

United Republic of TANZANIA



**CONSTRUCTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL - ECONOMIC ACCOUNTING
AND ENVIRONMENTS STATISTICS DATA COLLECTION**

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SEEA”
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1. Country Profile



Tanzania Flag



Tanzania Map

Land area: 342,100 sq mi (886,039 sq km); total area: 364,898 sq mi (945,087 sq km)

Population (2012 census.): 45 Million with the growth rate of 2.7 percent per year. Tanzania contains three of Africa's best-known lakes—Victoria in the north, Tanganyika in the west, and Nyasa in the south. Mount Kilimanjaro in the north, 19,340 ft (5,895 m), is the highest point on the continent.

Tanzania is in East Africa on the Indian Ocean. To the north are Uganda and Kenya; to the west, Burundi, Rwanda, and Congo; and to the south, Mozambique, Zambia, and Malawi. Tanzania contains three of Africa's best-known lakes—Victoria in the north, Tanganyika in the west, and Nyasa in the south.

Natural Resources include

Mount Kilimanjaro in the north, 19,340 ft (5,895 m), is the highest point on the continent, National Parks, Mining and Agriculture activities.



Mount Kilimanjaro

The Agricultural land (sq. km) in Tanzania is about 355000 which is the share of land area that is arable, under permanent crops, and under permanent pastures.



Ngorongoro Farm

2 Introduction - SEEA Activities in Tanzania

For the past 20 years, structure of Tanzania economy has change, with service sector growing faster than the agriculture and industry. The demand for electricity power has increased more than the supply especially hydroelectric power generation , the main source of electricity, is on the decrease due to insufficient water level at the dams for electricity generation by the hydroelectric plants coursed by low level of rainfall at the hydro dam catchment areas. The government is investing in the alternative source of electricity such as Gas, coal, biogas to supplement electricity generated from hydroelectric plants. Similarly, more investment in the exploitation of natural resources in mining of Uranium, Gemstone, gold, quarrying and increase in urbanization have increased environmental activities in Tanzania.

The Government recognises the importance of Environment in protection of the natural living space of humankind and integration of environmental scarcity in making decision on all economic issues and activities. The Vice President's Office environment Department and the National Environmental Management Council (NEMC) are foreseeing the implementation of the 1997 environmental policies with objective of:

- ensure sustainability, security and equitable use of resources for meeting the basic need of the present and future generations without degrading the environment or risking health or safety;
- prevent and control degradation of land, water, vegetation, and air which constitute our life support systems;
- conserve and enhance our natural and man-made heritage, including the biological diversity of unique ecosystems of Tanzania;

- improve the condition and productivity of degraded areas including urban and rural settlements in order that all Tanzanians may live in safe, healthful, productive and aesthetically pleasing surroundings;
- raise awareness and understanding of the essential linkages between environment and development, and promote individual and community participation in environmental action, and,
- promote international co-operation on the environmental agenda, and to expand our participation and contribution to relevant bilateral, sub-regional, regional, and global organisation

The production of environmental related activities has expanded as by product of the o implementation of various government policies and programs. In order to monitor the generated environmental products, there is a need to construct Environmental Accounting which will show how environmental activities links in Tanzania economy. Environmental accounts provide data which highlight both the contribution of natural resources to economic well-being and the costs imposed by pollution.

3 Environmental Data collection

Data collection is done by the NBS as provided by the Statistics Act No 1 of 2002 which mandates NBS to:

- collect, compile, analyze and disseminate statistics and related information;
- establish statistical standards and to ensure their use by all producers of official statistics;
- coordinate statistical activities in the country; and

- provide statistical services and professional assistance to official bodies and the public at large.

Data are collected in conformity with UNSD handbook for the environmental data collection in terms of definitions adopted, classification and the indicators of the interest. The information requested on turnover, value added employment and exports. The National Bureau of Statistics sends questionnaire to the relevant Institution or an enterprise and does follow-up of the sent questionnaires.

4 Construction of Environmental - Economic Accounting for Tanzania

Since 1992 when United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) introduced System of Environmental Economic Accounting (SEEA) and 2005 UN Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting (UNCEEA) by creating platform for the country's to construct SEEA, its implementation remained a challenge to many national statistical offices including National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) Tanzania to calculate UNCEEA independent of the UNSD assistance.

In using System of National Accounts (SNA), national bureau of statistics has compiled the 1992 Input-output table, 2000 Social Accounting Matrix and the 2007 Supply and Use Table.

In implementation of SEEA, the NBS has produced Mineral, Water and Forest accounts under project "Resource Accounting Network for Eastern and Southern Africa" led by Dr. Glenn Marie Lange for the years 2004 -2007.

The NBS also, welcomes the Framework for the Development of Environmental Statistics (FDES 2013), including its Core set of Environment Statistics which was endorsed by the 44th session of the Statistical Commission for the year 2013. We

believe that the FDES and its Core Set will assist in strengthening our environment statistics program which is also an input into environment- economic accounts.

The NSO appreciates the UNSD for providing us with the guides but, we still require more hands on from UNSD to complete the construction of UNCEEA.

As per the guide, economic accounts are calculated by all countries in a standard format, using a framework developed, supported, and disseminated by the United Nations Statistical Division (UNSTAT) in order to have a comparable statistics.

Tanzania has a lot of environmental information as by product of exploitation of the natural resources in the country and yet the contribution and the structure of the environmental accounting to the total economy is not known.

5 Challenges of Environmental data collection

In the implementation of SEEA in our countries, challenges are as follows;

- Capacity to collect data from source data as per the UNSD format. For example, energy questionnaire is very long and the definition of some of the items is not very clear to the respondents. This makes time spend for data collection becomes longer
- The accuracy of data collected to some items are questionable but still respondents cannot clarify properly the data he sent to us due to their limited knowledge of some the items in the questionnaire as well as valuation of some items
- Need to enhance the capacity of the NBS to compile environmental accounting for the country.

6 The Mitigation of Challenges experienced in the Environmental data collection

The government has enhanced the capacity of the National Bureau of Statistics to coordinate statistical activities under Tanzania Statistical Master Plan (TSMP), a program which sets a comprehensive framework aiming at strengthening the National Statistical System (NSS). The current Statistics Act No 1 of 2002 is being reviewed in order to enable the NBS to manage its operation under TSMP which is an opportunity to firmly control data collection in the country including environmental statistics.

7 Conclusions

The National Bureau of Statistics needs the UNSD SEEA to supplement the government's effort in production of environmental accounting. Also, we request the UNSD – SEEA to develop the dissemination packages for SEEA tables to different level of our data producers as well as users. This will enhance the capacity of our respondent to fill in environmental questionnaire sent to them effectively.

Reference:

UNSD-SEEA : Documents

NBS – Business Plans 2011/12