



JAMUHURI YA MUUNGANO WA TANZANIA

THE SECOND COOPERATIVE RESEARCH CONFERENCE

CONFERENCE CONCEPT

DECEMBER, 2021

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	3
1.0 INTRODUCTION	4
2.0 RATIONALE FOR THE RESEARCH CONFERENCE.....	5
3.0 CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES	6
4.0 CONFERENCE THEME	6
5.0 CONFERENCE APPROACHES	6
6.0 TARGET PARTICIPANTS.....	7
7.0 EXPECTED RESULTS	8

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ANSAF	<i>Agricultural Non State Actors Forum</i>
CSOs	<i>Civil Society Organizations</i>
COASCO	<i>Cooperative Audit and Supervision Corporation</i>
COSTECH	<i>Commission for Science and Technology</i>
FAO	<i>Food and Agriculture Organization</i>
FSDT	<i>Financial Sector Deeping Trust</i>
KCDU	<i>Karagwe Cooperative District Union</i>
MoCU	<i>Moshi Co-operative University</i>
NGOs	<i>Non Governmental Organizations</i>
NSSF	<i>National Social Security Fund</i>
PCCB	<i>Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau</i>
PSOs	<i>Private Sector Organizations</i>
PSSSF	<i>Public Sector Social Security Fund</i>
RUDI	<i>Rural and Urban Development Initiative</i>
TCDC	<i>Tanzania Cooperative Development Commission</i>
TTCL	<i>Tanzania Telecommunication Company Limited</i>
TVC	<i>Tanzania Volunteering Centre</i>

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Tanzania Cooperative Development Commission (TCDC) is mandated to promote and regulate cooperative sub-sector in Tanzania. The Cooperative Policy of 2002 and legislation provide the mandate to TCDC and emphasizes on the public to join and form vibrant cooperatives for the purpose of solving their economic and social problems. The cooperative policy and legislation emphasize the importance of training and research in enhancing the cooperative development in Tanzania. Therefore, the Commission is responsible for encouraging, coordinating and supporting of research in cooperative development in the country.

In the recent years, the cooperative sector has been facing different challenges that need conducting researches on the particular issues of concern. The commission has been taking various initiatives to promote research in cooperatives for the purpose of improving the cooperative sector. TCDC is collaborating with different stakeholders such as Moshi Co-operative University (MoCU) and others, in undertaking researches in areas that hinder the development of cooperatives.

In March 2021, the TCDC in collaboration with MoCU organised and carried out the first cooperative research conference which was held in Dodoma City. The conference involved various stakeholders including leaders, management, members of cooperative societies, PSOs, CSOs and government institutions (Ministries, Crop Boards, Financial Institutions, PCCB, COASCO) and others.

Given the achievement and deliberation of the conference, it was recommended that the cooperative research conference should be conducted annually. It was further proposed that, research studies conducted should focus on few pertinent issues which are hindrances to cooperative development in Tanzania. From this ground, TCDC has established a committee to organise and coordinate the second Cooperative Research Conference. The committee is comprised of 11 members with representatives from TCDC, MoCU, ANSAF, Cooperative Societies (KDCU and TANESCO SACCOS) and the representative from Tanzania Volunteering Centre who represents the private sector.

2.0 RATIONALE FOR THE RESEARCH CONFERENCE

The cooperative development in Tanzania is facing various inherited operational challenges. These challenges need various initiatives including training and research interventions. The research in various operational areas of cooperatives is amongst the important initiatives to be carried out in enhancing cooperative development in Tanzania. Various researches have been carried out by scholars, independent researchers and other development partners addressing cooperatives challenges. However, their findings and recommendations are not directly presented to cooperative members, leaders and staff, as well as cooperative policy makers who are the main beneficiaries. The research studies conducted remain in the libraries of higher learning institutions or institutions and are published online where they cannot be accessed by the intended beneficiaries (cooperatives members, leaders and management). They are not accessible to cooperative societies and policy makers for adding new information and improving the cooperative performance. Therefore, the operational challenges have persisted for a long time which contributes to unsatisfactory performance of cooperative societies.

