

ICT Capacity and Challenges in Tanzania.

By

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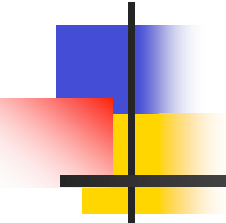
Outline

- Introduction
- Issues and Trend in Relation to ICT for Development
- Development Challenges.
- Opportunities presented by ICT
- Roles of Government, Academia and Civil Society
- Conclusion

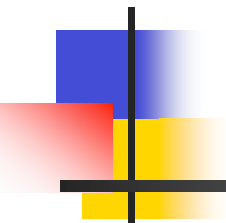
Introduction

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- globalization,
 - knowledge economy, and
 - social inclusion in development,
 - Africa faces unique challenges
 - Target ICT at improving competitiveness and increasing economic growth

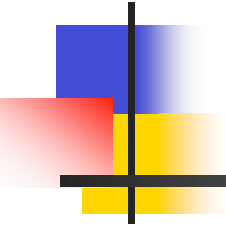
Issues and trends in ICT for Development

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- Tanzania, like many dev. countries face many challenges when it comes to harnessing the full potential of ICT.
 - The trend indicates that the matter is even worse and deteriorating in remote rural areas.
 - Unreliable sources of electric power;
 - poor and/or lack of ICT infrastructure;
 - inadequate expertise and knowledge in ICT;
 - Global trends- creation, use and dissemination of knowledge is a success factor for creation of wealth, innovation and social economic development.

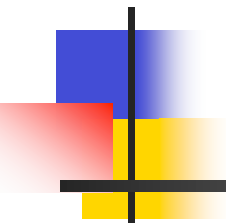
Issues and trends in ICT for Development

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- Limited access to Telecom and Internet services,
 - Infrastructure constraints-international connectivity, to change soon, national backbone-being constructed,
 - The urban rural divide-rural access fund established,
 - Basic Educational deficiencies-incorporating ICT into the Education system
 - Tertiary enrollment
 - Private sector/SMEs not yet dictating training.

Development Challenges

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- Knowledge: As much as 70-80 % of economic growth is said to be due to new and better knowledge.
 - The success of national economies depends on the information infrastructure that is necessary for the generation and utilization of knowledge. Therefore broad band data communication infrastructure becomes as important to the knowledge economy as electricity was to the Industrial development.

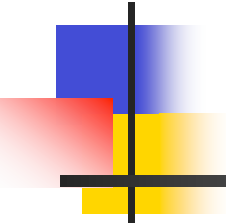
Development Challenges

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- Isolation: Countries that have little or no access to ICT facilities -considered as isolated in this context.
 - Lack of Education: Lack of formalized education
 - Culture of life long learning with ability to adapt continuously to changed opportunities, work practices, business models and forms of economic and social organization.
 - Lack of Access to Markets:
 - Lack of access to Financial Resources/Credits:
 - Quality and quantity of SMEs to take ICT opportunities

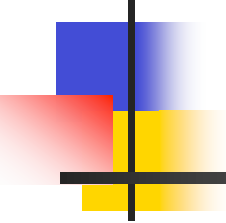
Opportunities presented by ICT

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- People networks and Community driven networks
 - VOIP
 - Innovation
 - Knowledge

Roles of Governments, Academia CSOs

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- Legal/regulatory environment
 - Invest in R&D
 - Research coordination
 - Universal broad band infrastructure
 - Foster and undertake research

Conclusion

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- .ICT is presenting the knowledge revolution in which we have to actively take part and cannot afford to miss.*
 - .ICT as an enabler has the potential to foster achievements of development objectives quickly and at lower costs.*
 - .But also ICT is an industry in its own right capable of generating wealth and employment as the Indian example has demonstrated.*
 - .Serious investment in the broadband information infrastructure*
 - . and extensive research on how ICT can and should be used to address the development challenges of governance, poor government services delivery, poverty, disease, lack of scientific knowledge and social exclusion.*
 - .Serious investment in ICT R&D through funding Universities and research Institutions.*
 - .Support to SMEs to take ICT opportunities-for effectiveness and competitiveness.*