

NIT's stakeholders, dons discuss key pillars of blue economy in Tanzania



Some of the speakers and presenters about the blue economy during a discussion on the theme prepared by NIT at its 8th Convocation.

By Prosper Makene

Transportation and logistics professionals as well as a Maritime Transport Policy have an important role to play in the development of Tanzania's blue economy, it has been said.

Presenting a paper titled 'Transportation and Logistics as a pillar of blue economy growth in Tanzania,' at the Na-

tional Institute of Transport (NIT)'s 8th Convocation, Dr Tumaini S. Gurumo said:

"Blue Economy opportunities are vast enough to include activities such as providing qualified human resource, land connectivity to the markets, manufacturing of equipment and value addition to blue economy products."

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On his side, Dr. Aloyse Nzuki when presenting a paper prepared by Tanzania Port Authority (TPA)’s Director General Mr. Eric B. Hamissi at the sideline of 8th Convocation, said: “We must have in place Maritime Transport Policy that will embrace realization of the blue economy in maritime transport sector.”

Dr Nzuki added: “We also must have substantial human and financial resource mobilization to facilitate implementation of blue economy.”

“We need to have coordinated efforts that bring together all actors in blue economy at National level as well as developing a strategy that will enable Tanzania Blue Economy to effectively compete within the region and globally,” he observed.

In making the blue economy attained, the Don has further said: “We should have collaborative efforts among stakeholders to improve capacities of inland transport particularly railways for seamless transport and logistics services as well as developing a Framework for managing and coordinating blue economy activities.”

Blue Economy concept is a new framing that creates and calls for new understandings of how actors and places relate to one another, control and creates meaning and value.

He pointed out that maritime transport accounts up to 90% of global trade facilitation by volume and 70% by value, “With these figures, we must have a policy that will guide the maritime transport.”

On the other hand, he said: “50% of international tourists travel to coastal destinations and around; 30% of the world’s oil and gas production comes from offshore; Around 40% of the global population live along coastal areas, of which a significant proportion rely on ocean resources for their livelihoods and businesses.

This tells how the blue economy is of importance for the global socio-economic development.”

Maritime Transport: Refers to the movement of passengers and freight over water masses, from oceans to rivers. Maritime transportation also encompasses fishing or marine resource applications, and maritime support such as navigation and vessel maintenance.

On his presentation titled ‘Catalytic Role of Maritime Transport in Realizing Blue Economy in Tanzania’, Anselm Namala concluded by saying: “So as to realize the blue economy, we must integrate maritime transport and trade policies integration (local and regional), surveyed water ways, promoting activities in the area, Investment in blue economy infrastructures as well as producing more human resource.”

NIT establishes new programmes to support the blue economy

Likewise, in supporting the Government’s efforts on promoting blue economy, the National Institute of Transport (NIT) has started offering courses that will provide knowledge and skills in ship building and repair as well.

“The blue economy is very important to economic development and prosperity of all in the country, that’s why we have introduced programmes to promote it,” Prof Zacharia Mganilwa, NIT Rector said.

Professor Mganilwa also said that apart from introducing a diploma programme on ship building and repair, the Institute has also established Bachelor’s Degree in Shipping and Port Logistics Management (BSPLM).

“In 2020/21 academic year, we introduced ordinary diploma in shipping and port logistics operations as well as bachelor’s degree in naval architecture aiming at producing local technicians and engineers who will be capable on building ships,” he said.

Elaborating, Prof Mganilwa said: “We have also introduced courses on road and railway to support the maritime, because the railway and the road are closely coordinated with maritime sector by transporting goods from or to the ports.”

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Deputy Minister for Works and Transport argues NIT students to be innovative, congratulates the Institute



Deputy Minister, Ministry of Works and Transport, Hon. Mwita Waitara addressing the graduation gathering during the event held at NIT Mabibo Campus, on 10th December, 2021.

