

Tanzania Advocacy Partnership Program – Building Capacity of Regional Business Associations in Tanzania

Since January 2002, CIPE has been involved in planning and implementing various activities to build the capacity of regional business associations in 6 target regions of Tanzania in the areas of business association management, governance, and advocacy. The target regions are Iringa, Mbeya, Morogoro, Rukwa, Ruvuma, and Tanga. This is part of a USAID-funded initiative for which CIPE is a subcontractor to Pact.

In the first year of the program, CIPE conducted diagnostics of 32 business associations (28 district/regional associations and 4 national associations) in 5 regions of the country and in the capital, Dar es Salaam. The diagnostics revealed the following key findings:

- Most of the associations and chambers are young and have a very small membership and limited financial resources.
- Most at the regional and district level have not been active in advocacy.

In response to the above findings, CIPE has organized and implemented the following programs:

1. Basic business association management training programs for regional and district business associations, held in August 2002, in Morogoro and Mbeya.
2. Intensive advocacy training session for the Regional Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industry, and Agriculture (TCCIA) and 2 National business associations, held in January 2003, in Morogoro.
3. A planning session for a regional Public-Private Dialogue (PPD) conference, held the final day of the January advocacy program.

Planned activities for the remainder of 2003 include the following:

1. Each of the regional TCCIA – in collaboration with district and regional business associations and with the support of the national TCCIA will implement a Public-Private Dialogue (PPD) conference – see below. **(Timing – March/April 2003)**
2. Each regional TCCIA will plan and implement an advocacy campaign (April – Fall) that will culminate in local business roundtables. CIPE will provide hands-on technical assistance to each of the regional TCCIA in carrying out their advocacy campaign. **(Timing – Fall 2003)**
3. CIPE will conduct a follow-up training program for the same participants of the first two programs to build on management and advocacy skills – with each region presenting a case study of the experience gained in organizing the private-public dialogue conference and the local roundtables. **(Timing – August, September, or October)**
4. CIPE will conclude the program by administering the business association diagnostics to all the business associations that participated in the various activities associated with this

CIPE/PACT/USAID program. **(Timing – to take place at the follow-up training programs in Step 3)**

Public Private Dialogue Conferences

Regional TCCIA offices have formed Local Coordinating Committees (LCC) – coalitions of local business associations – to plan and implement the Public Private Dialogue Conferences. The LCC is also involved in the planned advocacy initiatives.

The objectives of the PPD are the following:

- To strengthen the working relationship between the public and private sector;
- To build understanding in the public and private sector of the necessity and benefits of public private dialogue;
- To building understanding of the legislative process at the local level;
- To foster understanding of advocacy as a continuous process.

There will be one Public-Private Dialogue Conference in each of the 6 target regions, with district public and private sectors invited to the regional event. The conference will be an all-day event with both morning and afternoon sessions. Approximately 50 participants from the public and private sectors will attend each conference, including 20-30 from the districts and 20 from the regional center (municipality). Participant will include MPs from the districts, Commissioners, Administrative Secretaries, Trade Officers, Municipal directors, mayors, TCCIA staff and members, Coalition Partners (associations) and prospective members from the private sector.