

SOCIO - ECONOMIC PROFILE OF MWANZA REGION

1.0 INTRODUCTION:

Tanzania is a beacon of political stability in Africa. The country and Mwanza region in particular has enormous economic potentials. Tolerance, cohesion and non-violence in the country are the fundamental cornerstone on which the country was built by our founders of our nation. Political stability and the enormous economic potentials has motivated our Government to take concrete measures to restructure the country's economy in order to provide an enabling environment for private investments in all sectors. In order to understand the message above, we have prepared this brochure presenting the region's economic and social profile to draw the attention of prospective investors to our unexploited wealth.

The general development trend in the region is positive. One of the reasons is the coming in of foreign and domestic investments in fisheries and mining sectors. The prospecting for gold and fisheries and mining sectors. The prospecting for gold and fisheries is that a number of related services will establish themselves in the region e.g. new banks, mineral testing laboratories, fish quality testing laboratories, training facilities, new airlines, forwarding and clearing agents and all these will contribute to making the general trend positive in the region.

1.1 LAND PEOPLE AND CLIMATE

1.1 Geographical Location

Mwanza region is located in the northern part of Tanzania just south of Lake Victoria. The Lake Victoria waters separate the region from the neighboring countries of Kenya and Uganda. To the east, north and West are the sister lake dominated regions of Mara and

Kagera. To the south there is Shinyanga region. It lies between latitude 1° 30' and 3° 0' south of Equator and the longitudes 31° 45' and 34° 10' east of Greenwich.

1.2 Land Area, Administration and Population

The region has a total surface area of 35,187 km² of 20,095 km² is dry land area and 15,092 km² is water area. Land wise, Mwanza is the fourth smallest region after Dar es Salaam, Kilimanjaro and Mtwara.

The region has a total of 8 districts, seven Local Government Authorities, 33 divisions, 174 wards, 683 villages and 481 mitaa (small administrative areas resulting from subdividing wards within town ships, municipalities and cities and for this case is within Mwanza City).

Table1: Distribution of Land Area, administrative Unit and Population by District

District	Land Ares (Sq. kms)	Water area (Sq.Kms)	Total area (Sq.Kms)	Division	Wards	Villages	Population
Ilemela	425	900	1,325	1	10	12	265,911
Nyamagana							
Magu	3,070	1,725	4,795	6	27	116	416,113
Ukerewe	640	5,760	4,600	4	24	74	261,944
Geita	6,775	1,050	7,825	7	33	163	7,121,195
Sengerema	3,335	5,482	8,817	5	25	124	501,915
Kwimba	3,903	-	3,903	5	25	111	361,180
Misungwi	1,947	175	2,122	4	20	78	257,155
TOTAL	20,095	15,095	35,187	33	174	683	2,942,148

Although, Mwanza is the fourth smallest region in terms of dry land area, it has the population of 2,942,148 according to 2002 National Population and Housing Census, the population of the reigon is now estimated to be 3.5 million people. It has population density of 150 people per sq.km. after Dar es Salaam region which has 1,793 in Tanzania mainland. Again

Mwanza boasts the highest level of urbanization (18.6%) of its population after Dar es Salaam (89.6%) and Morogoro (21.1%).

1.3 Climate:

- Temperatures and rainfall influenced by proximity to Lake Victoria and Equator. Maximum temperatures range between 25⁰ C to 28⁰ C during June to August.
- Rainfall unreliable, bimodal and ranges between 750 mm in dry areas and 1,200 mm in wet areas

1.4 Soils:

The soils of Mwanza can be classified into three major groups

- (a) sandy soils derived from granite
- (b) red loams derived from limestone
- (c) Block clay soils

The first group has moderate natural fertility and steadily deteriorates under conditions of continuous cultivation. The second and the third groups of soils are very much higher agricultural potential but tend to be found in areas of low rainfall.

2.0 REGIONAL ECONOMY

The economy in Mwanza is dominated by smallholder agriculture employing about 85% of the region's population and completed by and expanding fisheries sector. Mining and Livestock sectors also command a recognizable share in the economy of Mwanza region.

2.1 Agriculture:

Mwanza is the leading producer region of cotton, which is one of the Tanzania's major cash crops for export. For the past two

decades cotton production has declined basically due to low profitability and inefficient marketing arrangements. For this reason agriculture has been pushed to second position in terms of foreign exchange earnings. A fisheries activity takes the lead, and mining takes third position.