By Juma Manday

NIT students have been urged to be innovative and work hard in their studies in order to become more competent and innovative when approaching the job market. The remark was made by the Deputy Minister, Ministry of Works and Transport, Hon. Mwita Waitara during 37th Graduation Ceremony held at the institute on 10th of December, 2021.

In his speech to the graduation gathering, Waitara pointed out that the job market is currently over saturated with many graduands who search for employments without innovation skills. By possessing adequate competency and innovation skills students will be able to employ themselves and others after completion of their studies instead of waiting for government employments.

“The government cannot employ everyone, through innovations and entrepreneurship skills you can employ yourselves and others and hence, contribute significantly in transforming our economy”

Hon. Waitara further noted that the institute should invest in developing new curricular and upgrading the current ones in order to impart students with adequate skills and knowledge.

By doing so, the institute will be able to produce more competent and innovative human resources who can compete in the job market as well as participate adequately in transforming Tanzania economy.

“NIT should continuously develop and upgrade its curricular in order to impart students with sufficient skills and knowledge required to transform our economy and compete at the job market”

Also Hon. Waitara assured NIT’s Management with commitment from the government to support the Institute in the course of addressing its challenges in infrastructures, shortage of lecturers’ offices and hostels.

“The government will continuously work hand in hand with the institute to address these challenges”

In his final remarks Hon. Waitara congratulated NIT’s Management for the notable achievements and urged other government institutions to learn from NIT.

“I congratulate you all for the achievements and call upon other government institutions to learn from NIT”, he said.

■ NIT directs efforts to produce graduates capable of self-employment

By Zakeyo Lusohoka

Following the current global demand for jobs across the globe, the National Institute of Transport (NIT) is set to produce competent graduates capable of self employment. The statement was made recently by the Institute's Rector, Eng. Prof. Zacharia Mganilwa during the 8th Convocation ceremony held recently at NIT Mabibo Campus.

"Our aim is to produce graduates who are not only ready for demanding jobs, but who will have the skills and the drive to act as entrepreneurs for creation of new jobs", said Prof. Mganilwa.

Prof. Mganilwa also stressed on the NIT's vision to become centre of excellence in logistics, management and transport technology and commitment to produce competent graduates capable of performing various professional functions and activities, particularly in a transport sector.

"With all the major transformations we have seen in the last couple of years, we are now working tirelessly to make our Institute a truly centre of excellence in logistics, management

and transport technology, linking what we do with the National Strategic Projects such BRT, SGR, revival of National Airline (ATCL), Development of Blue Economy, Oil Pipeline from Tanzania to Uganda, and Julius Nyerere Hydro-power Station Project", He said.

The Rector further highlighted that graduates at NIT are expected to participate in addressing community needs and challenges.

"...Be generous with your knowledge and your time, and imagine how you can collaborate to bring about the change that is necessary in our societies", He said.

Meanwhile, Guest of honor at the convocation, Mr. Kaimu A. Mkeyenge – Director General, Tanzania Shipping Agencies Corporation (TASAC) applauded NIT for its achievements.

"NIT has been playing a leading role in providing high quality education and training, research, publication and consultancy services in areas of logistics, management, and transport technology enabling the growth of the national economy."



NIT students celebrating their achievements to graduate in various academic programmes, during the 37th NIT- graduation ceremony held on 10th December, 2021.

■ Prof Mganilwa: Maritime transport is the linchpin of the economy



NIT's Rector, Eng. Prof. Zacharia Mganilwa, addressing masses of the convocation during the event held on 3rd December, 2021 at the institute main campus, Mabibo.

By Prosper Makene

The National Institute of Transport (NIT) Rector Prof Zacharia Mganilwa said that maritime transport is the linchpin of the economy because it supports commercial flows more efficiently.

“The blue economy is very important to economic development and prosperity of all in the country, that’s why we have introduced programmes in maritime transport to promote it,” he said.