Therefore, Tanzania Cooperative Development Commission (TCDC) in collaboration with Moshi Co-operative University (MoCU), and other stakeholders organised the first cooperative research conference in Tanzania in March, 2021. The conference was held in Dodoma City and was very successful in terms of willingness, participation, financial contribution and inputs during discussions. The conference brought together cooperative stakeholders who received new information and recommendations from the researches; shared experiences; strengthened networks among the stakeholders and highlighted new areas for further research.

Based on the achievements of the first cooperative research conference and the importance of research in cooperative development, it was agreed that the cooperative research conference should be conducted annually. Therefore, the second cooperative research conference is organised to respond to both the importance of cooperatives as a development model and the deliberations of the first research conference. TCDC in collaboration with MoCU are organising the second cooperative research conference which is planned to be held in March 2022.

3.0 CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

The main objective of the 2nd Cooperative Research Conference is to present the research findings related to governance, marketing, as well as, capital and investments in cooperatives. The conference results will contribute significantly in bringing knowledge and up-to-date approaches and practices, which can improve governance, marketing as well as capital and investments for sound cooperatives development in Tanzania.

Specific Objectives

- i) Provide opportunities for different delegates from cooperatives across the country to exchange experiences, new ideas and apply the experiences in improving the cooperative performance;
- ii) Help the cooperative societies and policy makers to establish sound policies for improving cooperative development in Tanzania;
- iii) Provide opportunities to members, cooperative leaders and management to meet researchers and share various research findings and experiences for cooperative development in the country;
- iv) Provide solutions to existing cooperative challenges which will be raised by stakeholders; and
- v) Provide opportunities for strategic partnership and use of the research findings and recommendations, to develop interventional plans with aim of complimenting to the cooperative development agenda in Tanzania.

4.0 CONFERENCE THEME

The conference theme is "Cooperative Development in Tanzania: Strengthening Governance, Marketing and Investment Potentials". The conference sub themes include marketing, governance, capital and investment in cooperatives.

5.0 CONFERENCE APPROACHES

The second annual cooperative research conference will use different approaches as follows:

Research papers presentations

There will be various research papers presentations during the conference. The research papers will be scrutinized and approved based on thematic areas before being approved for presentations. Each presenter will be given

time to present the paper and thereafter findings will be discussed by participants. The research papers are expected to be simplified, written in Swahili and presented using power point during the conference. This will save time and enable all participants to easily follow, understand and adopt effectively.

Case studies

Some selected success stories will be also presented during the conference. The case studies will mainly focus on marketing, governance, capital and investment in cooperatives.

Key note speakers

Experienced and knowledgeable people in cooperatives will be provided an opportunity to share their pertinent knowledge and practical experiences on marketing, governance, capital and investment matters in cooperatives during the conference.

Audience discussion

After each presentation, there will be an open discussion for the audience. They will ask questions, comment on the presentations and the raised issues will be given clarification during the discussions.

Cooperative clinics

There will be special rooms or booths where the conference participants will be able to get some clarifications and consultations on various cooperative issues from cooperative experts, entities and authorities.

Exhibitions

There will be exhibition booths for selected best performing cooperatives, crops boards, main sponsors, TCDC, MoCU, COASCO and other stakeholders. Exhibitors will also be free to directly sell their products to the conference participants.

6.0 TARGET PARTICIPANTS

The conference is expected to be attended by 500 participants fetching diverse representations from;

- ✓ Members of Cooperatives Societies
- ✓ Leaders of Cooperatives

- ✓ Cooperative Staff and management
- ✓ Cooperative Stakeholders such as PSOs, NGOs working with cooperatives, development stakeholders, financial institutions and others.

7.0 EXPECTED RESULTS

- 1) Improved governance, marketing and investment practices in cooperatives in Tanzania;
- 2) Improved policies for cooperative governance, marketing, and investment in Tanzania ;
- 3) Created more awareness of cooperative best practices in governance, marketing, and investment in cooperatives;
- 4) Improved cooperative stakeholders' network, skills, knowledge and experiences; and
- 5) Identified new thematic areas for future cooperative research agenda in Tanzania.