Major food crops in the region are maize, cassava, sorghum, millet, sweet potatoes, paddy and legumes. Maize, cassava and sweet potatoes constitute about 71% of all food crops grown in the region. Apart from cotton, paddy and maize are sometimes treated as cash crops.

In most cases the region is unable to feed itself due to persistent droughts. This could be solved by introducing irrigation schemes as there are plenty of water from the lake and from ponds along the available numerous river valleys in the region. Currently, irrigation is carried out in very small area which is about 6.4% of the total irrigatable land area in the region.

Table 2: Area under irrigation as per year 2005/06:

No.	District	Total available land area (Ha)	Total irrigatable land area (Ha)	Land area under irrigation (Ha)	% Land under irrigation
1.	Geita	458,200	1,732	-	-
2.	Sengerema	274,900	8,130	44	0.5
3.	Misungwi	135,800	8,919	1,135	12.7
4.	Kwimba	411,600	4,385	562	12.8
5.	Magu	286,800	5,000	-	-
6.	Ilemela & Nyamagana	27,300	575	115	20.0
7.	Ukerewe	63,200	1,282	75	5.9
TOTAL REGION		1,657,800	30,023	1,931	6.4

Table 3: District Total area, Dry Land area, water area, arable land total arable land, and percentage of land cultivated vs arable land as per year 2005/06

No	District (Ha)	Total District area (Ha)	Total Dry land area (Ha)	Total water area (Ha)	Total arable land (Ha)	Total land cultivated (Ha)	% of cultivated land (Ha)
1.	Geita	782,500	677,500	105,000	458,200	151,696.5	33
2.	Sengerema	881,700	333,500	548,200	274,900	-	NA
3.	Misungwi	212,200	194,700	17,500	135,800	49,669	36.6
4.	Kwimba	390,300	390,300	-	411,600	65,541	15.9
5.	Magu	479,500	307,000	172,500	286,800	41,462	15.2
6.	Ilemela & Nyamagana	132,500	425,000	90,000	27,300	-	NA
7.	Ukerewe	640,000	64,000	576,000	63,200	30,926.3	48.9
TOTAL REGION		3,518,700	209,500	1,509,200	1,657,800	339,249.4	20.5

From the table above it reveals that land not under agriculture is about 79.5% when compared to only 20.5% cultivated land in year 2005/06. In real fact the area under cultivation differ from one district to another. The reason behind is that, people cultivate small farms due to lack of sufficient agricultural inputs like modern farming equipments and machines because of poverty.

2.2 Livestock:

Livestock keeping as mentioned before is the third leading economic activity of the majority of people in Mwanza and it is the second region in the country after Shinyanga region with livestock estimated at approximately 2,889,955 cattle, sheep goats, pigs and donkey. The following are types of livestock in numbers in each district:

Table 4: Number of Livestock in each District as per year:

No.	District	Cattle	Goats	Sheep	Donkey	Pigs
1.	Geita	432,149	333,372	61,285	1,872	1,409
2.	Sengerema	164,350	64,300	8,724	281	526
3.	Misungwi	244,876	84,106	12,827	879	103
4.	Kwimba	391,234	105,048	79,333	5,500	300
5.	Magu	320,163	124,469	92,798	203	481
6.	Ilemela & Nyamagana	73,621	27,570	9,785	65	160,791
7.	Ukerewe	54,668	32,316	203	1	590
TOTAL REGION		1,681,061	771,141	264,955	8,598	164,200

The acute problem facing livestock sector in Mwanza region is that it is still predominated with tradition methods of keeping livestock. As a result the

yields/productions are very low which leads to have lightweights. They need to be reared in a modern way, for example by introducing more yielding varieties or crossbreeding local varieties with exotic or improved varieties to have more yields or just choosing best among them and fatten them.

This can improve their quality and as a result they can have more weight (for live livestock) and increased quality products like milk, meat, hides, skin and horns which will earn more markets within and outside the country.

Grazing is another activity that supports livestock. Out of 236,850 Ha for grazing only 0.8% (7,430 Ha) are utilized. Table 5 shows estimated grazing land by year 2002.