Professor Mganilwa also said that apart from introducing a diploma programme on ship building and repair, the Institute has also established Bachelor’s Degree in Shipping and Port Logistics Management (BSPLM).

“In 2020/21 academic year, we have introduced ordinary diploma in shipping and port logistics operations as well as bachelor’s degree in naval architecture aiming at producing local technicians and engineers who will be capable on building ships,” he said.

Elaborating, Prof Mganilwa said: “We have also introduced courses on road and railway to support the maritime, because the rail-

way and the road are closely coordinated with maritime sector by transporting goods from or to the ports.”

However, recent economic growth (the economic outlook of Tanzania is positive, with real GDP projected to grow 4.1% in 2021 and 5.8% in 2022) and development have created great opportunity for expansion of maritime transportation services, Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA)’s Director General Erick B. Hamissi said on his paper presented by Dr Aloyse Nzuki at NIT’s 8th Convocation.

He also said that high demand of Maritime Transportation Services will lead into increased opportunity through possible cargo increase.

“Maritime transport is very essential due to the fact that contribution in the Government Revenue in area of taxes on imports and exports are handled through major ports,” he said. The maritime transport contributes to the rapid growth in development of financial markets, increase of flow of goods and services.

NIT to produce more local experts in transport sector

By Juma Mandy

NIT has continuously strived to fulfill its mandate of ensuring more qualified and competent human resource are available and sustainable in all modes of transport (road, railway, maritime, air and pipeline). To achieve that the institute has successfully developed new programmes in railway, maritime and pipeline transport to ensure sufficient qualified local experts to manage major projects which are currently undertaken by the government. The remark was made by the NIT's Rector, Eng. Zacharia Mganilwa during 37th Graduation Ceremony held at the institute on 10th of December, 2021.

Speaking at the 37th Graduation Ceremony held at the institute Mabibo Dar es salaam, the NIT's Rector, Eng. Prof. Mganilwa said that the institute has successfully developed several programs to support blue economy. The established programmes include Bachelor's Degree in Shipping and Port Logistics Management, Bachelor's Degree in Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering, Ordinary Diploma in Pipe works, Oil and Gas Engineering, Ordinary Diploma in Shipbuilding, and Repair, and Ordinary Diploma in Shipping and Port Logistics Operations. By establishing the maritime programmes NIT will produce local experts with adequate skills in designing, building and repairing of ships, fishing vessels, and managing of ports operations etc.

"We have established maritime programmes to support blue economy", he said. In addition to that Prof. Mganilwa stressed that the institute has acquired piece of land in Lindi to establish a Technician Training and Technology Incubation Centre for Maritime and Oil/Gas Industry. In doing so, the institute will be able to produce more qualified and competent human resources and hence address the shortage of local experts in the maritime sector.

"So far we have acquired piece of land in Lindi to establish an Incubation Centre for Maritime and Oil/Gas Industry", he made further elaboration.

Prof. Mganilwa further noted in a move to keep up with country demand of local experts in government strategic projects, the institute has managed to establish railway programmes. The newly established programmes include Bachelor Degree in Road and Railway Transport Logistics

Management, Ordinary Diploma in Road and Railway Transport Logistics Operations, Ordinary Diploma in Telecommunication and Railway Signaling and Electrical Engineering with railway Electrification and Ordinary Diploma in Civil and Transportation Engineering with a focus on Railway Infrastructures. These experts will work in the major projects like Tanzania Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) and in various organizations like Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC) and Tanzania Zambia Railway Authority (TAZARA).

"Currently we have established railway programmes to meet country's demand of local experts to manage government strategic projects", he said.

Prof. Mganilwa added that the institute has also acquired a piece of land in Dodoma to establish Technician Training and Technology Incubation Centre for Railway Industry. Upon established, NIT will be able to produce local experts in railway transport thus, reduce country dependence on foreign experts. To achieve that the institute needs financial support worth TZS 7 Billions to settle land compensation in Dodoma.

