



**Strengthening national evaluation capacities
for better results for children in Tanzania
- UNICEF's partnership with TanEA**



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POPULATION: 51 MILLION (2015)

CAPITAL CITY: DODOMA

POLITICAL SYSTEM: UNITARY PRESIDENTIAL
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

GDP: \$44.9 BILLION (2015)

GDP GROWTH: 7 % (2014)

INCOME LEVEL: LOW (OECD)

LIFE EXPECTANCY: 61.7 YEARS

LITERACY: 70.6 %

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX: 0.521 (2014)

GINI COEFFICIENT: 0.37 (2013)

Tanzania's Development context

- Tanzania is reaching middle income status with a strong political will to achieve rapid industrialization.
- Yet there are high levels of poverty, and slow progress in human development indicators
- The Tanzanian Government's second Five-Year Development Plan 2016-2021 (FYDP II) constitutes the SDG implementation plan for Tanzania
- With a seat in the Inter-Agency Expert Group on SDG indicators, the National Bureau of Statistics in Tanzania is driving the process of developing and localizing SDG indicators and measuring them in a local context.

Strengths, Opportunities, Weaknesses and Challenges of Tanzania's M&E System



Strengths

- M&E system exists with clearly defined socio-economic indicators (both baseline & target) at macro and sectoral levels, with feedback mechanism to inform planning and budgeting.
- M&E system identifies reliable data sources (i.e. NBS); with disaggregated data (sector, region, sex) and clear selection criteria of indicators.
- M&E system is nationally owned, with clear links between national coordinating secretariat; Ministries, Departments, and Agencies; and Local Government Authorities.
- Parliament with oversight roles, CSOs, Development Partners, research and academic institutions are involved in important ways including accountability, capacity building, and empowering communities.
- Development Partners' use of the national M&E system helps improve aid management and mutual accountability.

Weaknesses

- The implementation of the M&E system is biased towards monitoring, with minimal activities on outcomes and impact evaluations, and consequently affecting the use of M&E information.
- Weak evaluation culture i.e. low level of M&E appreciation especially the E part.
- While statistical systems under the Tanzania Statistical Master Plan are well developed but however, there is not yet a national evaluation policy and strategy in place.
- The absence of a highly-placed champion to implement and influence M&E.
- There's generally a weak link between demand for and supply of evaluation information, with the lack of capacity to produce and use M&E information.
- Inadequate human (number of staff and skills available) and financial capacity to implement the M&E system.

Strengths, Opportunities, Weaknesses and Challenges of Tanzania's M&E System



Opportunities

- High commitment and demand by the 5th phase government for transparency & accountability of public resource use.
- Strengthened Joint Sector Reviews call for evaluation information and mutual accountability of all stakeholders.
- Recognition and participation of Tanzania Evaluation Association (TanEA) and the African Parliamentarians' Network on Development Evaluation (Tanzania Chapter).
- M&E strategy of FYDP II aims at strengthening capacity for monitoring and evaluation (including impact assessment) and reporting.
- Creation of special and independent M&E implementing/coordinating unit accountable to the Parliament.

Challenges

- Lack of external support may undermine the institutional capacity strengthening.
- Placing of the implementing and coordinating unit under the Ministry of Finance and Planning reduces impartiality.

Rationale for UNICEF to support Tanzania's national evaluation capacity development



- To support the development of national capacity in implementing, monitoring and evaluating the localised 2030 Sustainable Development agenda
- To contribute to the achievement of strategic results for children set out in the Country Programme Document 2016-2021

TanEA's Strategic Plan 2017-2021 and the opportunity of partnership



The Vision: *“TanEA envisions a Tanzania where evaluation culture is embraced and supports social and economic development.”*

The Mission: *“TanEA is a professional M&E association that exists to promote and strengthen monitoring and evaluation practices in Tanzania through capacity strengthening, advocacy, professional development and networking.”*

TanEA has declared its support of the Global Evaluation Agenda 2016-2020 (also known as EvalAgenda2020)

TanEA's Strategic Results for 2017-2021



Outcome 1: The Government of Tanzania and the Parliament develop evaluation policy and frameworks to strengthen the M&E systems

Outcome 2: The government and civil society produce improved quality of M&E products and make evidence-based decisions.

Outcome 3: Strong and effective TanEA as an institution that is professionally all-inclusive and living up to its Vision and Mission

Outcome 4: Individual evaluators and commissioners of evaluation produce improved quality of evaluation reports.

Output 1: Government adopts policies and takes decisions that are evidence-based.

Output 1: Strengthened technical M&E capacity of government, NGOs and CSOs

Output 1: TanEA is recognized by Gov, DPs, civil society and the general public as a reliable partner in M&E

Output 1: Capacities for TanEA members, evaluators as well as commissioners and other stakeholders, on relevant M&E issues raised to an international professional level

Output 2: The government M&E system is the main source of information for evaluation of policies and strategies

Output 2: Enhanced availability of qualified, certified and experienced M&E professionals in the MDAs.

Output 2: TanEA's own institutional capacity is strengthened in order for it to effectively promote evaluation.

Output 2: TanEA members capacitated to contribute to any global evaluation research, forum, publication and development of standards and guidelines

Output 3: National M&E system generates data and info for use by oversight bodies (Parliament, National Audit Office, PCCB etc)

Output 3: TanEA is financially sustainable and has access to sufficient human, institutional, financial and other resources

Output 3: Young and Emerging Evaluators developed.

Output 4: To have a member of the Cabinet or a Senior Member of the Cabinet as a patron (champion) of the association

UNICEF Tanzania's support to national evaluation capacity development and SDG evaluation

- [on-going] UNICEF has supported the government with localizing and integrating the SDGs by strengthening government capacity to generate, manage and utilize child-sensitive data and evidence for monitoring and evaluating the SDGs and the five-year development plan – with a focus on multidimensional child poverty
- [agreed] UNICEF Tanzania has a partnership with TanEA: strategic plan development and launch, support to advocacy for evaluation (Government and Parliament), sub-national capacity for evaluation, and SDG & Evaluation
- [potential] UNICEF is supporting impact evaluations of Tanzania's productive safety net programme that help improve programme performance and contribute to learning about conducting and managing programme evaluations. These impact evaluations have the potential to strengthen evaluation practice more broadly and could help TANEA 'make the case' for a strong evaluation function in Government (stimulating demand through exposure to evaluation)

THANK YOU

Reference:

- TanEA's Strategic Plan 2017-2021
- Voices from the Field: Evaluation and the SDGs - Stronger evaluation culture for 'Leaving no child behind' in Tanzania by Jaehwi Kim and Paul Quarles van Ufford, UNICEF Tanzania ([link](#))
- UNDP (2015) Insight on National Evaluation Capacities in 43 Countries ([link](#))