Table 5: Estimated Grazing land area by District (year 2002)

No.	District	Land fit for Grazing Ha (1980)	Land used for grazing ha (2002)	%	Tsetsefly infected area Ha (2002)	% of Land for Grazing
1.	Geita	252,200	63,000	25.0	2,500	1.0
2.	Sengerema	350,000	87,500	25.0	1,800	0.5
3.	Kwimba/Misungwi	153,800	38,450	25.0	1,500	1.0
4.	Magu	250,900	37,700	25.0	1,500	1.0
5.	Ilemela & Nyamagana	15,300	6,300	41.2	130	0.8
6.	Ukerewe	25,200	3,900	15.5	0	0
TOTAL REGION		947,400	236,850	25.0	7,430	0.8

Although the Government through its annual budgets tries to improve or establish livestock facilities such as cattle-dips, diagnostic and treatment centers but the problem arises when budget allocation is not adequate to meet the demand for the livestock keepers.

Also livestock market is another problem because the external market is almost non-existent due to poor quality of live livestock especially cattle and goats. Likewise due to lack of facilities for processing quality livestock

products to meet external markets standards is another setback. For internal market; is not only small but is also faced tieh lack of or inadequate transport and transportation means. Investment opportunities include commercial livestock keeping (ranches) for slaughtering and for export, leather Industries and other livestock products and establishing modern abat – tors.

2.3 Fisheries:

Fishing on the fresh waters of Lake Victoria is one of the most important undertaking by the people of Mwanza especially those living along or close to the lakeshore and those living in the numerous islands of Lake Victoria. According to March 2006 census, the region had a total of 56,321 fishermen with 16,911 fishing boats/canoes. There were 208,079 fishnets, 3,455 special finest for “dagaa” (*restrineobola argenti*) and 2,264,792 fish hooks.

According to year 2006 figures, total production of fish was estimated to be 148,258 tons as shown in table 6 below:

Table 6: Fish production for the year 2007:

Type of Fish	Estimated production ton
Nile perch.....(Sangara)	72,500
Plagic cyprinids.....(Dagaa)	40,000
Synodontis.....(furu)	15,000
Tilapia(Sato)	10,000
.....(Hongwe)	3,500
Momyrus catfish(mumi)	2,215
..... (kamongo)	5,043
TOTAL	148,258 Tons

There are seven fish processing industries which can process a total of 200 tones of Nile perch per day-say an average of about 60,000 tons a year. The industies include:-

1. Mwanza Fishing Industries Ltd.
2. Nile perch fisheries Ltd.
3. Omega Fish Ltd.
4. Tanzania fish Processors Ltd
5. Vicfish Ltd
6. Tanzania Fish Development Co.
7. Tan Perch

- **Fish Sales**

About 40,000 tons of fish is exported to European Union (EU) countries and Far East countries of Japan and Australia. A total of 29,630 tons have been sold to other regions within the country and about 28,875 tons is consumed locally within the region.

Challenges facing fishing industry:

1. Illegal fishing – i.e. use of unauthorized methods/means of fishing e.g. use of smaller sizes of fishing net which catches the young fishes not intended /or not allowed; use of drugs to poison fishing grounds; fishing in restricted areas such as breeding areas.
2. Environmental destruction by pollution, extensive agricultural methods resulting to siltation of the lake, deforestation along lake shores etc.
3. Presence of lake/sea weeds – aeration in the lake waters becomes poor
4. Lack of fishing infrastructure – only one industry/workshop which are in place for making fishing ships, boats. (Songoro Marine Boats Yards)
5. Lack of industries manufacturing or making fishing equipment such as fishnets, hooks, life jackets, floating buoyant, navigation equipment etc.

6. Lack of fisheries experts to man the industry effectively, ranging from those who would educate fish men on how to do/perform modern fishing to bring about sustainable development within fishing industry. The monitoring and supervision of fishing activities is minimal due to few personnel, lack of transport and poor communication.

Strategies to curb the challenges:-

1. The Local government authorities has put in place by laws to put a stop to illegal fishing, environmental destruction. There has been established Beach Management Units (BMUs) in every local communities (villages) bordering the lake or in the islands. These BMUs are charged with the duty watch out that fishing activities are done as stipulated by regulations/laws.
2. East Africa Countries that is Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania has established an organization known as Lake victoria fisheries Organization with the aim of effectively manages fishing activities particularly by use of BMUs.
3. Improving the fishing villages by establishing clean fishing markets and making sure the villages also are resettled and are clean.
4. Improving fish processing or adding value in fishing. Villages introduce modern fish drying methods, cold rooms where possible if there is electricity or solar energy to preserve the fishing products.
5. Not yet in place but for sure we need fish canning industries. Fish canning industries will ensure not only external market to earn foreign exchange but will provide opportunities for additional employment as well as increased income and therefore poverty reduction.