On top of that Prof. Mganilwa highlighted that NIT in collaboration with Land Transport Regulatory Authority (LATRA) and TRC have successfully prepared a curriculum to train road and railway passenger cabin crews. Upon implementation, qualified and competent crews will be produced at NIT and supplied to the labour market and hence improve service delivery in transport industry.

"In collaboration with (LATRA) and TRC we have prepared a curriculum for Customer Service for Road and Railway Passenger Cabin Crew", he said.

Finally, Prof. Mganilwa pointed out that the institute is in right track to finalize two stages before securing an Approved Training Organization (ATO) Certificate from TCAA for offering pilot training courses. The remained phases include Demonstration and Inspection (requires training equipment like air crafts) and Certification (issuing of certificate of approval). After the arrival of two aircrafts (Cessna 172S) purchased by the government, NIT will finalize the two phases (4 and 5).

NIT signs MoU with SSCS in supply chain, transport and logistics training

By Prosper Makene

In a bid to increase a number of trained experts in transport and logistics industry, the National Institute of Transport (NIT) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Simba Supply Chain Solution (SSCS) to collaborate in trainings on supply chain, engineering and transport logistics operations.

Speaking at the signing ceremony held recently in Dar es Salaam, NIT Rector, Prof Zacharia Mganilwa and SSCS Chief Executive Officer, Hussein Dewji said the MoU will help to improve professionalism in transport industry.

Prof Mganilwa said that through the deal, Simba Supply Chain Solution will provide practical training to NIT students hence graduating as competent professionals ready to serve the market.

“The objective of this MoU is to promote mutual relationship between NIT and SSCS in enhancing skills development for students and staff in areas of logistics operations, supply chain, engineering and ICT related operations and management,” Prof Mganilwa said.

The NIT Rector disclosed 11 areas of collaborations as internship for students, staff training and field work placement for students, visiting professionals for SSCS, Industrial / Study visit as well as industrial attachment for staff.

He named other areas that the MoU will work on, as research and consultancies, provision of driving training to SSCS, staff/capacity building for drivers (SSCS), capacity building in vehicle maintenance, freight clearance and forwarding and logistics as well as supply chain management.

“Through the MoU, NIT will assist SSCS in diffusion of communication and employment offers as well as participating in events organized by the two parts including seminars, conferences and workshops,” Prof Mganilwa said.

He added: “The Simba Supply Chain Solution professionals will be involved in training programmes at the National Institute of Transport’s discretion.”

Speaking at the sideline of the event, SSCS General Manager Ajuaye Msese said: “With this MoU, our company agreed to provide internships, fieldworks, specific modules for visiting professionals, study visits and industrial attachment for staff and students.”

The GM added: “We have also agreed to advice students of any known policies, procedures and requirements of the internship, field work, study visits and industrial attachment for staff as specified by the NIT.”

He also said that the agreement will last for an initial period of five years.



NIT’s Rector, Eng. Prof. Zacharia Mganilwa (2nd right) and Simba Supply Chain Solution Company’s (SSCS) Chief Executive Director, Mr. Hussein Dewji (2nd left) presenting documents shortly after signing the MoU to collaborate in trainings on supply chain, engineering and transport logistics operations between NIT and SSCS

On his part, the SSCS CEO Hussein Dewji said that through the MoU, Simba Supply Chain Solution will provide excellence awards to the best performers who graduated from automobile, transport and logistics, clearing and forwarding as well as trucks drivers. Dewji also said: “We have decided to enter into an agreement with NIT after considering that our company has more than 300 employees with 60% being drivers who are a product of NIT.”

He added: “As a result of this, our company has entered into cooperation agreements in a variety of areas including research, practical training for students and facilitation training for academic staff.”

“This partnership aims to bridge the knowledge gap in the entire value chain in the transport sector as well as increase productivity and efficiency in operations and thereafter increase revenues to our institutions and country as a whole,” he said.

