

Topic 1 | Government led BDS Quality Assurance



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1. Current status of BDS landscape in Uganda and Tanzania
2. Government interventions in Uganda and Tanzania
3. Current and expected support from key stakeholders
4. Key questions to address

- **Limited access for SMEs.** Limited scope of services. Many BDSPs are in the cities, with limited expansion to capture the rural market.
- **Low quality of BDS.** Offered by anyone who graduated in a business of agricultural college. Limited soft and technical skills. Poor reputation.
- **Cost of BDS is unaffordable** for most MSEs. The majority financed by NGOs. Treated as a public good.
- **Weak coordination of BDS.**
 - Low uptake of BDS. Mismatch between supply and demand.
 - Lack of SME growth and high failure rates
 - Low competitiveness of enterprises

- **National Development Plan IV** – expecting NSA's to support BDS to enable 10x growth in Agro-industrialisation
- **National BDS Strategic Framework 2022** – Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development. BDS capacity improvement also included in other policies e.g. MSMEs, BUBU, Agricultural Extension
- **Regulatory impact assesment on BDS** – Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives
 - BDS quality assurance policy
- **Technical working group to develop full BDS Standards** (draft Standards developed) – Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives

- Mapping of Business Development Service Providers in Tanzania, April 2018
- Final Report on the Establishment of Enterprises Development Centres, 2020
- Development of the Draft Economic Empowerment Act regulations 2025, NEEC
- Development and Launching of the National Business Development Services Guideline 2025, NEEC
- Development of The National Economic Empowerment Management Information System (NEMIS), NEEC

TOPIC 1 | GOVERNMENT LED BDS QUALITY ASSURANCE
Current Stakeholder support to BDS



SN	Intervention	Stakeholders
1	Tanzania National BDS Roadmap 2025–2030	AMEA, ANSAF, NEEC, TAPBDS, MEDA, JICA
2	BDS Kaizen Certification Program	JICA, MIT, BDSPs
3	Business Development Society of Tanzania / BDS Association	BDS Providers, NEEC, ANSAF / AMEA
4	Professionalized of Farmers Organisation through ISO:18716	ANSAF / AMEA, NEEC, TBS, TCDC

Key questions for Breakout group

1. How can the Government coordinate the Accreditation and Certification of BDS?
Should it be an enabler rather than a controlling entity? How can certification be done without affecting inclusivity?
2. How can a BDS Association align with the Government Regulations? How can BDS providers work together effectively to improve the BDS landscape.
3. How can BDS standards be adopted by Government Ministries and Institutions and how can the Government enable non-state actors to support interventions to address BDS challenges?
4. What could be the best financing mechanisms for effective delivery of BDS to ensure that BDS cost becomes affordable for SMEs?