2.4 Wildlife Resources:

The eastern part of Magu District borders Serengeri National Park and this has provided an ideal condition for the virtually undisturbed survival and proliferation of various wildlife species in the eastern part of Magu District. The estimated combined population of all wildlife species is put at some 700,000 animals.

The Magu District authorities are required to well – manage wildlife resources to generate significant revenue for the local district authorities. Visitors to the region, who are interested in hunting, photographing and game viewing, will discover that the country in general and the region in particular has much to offer.

2.5 Forestry:

Mwanza Region has about 25 forest reserves totaling to 129,621 hectares. There are also tree planted forests. The biggest of these three plantations are two, namely Rubya and Buhindi with a total area of 14,510 Ha.

Natural forest reserves

There are two types of natural forest reserves

- (a) Those under Central Government
- (b) Those under Local Government i.e. District Council and village Councils.

Those under central Government are the biggest and most of them are in Geita and Sengerema District.

Efforts are being made to conserve more forests. This is being done through involving local people, example the Kome and Maisome forest reserves in Geita District and Sayaka forest reserve in Magu. Peoples participate by making sure no encroachment in the forest and no bush fire. There is also a very important deliberate step that has been taken by Local Government in Mwanza to allow

individuals to have forests in their plots/farms. These forests which are usually small (ranges from ½ Ha to 10 Ha in average) and are popularly known as NGITIRI (my forest). These have lifted the burden of going long distances in search of firewood and also thatching grass.

Planted Forests:

Efforts have being done by the Central Government (CG) in collaboration with Local Government authorities (LGAs) making sure that every year every district plants over 1.0 million trees. Individuals, schools, public and private institution are required to plant trees around their areas; at the same time the LGAs plant tree in water catchments areas, in barren lands, along the galleys, etc. The trees include fruit trees, soft wood and rarely hard wood trees.

Table 7: Trees planted in Mwanza from July 2003/04 – December, 2007

Period/Time	Target (no trees)	Actual (no trees)	%
July 2003 – June, 2004	7,406,323	6,138,809	82
July 2004 – June, 2005	6,705,744	6,138,969	91.5
July 2005 – June, 2006	4,850,000	3,743,665	77
July 2006 – Dec. 2007	12,000,000	5,005,615	42
Total	30,962,067	21,027,058	68

Table 7 shows that from year 2003/04 to 2006/07 the actual percentage of planted trees in Mwanza region stands at 68%.

Table 8: Revenue accrued from sale of forest products (2003/04 – July 2006) Tshs.

NO	Source	Year				
		2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	July 2006	Total
1.	Natural Forest	142,842,748	249,939,970	250,411,490	122,422,050	765,616,258
	Planted Trees					
	(i) Rubya Forest	142,110,965	47,259,006	189,369,971	30,766,398	409,506,340
	(ii) Buhindi Forest	210,773,510	282,186,250	355,293,485	199,687,680	1,047,940,925
	Total Revenue	495,727,223	578,385,226	795,074,946	352,876,128	22,230,663,523

Table 8 reveals that from year 2003/04 up to July, 2006 the total revenue accrued from forest products contributed to the National Income was Tshs.22, 230,663,523

2.6 Tourism

There is a lot of very interesting tourist sites, game reserves and national parks worth visiting. Some of the areas are as listed below:

