

The role of the University of Dar es Salaam in sports development in Tanzania

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The study explored the role of University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM) in sports development in Tanzania. The study was chosen due to the fact that, there was inadequate empirical evidence on how UDSM contributes to sports development in Tanzania. Given the core function of UDSM and the need for sports development, the researcher was motivated to conduct this study to address the role of UDSM towards sports development in Tanzania. Four specific objectives guided the study: Firstly, to explore the ways UDSM core teaching function contributes towards producing sport personnel in Tanzania; secondly, to determine the ways the UDSM core research function contributes to sports development in Tanzania and thirdly, to determine the ways UDSM core consultancy function contributes to sports development in Tanzania. The fourth one was to determine the prospect and challenges encountered by the UDSM towards sports development in Tanzania. The study adopted a qualitative research approach and informed by a case study design. The sample size comprised of 18 respondents picked from members of the staff from the Unit of Sports and Games, lecturers from the Department of Physical Education and Sports Sciences (PESS) from UDSM and members of staff from Directorate of Sports Development at the Ministry of Information, Culture, Arts and Sports in Tanzania (MICAS) . the study participants were chosen using purposive sampling and convenient techniques. Three instruments of data collection were used namely; interviews, inventory checklist and documentary review. The findings were analyzed using content analysis method. The finds of this study revealed that most of the sports personnel in sports sectors in Tanzania are graduates of the UDSM. UDSM plays a minimal role in conducting researches and offering consultancies to sports development in Tanzania. Furthermore, prevalence of outreach programs that have significant contribution to sports development was reported. Lastly, the challenges encountered by UDSM towards development of sports in Tanzania include inadequate financial resources and Physical Education (PE) lecturers and games tutors, and lack of clear connection between the UDSM and the sports sectors in the areas of research and consultancy. Generally, the findings of the study indicated that UDSM plays a major role toward promoting sports development in the

country. Finally, the study recommends that PE programs should be introduced in other Universities in Tanzania so as to boost the production of sports personnel who will be responsible for promotion of sports development in the country and widen opportunities for sports projects in Tanzania. Moreover, the study recommends to UDSM to establish clear connection with sports sectors through research and consultancy. This will enable utilization of sports professionals that are available at UDSM and also applications of research findings for the purpose of promoting sports development in Tanzania. The study also recommends that finances should be improved so as issues concerning, sports activities, research and consultancy be addressed vigorously.