

PRESS RELEASE

Centre for Behavioural Studies (CBS) 2nd ANNIVERSARY

The Centre for Behavioural Studies (CBS) at the University of Dar es Salaam commemorated its 2nd anniversary on Thursday, 26th November 2020 from 9:00 am, at the New Library building, University of Dar es Salaam. The guest of honour was the British High Commissioner to Tanzania, H.E. David Concar.

The CBS is a newly established research, training and engagement centre, established through the FCDO funding and hosted at the School of Economics, University of Dar es Salaam. This first behavioral science centre in the East African region is designed to apply the behavioural science knowledge to finding solutions to practical challenges facing public policy makers, businesses and other relevant stakeholders in the country.

The Centre is inspired by the University's vision, of research relevance and developmental responsibility respectively ensured through addressing relevant national or societal problems and conduction of research with immediate or long-term impact. As well, it is inspired by FCDO's dedication to promoting more inclusive and accountable democratic institutions in Tanzania through employing a problem-driven approach to programming.

The Centre differentiates itself from other research institutions in the country through its engaging operational philosophy that highly involve cross-functional teams. The CBS members and key stakeholders team up to work in collaboration on a research problem from the very early stages to the very end. The approach fosters ownership and inclusive way into finding the solutions as well as increases the odds of translating the research findings into policy solutions.

The project is envisioned to bridge a long-standing gap between the research community and policy makers in the country, which has always resulted to little use of our research findings into informing our government planning, decisions and policy making at large.

The 2nd anniversary commemoration, with a theme, "Behaviour Centred Designs for Impactful Programs and Policies in Tanzania: Experience and Lessons", presented an opportunity for CBS to share its experience and lessons from the past 2 years. Moreover, the CBS was able to justify the Centre's existence to stakeholders, thereby increase impact, showcased the Centre's activities (research projects, training and capacity building) and opened doors for interested parties to work with us.

The event included presentation of the Centre's activities, remarks from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) on behalf of the Vice Chancellor, the representative of the FCDO, H.E., the High Commissioner, and a campus tour. Attendants included senior government officials, FCDO delegates, and representatives of development partners, invited stakeholders and members of the University of Dar es Salaam community.