Table 9: Tourist sites in Mwanza

No.	Tourist Site	Type of scene	District
1.	Makongoro Clinic	Building /Old Ruin?	Mwanza Municipality
2.	Nyanza ya Bakwikuru	A place where Queens were bathed	-do-
3.	Nyasha Mountain	A place where discoverer speke stood for the first time to see lake Victoria	-do-
4.	Kayenze Port	A place where 1 st white men who came to Mwanza were killed	-do-
5.	Old Boma	A place where prominent persons gathered to listen to the only Radio in Mwanza by then	-do-
6.	Utemini (Lords Palace)	A place where chiefs stayed when they came to Mwanza for consultations with the colonial Administrator	-do-
7.	Water Department Offices	1 st prison in Mwanza	-do-
8.	Central Bank front yard	The tree where people were hanged	-do-
9.	Mwanza Club	First whitemans club in Mwanza	-do-
10.	Regional Commissioners Hill	German Route/Rest Camp	-do-
11.	State House	First Colonial rest House in Mwanza	-do-
12.	Nyamadoke	Farmers Bridge, here there are Sukuma traditional things (mambo ya kale)	-do-
13.	Sanane Island	Game reserve	-do-
14.	Kijereshi camp	National Park	Magu District
15.	Rubondo Park	Game reserve	Geita District
16.	Uhuru Park	A place where there are sukuma traditional houses and beds (Nyegezi)	Mwanza Municipality
17.	Bismark rocks	A place when Born Bismarck (German) rested when arrived in Mwanza	-do-
18.	Stones	Interesting stones	Mwanza City on the way to Igoma via Sahwa
19.	Foot Prints	Foot prints of Mwanamalundi	Ilemela in Mwanza City
20.	Memorial sites	Sukuma cultural/memorial sites	Bujora
21.	Recreation/sports centre	A place where chiefs met	Malya
22.	Nyakuberega	A dancing stone/rock a stone which if instructed to dance for visitors it dances so well but only if instructed by the local traditional leader	Ukara Island in Ukerewe District
23.	Kayange bands	Rocks/stones near the Lake where there are foot prints of chief Kayage	Ukerewe

2.7 Mining Sector

The Government is determined to obtain the optimum benefit for the nation from the present and future development of the country's mineral resource.

To achieve the above the government and region is providing the necessary legal and fiscal framework to attract investors in this sector. In 1995 the production of minerals especially gold in the region was very small which was under 3 kgs per year. When big companies like Geita Gold Mine Ltd invested in the sector in 2000 the production stood as follows in the following table:

Table 10: Gold production in the period 2000 up to 2007

Gold production	Year 2000	Year 2001	Year 2002	Year 2003	Year 2004	Year 2005	Year 2006	Year 2007
Gold production in kg for Geita Gold Mine Ltd.	6,345.173	20,648.049	20,985.749	24,432.079	25,560.313	22,340.299	13,200.241	14.615.350
Gold production in kg for small gold producers	2.687	19.5547	14.8429	24.5856	12.6962	34.0616	17.5954	8.516
Total	6,347.860	20,667.6037	21,000.5918	26,890.639	25,573.0092	25,274.3606	13,217.8374	14,623.866

There are several Mineral deposits in Mwanza Region as listed bellow:

Table 11: Main mineral deposits available in Mwanza

No	Type of minerals	Place	Remarks
1.	Gold	1. Geita Gold Mines in Geita District 2. Nyarugusu, Nyamtondo, Lwamgasa, Mgusu, Nyakagwe and Iporama	Huge deposits, mining is taking place by M/S, Geita Gold Mine Co. small scale mining.
2.	Diamond	1. Misungwi District	Currently only small scale mining is taking place around Mabuki area in Misungwi District
3.	Construction Minerals	All of Mwanza Region	Construction mineral include stones, and stone aggregates, and soils for making bricks etc.

Mineral industry is not well advanced; there are lot of surveys and researches still going on in search of mineral deposits. Nevertheless mineral production that is taking place is quite substantial. Mining activities are done by foreign and local companies at large and small scales. For example in year 2007 mineral produced were as follows:-

- (i) Geita gold Mines produced 13,200,241 kgs worth U\$ 221,881,096.76
- (ii) Small Scale Miners produced 17,594.418 kg worth Tshs.9,463,000/=
- (iii) Nyanza road works produced 42,678.0 Tones of quarry stones worth Tshs.609, 486,000/=.

2.8 Transportation and Telecommunications:

▪ Road Transport:

Mwanza region together with Mara region in the east and Kagera Region to the west form a ring of roads around Lake Victoria in which connect to Kenya and Uganda, where both countries are fellow members of the East African Cooperation. Mwanza region is strategically located to play a key role in the development of such a ring network around the lake. Already an all-weather tarmac trunk road connects Mwanza to the Kenya Republic via Mara Region. The Western wing via Kagera region to the republic of Uganda is yet to be developed to tarmac standards.

Mwanza is connected to central mainland by a trunk road to Shinyanga and Nzega then branches to Tabora to the south and Singida, Dodoma and Dar es Salaam to the South East. Some parts of these roads are tarmac and some parts are earth/gravel/earth roads are impassible.

