



TANZANIA'S DIGITAL IDENTITY: The Key to Unlocking Opportunities

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NIDA OVERVIEW



About NIDA

NIDA is A government institution under the Ministry of Home Affairs. Responsible for citizen registration and Identification of Persons, maintaining a national digital registry, and issuing National IDs.

Legal Framework:

- Established in 2008 under the National Identification Authority Establishment Instrument (GN 122/2008).
- Registration and Identification Act 1986 R.E 2012

National and International Alignment:

- Supports Tanzania's Third Five-Year Development Plan (FYDP III, 2021/22-2025/26)
- Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16.9

Our Mission & Vision

Vision

A responsive Authority that provides individual information identification services which are nationally and internationally recognized.

Mission

To manage registration and identification of eligible residence through issuance of National ID Cards and maintain National ID Data Base in order to ensure and strengthen peace and security for socio-economic development

Our Responsibility

Registration and Identification: Register and identify citizens, resident foreigners, and refugees aged 18 and above.

Issuance of National IDs: Provide National IDs to eligible individuals.

Maintenance of National Registry: Maintain a digital registry and share data with stakeholders.

CURRENT STATUS



Registration and Identification

25.48 million people registered (81% of the eligible population(18yrs +) of 31.5 Mil).



Improved Service Delivery through Consent based EKYC

Integration with 124 institutions (55 government, 69 private).

- Instant Bank Account Opening
- Online Company & TIN Registration
- Government Portals



ID Card Personalization

21.12 million National IDs Printed.



Revenue Collection

USD 45.4 million collected since 2021/22. Revenue Streams includes:

- ID Verification Services,
- Registration Fees for Legal residents
- ID Replacements



ID Card Issuance

20.08 million issued (95.1% of the produced IDs)..



Establishment of Data Centers

Two data centers (established since 2018) strengthen the national ID system's integrity through active-passive security, disaster recovery, and enhanced personal data protection

KEY DRIVERS OF TANZANIA'S ID SYSTEM (JAMII NUMBER)

01

Aligning with National Policies



Universal Health Coverage: 76% pay out-of-pocket for healthcare

Financial Inclusion: Harmonizing the national ID age (18) with financial inclusion eligibility (16) unlocks youth potential and accelerates inclusive development

02

Aligning with Regional & Global Visions



SDS 2030: Partnering with RITA & ZCSRA to achieve SDG 16.9—directly enabling 'Legal Identity for All' by 2030 through integrated digital systems.

EAC & AU Visions: Interoperable IDs for cross-border trade

03

Security and National Development



Improved Security: Strengthens national security and demographic management by minimizing identity fraud

National Planning: Ensure better management of demographic data for national planning.

04

TASAF's Social Protection services



TASAF-World Bank partnership: Uses National IDs to deliver social protection, cutting fraud and empowering Tanzania's vulnerable

OBSTACLES AND HOW TANZANIA OVERCAME THEM

Legal Constraints

Problem: Age-restrictive laws (only citizens 18+ could enroll) excluded 50.8% of population.

Strategy: Amending Registration and Identification of Person Act (1986) to issue IDs from birth (aligned with SDG 16.9). Partnered with UNICEF to pilot child biometric registration in FY 2025/26.

Limited Financial

Problem: Limited Financial Resources: \$250 million is Estimated costs required for registering 37 million (Children: 31 Million + Adults: 7million) individuals.

Strategy: Blended Finance- Collaborations with international donors for additional funding and technical expertise.

Geographical Environment

Problem: Limited accessibility to national ID registration centers disproportionately affects marginalized groups in remote and rural areas. 68% rural population faced 50km+ travel to registration centers

Strategy: Implement mobile registration units equipped with biometric technology to travel to underserved areas

Lack of Supporting Documents

Problem: The lack of supporting documents for national ID registration significantly impacts citizenship establishment in border regions such as Kagera and Kigoma.

Strategy: Implemented alternative Special form of identification (Form no.7); Plan to introduce a referee system that allows registered citizens to endorse individuals lacking documentation,.

KEY LESSON LEARNED



Political Will :Turbocharged Progress

High-level government commitment ensured policy alignment, faster decision-making, and cross-sector collaboration. High-level government commitment transformed Tanzania's National ID from concept to reality—achieving 81% by cutting bureaucracy and uniting stakeholders



Sustainable Financing

Tanzania's National ID achieved 81% coverage through multi-year budget commitments, ensuring uninterrupted implementation. A mix of domestic budgets and development partner funds de-risks large-scale digital ID projects.



Inclusive Stakeholder Engagement

Engaging citizens, NGOs, and government institutions (RITA, ZCSRA, Immigration and Local Government Authorities) built trust and improved enrollment uptake.



Flexible Design and Strategic Use Cases:

Tanzania's phased approach enabled testing and scaling—reducing risks—while biometric enrollment kits ensured inclusive registration of marginalized groups in rural and remote areas
Linking National ID registration to mandatory biometric SIM card verification increased enrollment rates by 25%, demonstrating the power of strategic use cases

NEXT STEPS FOR TANZANIA'S ID ECOSYSTEM

1

Implementation of the Jamii Number (Universal ID)

- ✓ Universal identification number for all citizens to support digital economy initiatives
- ✓ Registration and Identification of 31 million person below 18 years: Register and Identify children at birth
- ✓ Registration and Identification of 7 million person above 18 years: Register and Identify children at birth
- ✓ Link ID with CRVS (birth/death records) and sectoral databases (health, education)

2

ICT Infrastructure

- ✓ upgrade ICT systems in Datacenter and Disaster Recovery
- ✓ Upgrade of Card Features: Multi-Purpose Use: Integrate advanced applets
- ✓ Digital Transformation: Leveraging technology to streamline registration and identification processes.

3

Legislative Reforms

- ✓ Amend the 1986 Act to include child registration and mandatory ID issuance
- ✓ Universal Registration: Ensuring every citizen, resident, and refugee has access to a National ID.
- ✓ Interoperability: Aligning with global standards to support cross-border identification and service delivery.



**ASANTE
SANA!!**

