

Building Tanzania's infrastructure

By **THE HON DR SHUKURU JUMANNE KAWAMBWA MP**

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holds a PhD in Engineering from Surrey University in the United Kingdom as well as a Masters from Reading University. Following an academic career at the University of Dar es Salaam he was elected Member of Parliament for the Bagamoyo constituency in 2005. After serving in various ministerial capacities he was appointed Minister of Education and Vocational Training in February 2008 and subsequently appointed Minister for Infrastructure Development in May of the same year.

The Ministry of Infrastructure Development's (MoID) vision is for a high quality, efficient, cost-effective, and self-sustaining transport sector that facilitates the social-economic development of Tanzania.

Roads

Tanzania's total road network length is about 86,472 km. This includes 30,000 km of trunk and regional roads, which is managed by the Tanzania National Roads Agency (TANROADS) and the 56,625 km of urban, district and collector roads managed by local government authorities. Under the current administration, the MoID has completed 26 road projects covering 2,237 km. There are 28 ongoing road projects with a total of 2,208 km; and seven road projects with 1,562 km are at the tendering stage. The feasibility studies and detailed designs for 11 road projects covering 2,745 km have been concluded. A bridge between Tanzania and Mozambique has been completed.

Railways

Tanzania's railway system covers 3,682 km, of which 2,707 km is operated by Tanzania Railways Limited (TRL) and 975 km by Tanzania-Zambia Railway Authority (TAZARA). TAZARA has a total of 1,860 km (885 km in Zambia). Tanzania's comparative advantage as a transit country is increasingly at risk because of high costs and transit times, which are mainly due to the current poor state of railway lines, wagons, and locomotives. The government plans to revitalise the railway network in line with the East Africa Railway Master Plan by upgrading the Dar es Salaam-Isaka line and building new lines to Rwanda and Burundi. The three countries are finalising plans to conduct a detailed engineering design. It is expected that construction of the railway line will be financed through a PPP. The country also has plans to develop the Mtwara Corridor, which will mean building a new railway line from the major coal and steel mines to the Port of Mtwara.

Maritime Transport

Tanzania has three major sea ports on the Indian Ocean, Dar es Salaam, Tanga, and Mtwara; along with inland ports on Lake Victoria, Lake Tanganyika, and Lake Nyasa. Additional capacity has been achieved by the provision of cargo handling facilities, improvements to cargo clearance, maintenance dredging of Dar es Salaam

and Tanga harbours, doubling container holding capacity to 11,000 TEUs, increased use of inland container depots to reduce congestion, the construction of a port control tower at Dar es Salaam, and development of the Port Master Plan (2008-28). The completion of the Port Master Plan has enabled the start of the development of two new terminals that should be ready for use by 2012.

Civil Aviation

Tanzania has 368 aerodromes and airports, three of which are international: Julius Nyerere International Airport (JNIA), Kilimanjaro International Airport, and Zanzibar Airport. In the last five years the country has embarked on the rehabilitation of seven major airports, including the expansion of the runway and taxiway at JNIA. The government plans to expand JNIA by providing a new passenger terminal building via a PPP. The country is currently constructing a new international airport, Songwe, in the Southern Highlands, to be operational by December 2010.

Pipelines

Pipelines are used to transport crude oil products from Dar es Salaam to the Ndola refinery in Zambia, a distance of 1,750 km, and natural gas from Songosongo (Lindi region) to Dar es Salaam, a distance of 232 Km. The country plans to expand the gas pipeline.

Creating an investment-conducive environment

Investment in the transport sector is guided by the National Transport Policy (2003), which is currently under review, the National Road Safety Policy (2009), and the National Construction Industry Policy (2003). The Government has also formulated a PPP policy to facilitate private participation of infrastructure investments.

The Government of Tanzania adopted a 10-Year Transport Sector Investment Programme (TSIP) in February 2007. The programme looks at how to integrate the country's entire infrastructure network, with spending for the first phase, up to 2012, of US\$6.2 billion as well as the periodic maintenance of all transport infrastructure.

The government has initiated the Joint Assistance Strategy for Tanzania (JAST) to facilitate coordination between the government and development partners. A Sector Wide Approach (SWAP) has been adopted whereby the government, development partners, and non-actor stakeholders participate in sector dialogues. **F**