Regional, district and feeder roads dominate the internal network. Table ii shows the length of the roads in each district as per year 2002.

Table 12: Lengths of the roads grade by district in Mwanza Region 2002

No	District	ROAD GRADE (KM)				
		Trunk	Regional	District	Feeder	Total
1.	Magu	102.0	121.0	221.8	499.1	943.9
2.	Ukerewe	-	80.0	106.7	102.5	289.2
3.	Geita	37.0	306.0	313.0	945.0	1,601.0
4.	Sengerema	47.0	203.0	181.2	271.0	703.0
5.	Kwimba	35.0	197.0	158.0	392.0	782.0
6.	Misungwi	54.0	175.0	171.0	214.0	614.0
7.	Mwanza City	14.0	32.0	247.0	291.0	584.0
Total		289.0	1,114.0	1,398.7	2,715.4	5,517.1

Some of the trunk roads are tarmac but most of the regional and district roads are surfaced by gravel but almost all the feeder roads are earth.

Table 13: Length of road network by type of road surface by district in Mwanza region by 2002

No	District	TYPE OF SURFACE			
		Tarmac	Gravel	Earth	Total
1.	Magu	92	157.3	694.6	943.9
2.	Ukerewe	-	48.2	241	289.2
3.	Geita	-	214.6	1,386.4	1,601.0
4.	Sengerema	-	177	586	703.0
5.	Kwimba	35	130	617	782.0
6.	Misungwi	54	102	458	614.0
7.	Mwanza City	14	94.7	475.3	584.0
Total		195	863.8	4,458.3	5,517.1

The table shows that only 3.5% of the total lengths of roads in Mwanza Region are tarmac whereby graveled roads carry only 15.7% and the rest (Earth) carries 80.8%.

- **Marine Transport:**

The region is well served by marine transport making use of the waters of Lake Victoria that connect the region not only to Mara and Kagera regions but also to the neighbouring Republics of Uganda and Kenya. Passengers, cargo and services are carried constantly via the lake to various parts of the region and also to other areas that border the lake. In the Lake there are 42 ships

each with carrying capacity of over 50 tons. There are over 14,000 smaller ships and other vessels including motorboats, canoes etc with carrying capacity below 50 tons.

Challenges facing marine transport is lack of:

- (i) Ship manufacturing/maintenance yard or. There is only three yards which have no capacity/ability to repair bigger ships; this is due to lack of equipments/facilities and expertise to run them. Likewise the available ones are old for replacement.
- (ii) Lack of expertise in boat manufacturing. The boats are being manufactured/maintained locally without following specified standards that results to accidents. According to available statistics from year 2002 – December 2006, it shows that there 66 boat/ship accidents occurred and 260 people were killed. Out of the 66-accident ship accident was only one and the remaining 65 were boat accidents with 210 – death foil.
- (iii) Another big problem is lack of safety equipments such as life jackets, navigation equipments, floating, aids (life buoys), life rats, line throwing apparatus, parachutes, light shapes and sound signals. These equipments are not manufactured anywhere in the country, they are imported and expensive meaning that the locally made boats/ships have little number of such equipments which is very risky for those ply from one place to another.

▪ **Railway Transport:**

Mwanza City is an important and busy Central Railway line terminal since it is here that railway wagon ferries leave for Port Bell in Uganda republic which uses the port of Dar es Salaam as its outlet overseas.

Significant parts of Uganda, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Rwanda, Burundi and Mwanza Region and other lake regions of Mara and Kagera imports and exports are carried by central line.

Problem facing railway transport includes obsolete engines and wagons. The rails are also not good they are so old and have not been rehabilitated for quite a long time; they are sometimes washed by floods. Derailing is a common phenomenon causing lot of stoppages.

- **Air Transport:**

Air transport is Tanzania Mainland's third most important means of transport. Mwanza airport is 881 – Air km from Dar es Salaam. It is the quickest means of transport, connecting Mwanza to Dar es Salaam, Arusha, Bukoba and Musoma. It can accommodate the landing of Boeing 7373 Aircraft. Just like the railways line and roads it carries passenger, cargo and other services within the lake zone, neighbouring countries of Kenya, Uganda, Burundi/Rwanda and overseas at large.

