

Recent Publications

Research Reports

- The Effect of Boards on the Performance of Microfinance Institutions: Evidence from Tanzania and Kenya
- Supporting Tanzania's Cocoa Farmers
- Factors Affecting Participation in a Civil Society Network (Nangonet) in Ngara District

Special Papers

- Why Poverty Remains High in Tanzania: And What to Do About It?
- The Instrumental versus the Symbolic: Investigating Members' Participation in Civil Society Networks in Tanzania
- The Governance of the Capitalization Grant in Primary Education in Tanzania: Why Civic Engagement and School Autonomy Matter

Policy Briefs

- Examining the Institutional Framework for Investment in Tanzania: A perspective from the Executive Opinion Survey, 2012-13
- Achieving High Economic Growth with Rapid Poverty Reduction: The Case of Vietnam By
- Socio-Economic Transformation for Poverty Reduction: Eight Key Messages for Unlocking Tanzania's Potential
- Tracer Study for Research Users: The case of TGN Media Training
- Understanding Rural Transformation in Tanzania
- Affordability and Expenditure Patterns for Electricity and Kerosene in Urban Households in Tanzania
- Biofuel Investment in Tanzania: Awareness and Participation of the Local Communities
- Supporting Tanzania's Cocoa Farmers
- The Instrumental versus the Symbolic: Investigating Members' Participation in Civil Society Networks in Tanzania

Growth and Development

The focus of research under this theme is on inclusive growth and socioeconomic transformation for poverty reduction.

Growth-Poverty Nexus: Towards a Structuralist Macroeconomic Perspective

This project on the growth-poverty nexus commenced in 2010 with the objective to lay down the framework for research on the relationship between economic growth and poverty reduction in Tanzania using the structuralist approach to the macroeconomics of growth. A framework for research prepared and is currently in use, from which different pieces of research can be implemented.



Dr. Donald Mmari, Director for Growth and Development

Sectoral Systems of Innovation (SSI)

REPOA commissioned the Science, Technology, and Innovation Policy Research Organization (STIPRO formerly known as ATPS) to undertake part II of the study on the Sectoral Systems of Innovation (SSI). This work is a continuation of part one of the overall project on the assessment of the performance of the three sectoral systems of innovation in the Tanzanian economy, namely agriculture, health and manufacturing. While part one of the project endeavoured to map supply side factors, viz. policies and actors, this second part is devoted to complete the system picture by analysing the impact of the identified supply side factors on the demand side, i.e. the innovators themselves in the three sectors. The study uses the conceptual framework on systems of innovation that highlights important elements in the smooth working of any innovation system. The study was earlier expected to be finalized in October, 2012. However, due to field related constraints, the study will be finalized in 2013

Deepening the Understanding of Rural Transformation

The main objective of this research is to understand what it takes to transform rural Tanzania through learning from other countries. A conceptual framework was developed during the first phase and presented during the 17th Annual Research Workshop. The second phase focuses on field based analysis on transformation in the context of Tanzanian environment. Two studies were initiated towards the end of the year and are at initial stages of implementation. The studies include:

i. Financial landscape in Tanzania: financial behavior and use of financial services in rural areas

The objective of the study is to enhance the understanding of the demand for and access to financial services as a means in which better policy interventions can be designed. It uses secondary data from FINSCOPE surveys, which provides nationally representative data on the demand and supply of financial services.

ii. Role of LGAs in the context of ASDP for promoting agricultural productivity, growth in farm incomes, and transformation

The main objective of the study is to examine the patterns of budget allocation under ASDP, both at LGAs and at national level in order to give fact-based advice to the government in re-orienting its agricultural capitalization strategy.

Employment Studies

In the light of the rising concerns on unemployment, and the limited information and knowledge on the labour market dynamics in Tanzania, REPOA in collaboration with the ILO and the Ministry of Labour and Employment decided to establish the National Centre for Employment Studies (NCES). The Centre initiates and coordinates implementation of studies on trends in employment, labour productivity and earnings, and labour market dynamics. It will also promote policy dialogue on employment issues and maintain database of relevant information on the subject. Three studies were initiated in this area: -

I. The study on Quest of Inclusive Growth: Exploring the Nexus between Economic Growth, Employment and Poverty in Tanzania

Prof. Rizwanul Islam from Geneva was engaged as a visiting fellow to undertake preliminary analytical work on this subject. A draft paper was produced and discussed at REPOA's seminar series.

II. Analysis of response of municipal councils on youth unemployment from capability perspective

The study seeks to investigate how factors that govern trade in the urban economy, namely licensing, access to business premises, access to finance and taxes affect young people's productive capabilities to participate in gainful employment within the urban economy. The implementation of this study is at initial stage.

III. Rural Employment

This was a collaborative project with UNRISD aimed at examining poverty reduction and development in rural Tanzania, focusing on employment, social policy, and institutional change. The paper was submitted to UNRISD and has been published.