New study hints on country’s business barriers

By Perence Gumbo

The study was aimed at identifying major constraints that are facing business operations in Tanzania. It was conducted by three experts - Odeh, Helge Fjeldstad, Ivar Kolstad, and Knut Nystad, who surveyed 160 micro enterprises of which 134 were from Dar es Salaam and 26 from the rest of Tanzania.

According to a study titled ‘Business Barriers for Micro-enterprises in Tanzania’ by the Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI), constraints and barriers that are currently facing business operations in Tanzania are:

1. Lack of finance: The study found that finance was relatively more concerned with taxes, corruption, infrastructure, and export-import regulations than the trade sector.

2. Corruption: The research further emphasizes that the creation of a sound legal and institutional infrastructure could partly signify that formalization of property rights and expansion of existing micro-finance schemes had not yet been addressed by the SMEs operating in the country.

On the one hand, local experts argue that the problem of SMEs was facing previously and the government efforts to put in place mechanisms to allow smooth access to finance on the ground, recent liberalization of formal sectors’ property rights may have a greater extent addressed those problems.

The research further highlights that the creation of a sound legal and institutional infrastructure is required to address the constraints of SMEs operating in the country.

Zimbabwe to import maize from Tanzania

By Perence Gumbo

The Zimbabwean government is importing about 200,000 tonnes of maize from Tanzania, which has been severely affected by low rainfall and required food aid.

Zimbabwe’s maize production has been severely affected by low rainfall, and imports have been critical for food security throughout the year.

The government has been importing maize from Tanzania and other countries to meet the country’s food demands.

He said the country has been importing maize from friendly SADC countries like Zambia and Malawi in the past few years.

HARARE

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