In the year 2000 Mwanza airport in international traffic accounted for 395 Aircraft movements involving 2,542 passengers on scheduled services Non – Scheduled services involved 522 aircraft movements serving 1631 passengers. In terms of airfreight the airport moved 110.1 tons of tons on schuduled services and 20,689 tons mostly fish products loaded at the airport for overseas destinations on non-scheduled services. Non-commercial aircraft movements reached 821 in that year accounting for over 2,972 passengers. In the 2007 the Government of Tanzania has granted Mwanza airport an expansion of aprons and runways which are still under construction

- **Telecommunications:**

Tanzania Telecommunication Company Limited (TTCL) is the inland based telephone provider for the region. In addition there are e-mail services and several cellular telephone services provided by a number of private and semi-private telecommunication companies. These include Vodacom, Celtel, TTCL mobile, Tigo and Zantel.

2.9 Energy or alternative power source:

Electricity:

All districts of Mwanza region are connected to National Electricity Grid. The major towns and minor towns and settlements where electric line passes are connected. Although electricity line passes near many communities, the level of connection to the electricity power is minimal due to poor economic earnings of the people. Many people cannot afford to pay for installment charges leave alone electricity bills. Electricity is almost non – existence in rural remote areas.

- **Solar Energy:**

This energy which is generated by solar panels from sun rays is limited to few institution buildings belonging to religious organizations and government and to very few individuals' houses. The technology is new/not common and its installed the cost of running and maintenance is very little. Currently United Nations development Programme (UNDP) is having a small programme in Mwanza to electrify rural areas especially public schools hospitals and health centers by this means.

- **Fuel wood Energy:**

The regions population of 2,942,148 according to National Census of 2002 shows that, over 90% depends on fuel wood for domestic cooking. Therefore the forest cover is under considerable pressure.

- **Fossil fuels:**

Over 90% of the region's households depend on kerosene for lighting. For the case of urban population a significant proportion also depend on kerosene for lighting rather than electricity. Fossil fuels including diesel, oils, and petrol are used to energize transport, industries and various commercial establishments.

- **Fuel from getropha plant**

There is a tree grown in Mwanza that have seed which if processed produce diesel/kerosen and possible other types of fuel. Researches and trials are still going on. If succeeds then it will save due purposes as energy provider but also as environment conserver.

- **Banking and Finance Services:**

When the banking and finance services were liberalized, banking and financing services became open to private operators. The National Micro finance Bank, Kenye Bank of commerce. The Cooperative and Rural Development Bank, CIT Bank and others are operating in the City while the National Micro finance Bank operates in all district headquarters in the Region. The Bank of Tanzania based in Dar es Salaam has also a branch in Mwanza City.

2.10 Trade and Industries

Mwanza is the second region after Dar es Salaam in terms of trade and industries. In Mwanza, when you talk of trade/businesses almost every body is aware of it. Some people call the City industrious city, meaning if you are not industrious you cannot survive in Mwanza. That tendency has almost affected to entire lake cone regions to behave the same.

There are over 18095 registered trade/industrial businesses in Mwanza region, which include whole sellers, retailers buying and selling construction equipments/materials, pharmaceuticals fuels, jewelers, textiles, fish, agricultural equipments/implements inputs/products; other things are industrial equipments and materials, industrial products such as textiles, iron bars/sheets etc.

Mwanza region have 125 large and medium industries as follows:

(i)	Fish processing industries	-	8
(ii)	Steel industries	-	3
(iii)	Food processing and confectionery	-	3
(iv)	Brewery industries	-	2
(v)	Beverages	-	2
(vi)	Coonstruction Industries	-	35
(vii)	Transport Industries	-	15
(viii)	Ginneries (for cotton)	-	16
(ix)	Hotel Industries	-	30
(x)	Fish gear industries	-	1
(xi)	Oil Industries	-	3
(xii)	Printing and publishing industries		6
(xiii)	Fishnet Industries		1
	Total	-	<u>125</u>

According to small, medium and large enterprises policy we have in Tanzania, we call these large or big industries but in actual fact if compared to those in developed countries they are small industries (in term of capital outlay, the level of employment and products/sales). Total capital investment for most individual industries fall under Tshs.28bn/= (U\$ 21,000,000). Due to less competitiveness in quality and quantity in the international markets for industries in Mwanza have easily find foreign markets – these are fish industries and iron/steel industries. Internal local markets are abundant especially for iron/steel, textile, fish, breweries and beverages.

