

Potential of Industrial Development for Tanzania to Transform Socio-economically by Gerald Runyoro

The paper highlights the richness of Tanzania including land, wildlife, water resources, minerals and the recently discovered gas. It also refers to the favourable climate for production of a wide range of crops and livestock. The paper points out that Tanzania's population is an important resource and acknowledges not only the several frameworks, policies, strategies and plans which Tanzania has formulated but also the efforts made to put in place institutions to facilitate implementation of the policies, strategies and plans.

The paper notes that, despite the resource endowments and the efforts Tanzania has so far made, it still is one of the least developed countries, with approximately a third of its population living below the basic needs poverty line. An attempt is made to highlight factors which may have contributed to this lag. Finally, the paper looks at the recent decline contribution of the agricultural sector to GDP and increasing contribution from services, industry and construction. Acknowledging that this is possibly a begging for Tanzania to be on track towards attaining her objective of becoming a semi industrialized, middle income country by 2015, the paper concludes with recommendations which can help it to leapfrog towards socio-economic development through industrialization.