

**Design and application of environmental
information systems in Tanzania**
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This study was conducted to explore the designs and applications of EIS in Tanzania. The study was conducted in Government organizations/ institution; private organizations and Parastatals organizations based in Tanzania. Due to lack of resources in terms of time and funds only organizations and institutions in Dar es Salaam were explored. Data were collected by means of questionnaires, interviews, observation and literature review. The study revealed that the design and application of EIS have promising results. Most EISs used in Tanzania are Geographical Information System (GIS), Land Information System (LIS), paper-based system and Database Management Systems (DBMS). The EIS implementing technologies were found mostly to be books, reports and papers. Besides, software like arc-view, Map info, Hypertext Mark-up Language (HTML), Statistical Package for Social Scientist (SPSS) and Arc GIS are used. Furthermore, the study discovered that factors affecting EIS designing and application were mainly caused by lack of EIS skills among the users and managers of EISs. Other factors are fear/mistrust of technology and lack of funds information is scattered and hard to be shared as well. The study suggests several procedures to be conducted to improve the design and application of EIS in this country; such as to improve the standard or education from primary to university levels. Incidentally, on job training alone cannot considerably improve the design and application of EIS.