There are some challenges facing the operations of these industries, these include shortage of water (although Mwanza is situated at the lake shore), poor supply of electricity, poor transportation due to poor roads, railways and poor infrastructures in general.

Mwanza region can prosper if seriously invest in trade and industrial sector because can serve the region itself, neighboring regions and countries surrounding lake zone.

Mwanza boasts of its large/big own population combined with equally populous neighbour regions of Shinyanga, Kagera and Mara plus the neighbouring countries of Kenya, Uganda, DRC Congo, Rwanda and Burundi and therefore can grow to be a major trade and industrial region.

The region produces a lot for exports to other Countries and also imports some products from other countries. According to the statistics, the estimate total value for exports in 2007 was Tshs.146,394,170,694/=. The main export products from Mwanza were fish fillets and other fish products, cotton lint, cotton cake, steel irons, beers, leather and leather goods etc that were exported to the great lakes countries, European Union and Far East countries etc. The total estimate value of imports was TShs.121,834,005,224.50 for textiles and gaments (read made clothes), costumetics, medicine, shoes, cooking oil, and building materials etc. imported from European Union, Far East countries and the Great lakes.

- **Export Processing Zones Programme and Investment Opportunities**

The EPZ Programme is governed by the Export processing zones Act.No 11 of 2002.The Act provides overall legal guidance and requirements in respect of the EPZS establishment, development and operations in Tanzania Mainland.

Its thrust is on efficiency and good governance with focus on enhancing international competitiveness both in terms of attracting investors as well as export trade competitiveness. Mwanza region had been among the country's poles industrial development since independence. As such National Development Corporation being the industrial development organisation had two plots at Nyegezi and Buhongwa areas, waiting for development for EPZ.

2.11 Education and Health Services

- **Health Services:**

The health problem in Mwanza region has its roots in poverty and ignorance owing to their prevalence in dietary imbalance, insufficient and unsanitary water supplies, low standards of communal hygiene, poor general lack of knowledge of basic personal health care. These conditions result in a predominance of respiratory, intestinal and skin infections.

The National Health Policy points out that the government is committed to a strategy of providing primary health care as the best way of improving people's health and promoting development. This will be achieved through the provision of promotive, preventive, curative and rehabilitation of health services and infrastructure. The main emphasis is upon prevention of diseases and the promotion of healthy living habits. Comprehensive health services are at present within reach of nearly over half the population. Our plans will continue to be concentrated on community participation in the provision of health services.

- **Education Services:**

While there has been a remarkable expansion of education opportunities of the primary school age going population at school. There are 1185 Primary Schools, 258 Secondary Schools, 8 Colleges and 3 Universities. The objective of universal access to primary education has to be achieved

at all costs. For those who neither did nor get the opportunity to go to school, the government has put in place a special programme known as Primary Education Development Programme (PEDP) to enable these children to access and complete primary education in a shorter period. This is going to be achieved through the main objectives of education strategy in Mwanza of:-

- Preparing the region's population for useful and productive lives with emphasis on training to meet the manpower requirements of the region's economy.
- Increasing educational opportunities for all age groups and reduce inequalities of educational opportunities
- Coordinating educational facilities to provide continuous access from primary to post primary education and training using both the formal and informal system. The region plans to intensify vocational and technical training by expanding existing centers and introducing additional courses at these prerequisites of a sustained economic growth is the availability of skilled and productive manpower, and especially in Mwanza region, there is an increasing need for skilled manpower in all sectors of the economy. It is anticipated that by the year 2010 the difference between the needs of industries and other sectors and the number of available skilled workers will increase by half. This projection is based on the anticipated industrial growth rate of five percent and the region will make every effort to narrow this gap.

It's highly time for Mwanza now to open investment opportunities to Leon H. Sullivan Foundation, YOU ARE WELCOME TO MWANZA. The contact address is the Regional Commissioner, P.O. Box 119, Mwanza. Tel.+255282500366, Fax +255282501057, Cell. +255754364380 and Regional Administrative Secretary, P.O. Box 119, Mwanza, Tel. +255282501037, Cell. +255784360280 rasmwanza@pmlg.go.tz. Website – www.mwanzaregion.org.

WELL COME TO MWANZA REGION

Eng. Dr. James Alex Msekela,
REGIONAL COMMISSIONER,
MWANZA

30TH May, 2008.