship between environment and poverty and utilizes natural resources wisely and sustainably*. In Mbozi and Rungwe Districts, for example, the utilization of bio-gas was cited as one of the sustainable projects in the rural areas. Through sensitization, the utilization of bio-gas is gaining popularity. This is because it has reduced greatly the women’s workload and provided room for regeneration of the forests.

2.2 Key factors to sustainable development

The following five points were identified by stakeholders as key to sustainable development.

The key factor is that the people must first understand:

- (i) *that development is important*
- (ii) *where they are in the level of development*
- (iii) *where they want to go*
- (iv) *what they must do to be able to reach where they want to go*
- (v) *that those who produce should know their importance in the development of others*

These five factors were considered by stakeholders central to sustainable development.

2.3 Indicators for Sustainable Development

On the question of important indicators for sustainable development, the stakeholders from the three districts in Mbeya and one in Arusha, and the respective regional headquarters gave somehow different responses. Variations of opinions on indicators

for sustainable development based on the field interviews are summarized in table 1 and 2 below.

Table 1: Indicators for Sustainable Development in Mbeya Region

Sn	Indicator	Mbeya Regional Secretariat	Mbozi District	Rungwe District	Mbarali District
1.	Growth of per capita income (Ward Bank)	✓	✓		
2.	To be able to obtain basic needs through the household income	✓	✓		
3.	Economic growth being greater than population growth	✓	✓		
4.	Improvement in social services	✓			
5.	Improvement of infrastructure such as roads, communication network, transportation and energy	✓			
6.	Capability of the stakeholders to plan and implement development plans	✓			
7.	Protection and conservation of the environment and natural resources for the future generations	✓	✓		
8.	The level of technology in production and provision of services	✓			
9.	Increase of the capability to conduct research and make use of the output	✓			
10.	Increase in the average life expectancy	✓			
11.	Decline in infant mortality rate	✓			
12.	Level of understanding in the community				✓
13.	Participation of the community at different levels including children		✓		✓
14.	Good governance, skills and knowledge				✓
15.	Contribution in development projects				✓
16.	Existence of by-laws and laws				✓
17.	Acceptance of a development project				✓
18.	Presence of passable roads and bridges throughout the year			✓	
19.	Increase in good nutrition			✓	
20.	Increase in the production and use of the bio-gas technology		✓	✓	
21.	Increase in the number of secondary schools			✓	
22.	Increase in agricultural production			✓	
23.	Good and permanent houses, use of traditional herbs in preserving food crops, use of natural and traditional fertilizers		✓		
24.	A good plan for land use i.e for agriculture, forestry, pasture and housing		✓		
25.	Crop marketing groups		✓		
26.	Participation of women in the village government (30%)		✓		
27.	Increase in knowledge of planned parenthood/child spacing			✓	

Out of the 27 indicators, 6 (22.2%) indicators (Nr. 1,2,3,7,13 and 20) were identified by two groups, the rest by a single group. There was no indicator for sustainable development which was identified by all the four groups.

The stakeholders from Arumeru district and Arusha Regional Secretariat also differed in respect of identifying indicators for sustainable development. The differences in identifying indicators for sustainable development is presented in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Indicators for Sustainable Development in Arusha Region, 2001

Sn.	Indicator	Ng'iresi Village	Oloitushula Village	Lekitatu Village	Regional Secretariat
1.	Environment protection	✓			
2.	Availability of social services	✓	✓		
3.	Availability of experts	✓			
4.	Business growth/expansion	✓			
5.	Project design (Energy saving store)	✓			
6.	Accountability of villagers and leaders	✓			
7.	Participation and acceptance of development projects in the area		✓		
8.	Increased income		✓		✓
9.	Presence of small groups which provide employment to the community (sustainable employment)		✓	✓	
10.	Good relationship between technocrats of the various sectors and the politicians			✓	
11.	Increase of viable production cooperatives e.g. primary societies, savings and credit cooperative societies (SACCOs)			✓	
12.	Increased life expectancy				✓
13.	Improved houses				✓
14.	Availability of clean and safe water				✓
15.	Increase of productivity				✓

Based on the table above, out of 15 indicators 3 (20%) indicators (Nr. 2, 8, and 9) were identified by at least two groups. The rest were identified by a single group only. The only indicator which appeared to feature in the four groups, that is two in Mbeya and two in Arusha Region is the “increase in income”. This appears as number 1 in table 1 and number 8 in table 2.

2.4 Strategies for Sustainable Development

A strategy for sustainable development comprises “a coordinated set of participatory and continuously improving processes of analysis, debate, capacity strengthening, planning, innovation and investment, which seeks to balance economic, social and environmental objectives of society”.

This was another concepts, stakeholders found it difficulty to define. Nevertheless, there were those who viewed *strategies for sustainable development as those strategies which have been developed by the people themselves and which attempt to answer key elements of sustainable development in the society.*

Judging from the answers provided by the respondents, sustainable strategies can be summarized as “*strategies which promote activities and programmes which benefit both the present and future generations*”. The following were given by stakeholders as examples of strategies for sustainable development in Mbeya and Arusha Regions.

(a) Mbeya Region

- ❖ Protection of sources of water to ensure continuity in using it from the wells and the taps
- ❖ By-laws on the protection and conservation of the forests.
- ❖ Rehabilitation of Lake Tope and voluntary tree planting around the Lake.
- ❖ Sensitization on the importance of safe fishing methods.
- ❖ Contribution towards building schools and provision of desks for school children
- ❖ Knowledge on modern farming methods leading to increased production and productivity
- ❖ Rain-water harvesting

(b) Arusha Region

- ❖ Protection of water sources in order to ensure constant availability of water in the canals and water wells
- ❖ To sensitize the community to construct fish ponds and better ways of harvesting in order to improve nutrition and increase incomes
- ❖ Education on land conservation through building contours and planting trees.
- ❖ Agricultural project on traditional irrigation
- ❖ Land conservation project
- ❖ Oloitushula – HPI Project. This is a cattle project which puts emphasis on few animals whose milk yield is high. The project sensitizes the community to reduce the livestock herd for the purpose of improving the environment.
- ❖ Construction of improved houses
- ❖ Construction of energy saving stoves which use less firewood (Oloitushula and Ng’iresi)
- ❖ Expansion of primary and secondary schools