



Tanzania

1 Which bioeconomy-related policy strategies exist?

In Tanzania, bioeconomy development is politically mainly promoted in the area of biotechnology. With the “**National Biotechnology Policy**” (2010) the government formulated a guiding framework to foster biotechnology and its applications. The strategy is based on the government’s medium-term “National

Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty” (2005–2009; 2010–2015) and its vision for 2025 to encourage the country’s economic transition from a predominantly subsistence agriculture to a “semi industrial” economy.

2 Is the term “bioeconomy” or “biobased economy” used in the strategy documents?

Yes

No

X

3 Who is the author of the strategies?

In 2010, the Tanzanian Ministry of Communication, Science and Technology published the “National Biotechnology Policy”. The strategy development

process involved various stakeholders from business and civil society.

4 What are the key goals of the strategies?

Building on the “National Strategy for growth and Reduction of Poverty” (2005) the “National Biotechnology Policy” (2010) was mainly designed to foster food security and ensure food self-sufficiency. Biotechnology should contribute to increase

the country’s economic growth by strengthening the agricultural sector. Moreover, the strategy links the utilization of biotechnology and its applications with biosafety aspects.



5 What are the priority areas of the strategies?

The “National Biotechnology Policy” (2010) is largely focused on research, development and innovation in order to foster biotechnology and its commercialization. Therefore, it addresses several policy measures that concentrate on, e.g. coordinating the application of biotechnology and appropriate funding programs, promoting public-private partnerships that encourage business innovation, strengthening capacity building and national and international collaboration to ensure knowledge and technology transfer. Although the strategy is mainly agriculture-oriented, it should also identify priorities in the area of health, industrial production, trade and environmental protection. In this respect the strategy highlights, e.g. vaccines, diagnostic kits and new medicines, but also the

development of technologies for biodiversity conservation.

The government further intends to establish an institutional framework that facilitates biotechnology development in Tanzania. By establishing a National Center of Excellence for Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering, biotechnological stakeholders should be coordinated and collaboration between them should be promoted. The strategy highlights the need for involving stakeholders from all economic sectors in order to implement biotechnology policies. It further puts emphasis on developing an action plan and the need for mechanisms to monitor and evaluate the implementation process.

REFERENCES

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