However, NIT’s Rector underscored that the MoUs that his Institution signed are part of fulfilling the objectives of the East Africa Skills for Transformation and Regional Integration Project (EASTRIP).

“These partnerships have been made possible with support from the EASTRIP Project as we are now transforming our School of Aviation and Technology into the Centre of Excellence in Aviation and Technologies in Tanzania and the region,” he said.

“Just in one year from August 2020 and August 2021, we have established over 13 MoUs as a move to improve the learning skills in accordance with the market demand.”

Buchard shares his study experience of Maritime Affairs in Sweden

By Juma Manday

Mr. Epimachus Burchard is an employee of NIT who has returned recently from abroad after successfully graduated his master degree in Maritime Affairs (Shipping Management and Logistics) at World Maritime University in Sweden. NIT e-newsflash has conducted an interview about his experience and challenges when studying abroad and hence revealed through the following responses: What makes a difference between studying here and abroad?

Mr. Burchard reveals the existence of significant difference between studying in Tanzania and studying abroad as he said:

“I observed many differences, the major differences were based on the systems used, for example the education philosophy used in Sweden is more practical integrated thus ensures students are imparted with more practical skills than theories. Also, examinations given were in the form of projects and assignments were designed in a way that simulates the real situation.”

What challenges did you encounter when pursuing your studies in Sweden?

During his studies abroad Mr. Burchard experienced several challenges including inadequate information and communication technology skills, weather and food adaptation.

“The major challenge was inadequate computer skills because in Sweden the application of ICT was so wide thus required all examinations and assignments to be done online. Another challenge was adapting to cold weather and Swedish foods, as you know in Sweden the weather is very cold throughout the year especially during winter season the temperature sometimes reaches negative degree centigrade and their food are different from us”.

What is your advice to other members of NIT who wish to pursue their studies abroad?

“I sincerely encourage them to take advantage of every opportunity that can help them to fulfill their dreams of pursuing their studies abroad. Also, they should equip themselves with adequate ICT skills before going abroad and be ready to keep up with pressure of meeting higher expectations of the institute”



Mr. Epimachus Burchard

What should NIT expect to reap from you?

Mr. Burchard looks forward to make substantial contributions towards realization of the institute desired objectives as he reveals:

“I am ready to share my experience and expertise in various areas including developing new curricular and improving the current ones, providing high quality training, research, publications and consultancy in shipping management and logistics. In addition, to make my contributions to the development of maritime industry”.

In his final remarks, Mr. Burchard expresses his gratitude:

“I thank God for everything, I also extend my sincere gratitude to the NIT management under leadership of Eng. Prof. Zacharia Mganilwa for their notable support and trust throughout my master journey abroad. Special thanks also go to all members of the department of logistics and transport and my family”.

NIT marks 8th convocation with keen to continue introducing contemporary teaching methods, research

By Prosper Makene

The National Institute of Transport (NIT) has celebrated the 8th Convocation with a promise of increasing the quality assurance in their Institute and continues introducing the contemporary teaching methods and research.

The NIT's 8th Convocation was attended by over 300 guests and featured a host of activities, presentations and demonstrations celebrating the achievements, innovations that have contributed to the Institute's history.

"On behalf of the Governing Council, Management, Staff and Students of the National Institute of Transport (NIT), I'm proud to say that the Institute is doing an excellent job in preparing Tanzania for the future," NIT Rector Prof Zacharia Mganilwa said in his speech delivered during the Convocation ceremony held at the institute main campus in Mabibo, Dar es Salaam.

The NIT Boss added: "We would like to see engineers and technology entrepreneurs connecting rural audiences to essential information. Our aim is to produce graduates who are not only ready for demanding jobs, but who will have the skills and the drive to act as entrepreneurs for creation of new jobs," he said.

The NIT Rector concluded: "Once again, I commend you for your determination and congratulate you on your achievements. May the journey you begin today be all that you have dreamed of."

