

'From Libraries to Community Information Resources centres (CIRCS)? Rationale and Implications for the Provision of Information to Communities in Tanzania.'

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Abstract

The failure of the public library model to cater for the increasing information needs of the Tanzania communities necessitates an exploration for the alternative information delivery system/model that is likely to take on board even those of large rural-based Tanzania community. This paper is therefore a critical examination of how the public library model in Tanzania has been operationalizing and its effectiveness in satisfying the information needs of the Tanzanian community. The basic enlargement is that given the 'alien' nature of library model, it is still not suitable to Tanzanian's social and economic environment basing on the fact that because the majority of Tanzanian community is rural-based, the 'library model' was equally required to reorient its information services to where the majority of the people live. While examining these issues, an alternative model capable of reorienting its information services to the majority of Tanzanians is also proposed.

Keywords:

Libraries; Community; Information Resources centres ; Tanzania.