

ABSTRACT

This study was carried out in six regions in Tanzania namely, Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Dodoma, Kilimanjaro, Mbeya and Mwanza. The study aimed at assessing reasons responsible for the slow emergence of entrepreneurship in Tanzania. The study takes a keen look at the country's development path from the time it got her independence from Great Britain in 1961 to see what went wrong. The country took off with a road map that sought to shape the identity of the nation while at the same time coming up with a philosophy that would eliminate exploitation of man by man.

While our neighbors in Kenya and Uganda were exploiting the infrastructure put in place by the colonialists to push entrepreneurial activities, creation of wealth in Tanzania assumed a negative picture. The country scored a first in universal literacy (above 80% in the mid seventies). It also excelled in nationalizing private companies which were hastily put in the hands of indigenous people. The fact that most of those who were given the task of managing them lacked administrative skills as well as commitment, rendered them economically unviable. In terms of natural resources which include different types of minerals and the huge tracts of land which are still economically unexploited, Tanzania is supposed to be the richest country in East Africa. This is however not the case.

The study has established that the government's decision to go socialist in the early years of independence played a big role in slowing the development of entrepreneurship in the country. Other militating factors such the education system in the country, unfriendly loan terms on the part of financial institutions, and what