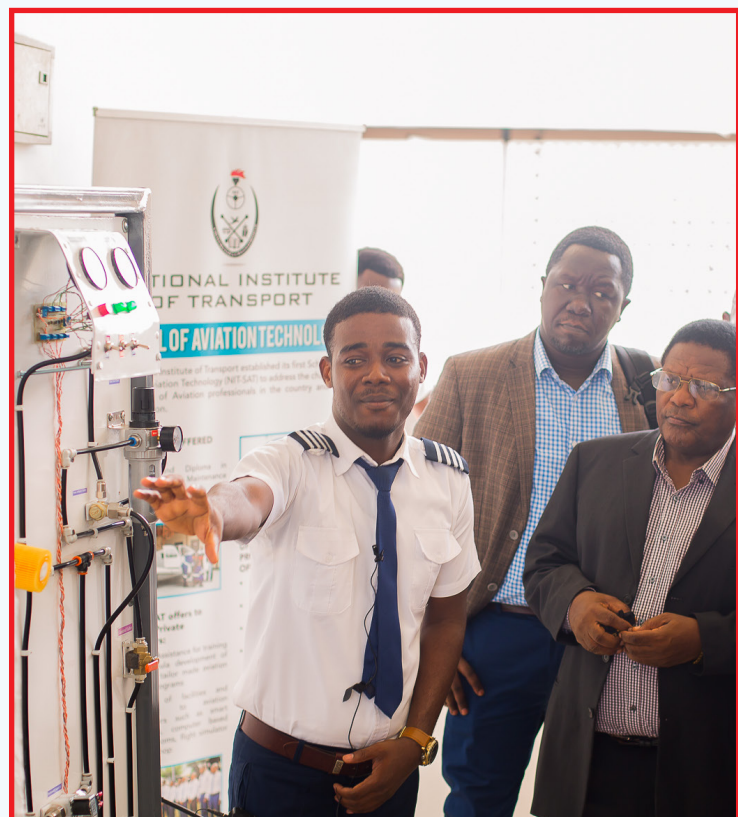
On his part, NIT Alumni Chairman, Dr. Amon Mwasandube said that the Institute's Convocation is one of the dynamic platforms for graduates, alumni, well-wishes and the institute at large.

"The vision of NIT convocation is to serve as an association of professional and ethical excellence in public and private domains for the development of the National Institute of Transport and beyond," he said.

He added: "...and the mission of the convocation is to mobilise NIT alumni and well-wishers to support the institute and participate in the enhancement and improvement of the intellectual and material wellbeing of the institute's community including fostering unit, ethical and professional relations among members of the convocation and between the convocation and the NIT."

He further said that the NIT Alumni contribute to the institute's welfare, prestige and excellence as well as taking interest in matters pertaining to the governance, administration and academic functions and make recommendations thereon.

"The NIT Alumni encourage and promote a spirit of collegiality and unity among members of the convocation within and outside the institute," he said.



Mr. Makame Absallah, Bachelor in Aircraft and Maintenance Engineering student expaining about the operation of Aircraft Pneumatic De-icing System Prototype developed at the Institute during the 8th NIT's Convocation Ceremony.

■ A tribute to mzee Michael Mwilongo Sanga, the founder principal of NIT



An image of the late Michael Mwilongo Sanga, the Principal founder of NIT during his life time.

By Tulizo Chusi

On 31st December 2021 NIT received the news of sudden demise of Mzee Michael Mwilongo Sanga, the first and founder Principal of NIT in 1975 who joined the Institute from the Ministry of Education and Culture. He was also a former Headmaster of a number of Secondary Schools in Tanzania like Tosamaganga, Mpwapwa and Songea Boys. He worked at NIT from 1975 to 1985.

Immediately after joining NIT he was connected to a small panel of experts to develop and perfect the curriculum in transport studies. Mzee Sanga started moving the Institute from nothing to something to call the institute to reckon with in the sector, the only one of the kind in Africa, south of the sahara, then.

