

SADC-DFRC signs MoU with Norsad



The **SADC-Development Finance Resource Centre** (DFRC) represented by its CEO, Dr. Rosalind H. Thomas, and the NORSAD Agency represented by its CEO, Mr. Ole Simony, on 23rd March 2006 and on the occasion of the Board of Governors Meeting of NORSAD, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to establish a partnership to address private sector development and strengthening in the SADC Region, at the Kgale Hill Offices of the SADC Secretariat.

The purpose of the MoU is to promote cooperation between NORSAD and SADC-DFRC to strengthen national Development Finance Institutions (DFIs) through sharing information and development and delivery of capacity building services to these institutions.

Through this process, it is expected that an expanded flow of financial resources will be made available to the DFIs to effectively meet the demands of their SME clients, and provide supporting services to them.

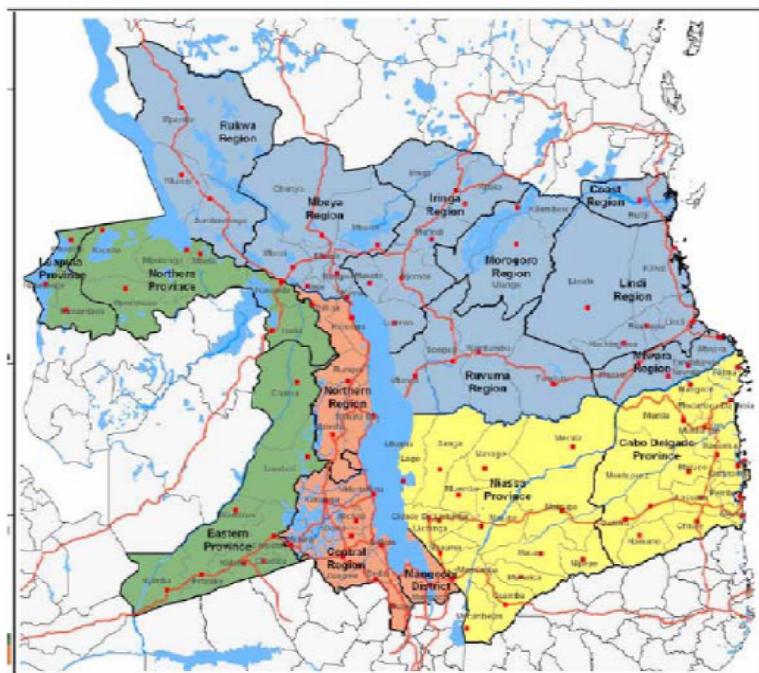
Kick-off of the Mtwara Development Corridor

This project is the flagship pilot project of the SADC-DFRC Programme on Infrastructure/PPPs and will set up a PPP Facilitation Unit at the National Development Corporation (NDC) of Tanzania to develop the Unit's capabilities to appraise infrastructure projects for private investment. The DFRC's business planning calls for several efforts to help key infrastructure in the region develop skills needed to manage PPI project development. The Mtwara Development Corridor is an SDI involving Tanzania, Malawi, Mozambique and Zambia. Should the model prove to be successful, it will be replicated across the SADC region to develop further the Region's capacity to appraise and package infrastructure projects for investment.

Thursday, February 16 2006 was the Project kick-off meeting with the Consultants and all stakeholders at the World Bank's Premises in Dar es Salaam. The event was chaired by the Hon. Prof. Simon M. Mbilinyi, Chairman of the NDC Board.

The unit has since been established with 6 staff members selected from within NDC and two seconded trainees from both Malawi and Mozambique. For logistical reasons, Zambia has not been able to participate in the program. A map of the corridor is shown in **Figure 1**.

Figure 1: Map of Mtwara Corridor



Vision

"To be the centre of excellence, aimed at catalyzing the SADC-DFI members collective efforts to be at the cutting edge of financial services delivery in the priority areas set by the RISDP".

New Address

SADC-DFRC has moved
offices.

You can find us at:

Plot 50676
First floor, Block B
BIFM/Fairground
Office Park,
Gaborone, Botswana

Mandate

“Through technical and capacity building support, as well as policy research and advisory services, the DFRC’s mandate is to promote the effective mobilisation of resources by the DFI’s for investment in key areas with the potential to stimulate growth, generate employment and alleviate poverty in the SADC region”.



The SADC-DFRC is an autonomous SADC institution, established under the SADC Principle of Subsidiarity

King on King

Mervyn King, the Chairman of the King Commission on Corporate Governance addressed the Namibian political and business leaders on the imperative of corporate governance in the 21st century. The lecture facilitated by the SADC-DFRC, and sponsored by the Development Bank of Namibia (DBN) was timed to coincide with the Namibian Corporate Governance Workshop for the three Namibian-based DFI Network members (DBN, Agribank and National Housing Enterprise). The lecture was also attended by Right Honourable Nahas Angula, Prime Minister of Namibia, and many other prominent political and business leaders in Windhoek. The Managing Director of DBN, Mr David Nuyoma presided over the proceedings.



Delegates for the above workshop in Windhoek, Namibia

Corporate Governance workshop in Namibia & Swaziland

The SADC-DFRC in association with the Institute of Directors in Southern Africa organized a workshop on Corporate Governance and Board Effectiveness at Windhoek Country Club from 9 – 10th February 2006. The workshop attracted 24 Board members and Senior Executives of Namibia's Development Finance Institutions (Agribank, Development Bank of Namibia and National Housing Enterprise).

A similar workshop for Board Members and DFIs in Swaziland (Swazibank, SIDC, and Fincorp) was held on 3rd–4th April, 2006 at the Royal Swazi Sun Hotel. The programme was officiated by the Swazi Minister of Finance, Hon Majozi Sithole.

Mission

To be a lean virtual organization providing capacity building and policy research, and advise to the DFI Network and SADC Governments in support of financial and operational effectiveness and efficiency, so as to enhance their contribution to economic growth and development in the SADC region.

Key Focal Areas:

- Financial sector reforms and strengthening, and capital markets development.
- Institutional support, encompassing capacity building.
- SME Development and support.
- Infrastructure / PPP

CEDA Familiarization Visits to other DFIs dealing in SME Support

As part of its continuing Technical Assistance project to CEDA, the DFRC facilitated a familiarization visit for CEDA, Botswana, to the Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO) of Tanzania in February 2006. The team from CEDA comprised of a strategic planning "Task Team" headed by the Deputy CEO for Operations, Ms Judy Tsonepe.

The SADC-DFRC is launched.....

The SADC Development Finance Resource Centre (SADC-DFRC) was officially launched by the Minister of Finance and Development, Honourable Baledzi Gaolathe, in his capacity as the Chairman of the SADC Council of Ministers. This took place at the new offices located at BIFM/Fairgrounds Office Park on Thursday 19th January 2006.

About 171 invitees attended the launch amongst them, the SADC Governments, SADC Secretariat, Members of the Diplomatic Corps present in Botswana, International Cooperating Partners, Botswana Government Representatives, some members of the House of Chiefs, and DFI Network Members. After the unveiling of the plaque, guests were given an opportunity to tour the new DFRC offices and review some of the capacity building activities through a promotional video.

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Up-coming training programmes

- Investment Appraisal and Risk Analysis (June 12th – 23rd 2006) at Eskom Leadership Development Centre, Midrand, RSA.
- Facilitating Training of Trainers Programme on Investment Appraisal and Risk Analysis for selected DFI staff (June 26–July 28, 2006), Kingston, Canada.
- Project Management for those who have gone through the Investment Appraisal Course (August 2006).

Questions or comments?

Please email us at
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