Mzee Sanga 's legacy is the major role he played in realizing the dream of having an institute for transport in the Country that was not feasible, because that was an era that were characterized by a variety of problems associated with the dynamism usually inherent in the beginning of corporate life cycles.

On 4th January 2022 was the day Mzee sanga was laid down at his premises at Ubungo Msewe and NIT e-newsflash was there and witnessed multitude of people bidding farewell to the legendary man who was a great son of the United Republic of Tanzania

who left behind a powerful legacy of commitment and dedication to quality education for the development of Tanzanians.

Speaking at his funeral ceremony, Hon.Prof Palamagamba John Aidan Mwaluko a Minister of constitutional and legal affairs, who was his student at Tosamangaga Secondary School, said that Tanzania has lost a great man who was not only a teacher but a good father to them; he played a great role of shaping them to be the way they are today.

He added that Mzee Sanga was very keen to the students who are slow learners and those who are stubborn by nature and loved them greatly and kept watching them until they change to be better persons he wished.

Meanwhile, NIT's Rector Prof.Eng. Zacharia Mganilwa said: "NIT has lost a great man and advisor who did a great job by being the first Principal, he has left a good legacy of being a hard worker and that can be seen at NIT, it's the great job done since 1975 through setting good foundation".

Mzee Michael Mwilongo Sanga was born in 31st June 1930 at Utanziwa, Bulongwa village in Iringa region, now Njombe, he died on 31st December 2022. He leaves behind his wife and three children. RIP, Mzee Michael Sanga. You were a truly great man, and an inspiration to all

IUCEA urges NIT to join the association for mutual benefits

By Prosper Makene

The Inter-University Council for East Africa (IUCEA) has encouraged the National Institute of Transport (NIT) to join for IUCEA, saying the move would help the Tanzanian institute to get mutually beneficial collaboration between Member Universities, Governments and other organizations, both public and private.

IUCEA is the Regional Facilitation Unit for East Africa Skills for Transformation and Regional Integration Project (EASTRIP) financed by World Bank in a tune of \$210 million and a grant of \$83 million.

Speaking shortly after the IUCEA delegation and board members visited the NIT main campus in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday, IUCEA Deputy Executive Secretary Prof Mike Kuria said:

“We have admired to see the activities of the EASTRIP project in good progress, the things are real, congratulation and keep it going. We are also encouraging the Institute to join for IUCEA membership.”

Prof Kuria added: “I encourage you to continue working hard and you will be the beckon of change in East Africa.”

The Don further said that they have agreed that the EASTRIP project will produce graduates that are ethical to fit for the job market.

“In East Africa, we must learn on how to be independent and eventually will help us managing our own affairs,” he said.

On her part, IUCEA Chairperson Prof Christine Dranzoa said that the East African region can lead the continent only if establishing more centres of excellence that can attract the world.

“When you have centres of excellence, the Koreans, Nigerians and others will come here,” the Chairperson said.

Prof Dranzoa who is a Ugandan university professor noted: “So as to address the challenges that are facing us, we need to enhance our partnerships. We have the resources.”



*Prof. Christine Dranzoa,
Vice Chancellor of Muni University*

“Let take all it takes to build the partnerships, provide the framework and platform that you can use to grow yourself,” Prof Dranzoa who is also Vice Chancellor of Muni University, one of the six public universities in Uganda told NIT officials.

She concludes, “As IUCEA, we are encouraging on partnerships with schools in Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania and others. Our Regional Presidents are very supportive, let us come and engage.”

On his part, Principal for NIT’s School of Aviation and Technology Denis Mwageni said: “Yes, with this call, we are ready to join the Inter-University Council for East Africa.”

NIT’s Centre of Excellence in Aviation and Transport Operation Head Abubakar Noor said that the institute through the EASTRIP programme will construct nine new buildings which are Mocap building, boys and girls Hostel, high tech building, modern computer lab, staff residence and the hangar.