


# GREEN PORT POLICY IN TANZANIA

**Improving the efficiency and sustainability of port operations improves the regional competitive position of ports, attracts professional clients with profitable business, and safeguards a 'license to operate' in the future.**

However, this transition represents a major challenge owing to the need to fulfil the conditions and requirements of multiple stakeholders such as shipping lines, cargo owners, financial institutions and society at large. In response, Deltares has developed a framework for a Green Port Policy in line with the 'Green Growth' concept of the World Bank. The Green Port Policy describes how ports can minimise or mitigate the negative impacts of port area development, climate change and other environmental risks in their current operations and future development. Instead of describing economically thriving ports and healthy ecosystems as opposing aims, Deltares argues that the two can be combined by adopting environmentally and socially responsible port concepts as part of a viable long-term economic solution.

In 2017, Deltares developed a Green Port Policy for the Tanzania Port Authorities (TPA) in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. In a consortium with Royal HaskoningDHV, Deltares applied a policy of this kind in collaboration with the local stakeholders by defining the steps and developments required to become a green port and by creating an action plan for implementation. Deltares delivered policy measures, as well as an initial assessment and rating of sustainable performance for some of these measures as they have been observed in other ports. This enables a comparison between international ports in terms of sustainability factors, including the long-term plans of the port and port-city interaction. TPA senior management used the ten-step Green Port Policy developed by Deltares that stipulates how TPA can minimise and mitigate the negative social and environmental impacts of port operations, taking into account the current situation and potential future developments. The policy builds on previous work, serves as a guide for decision-making, and creates awareness among all stakeholders of the importance of being a Green Port.

The overall outcome of the programme was a master plan setting out the Green Port action required for the sustainable improvement of port infrastructure, operational and clearance procedures, reduced cargo-dwell times, and increased port capacity for the port of Dar es Salaam. This includes not only long-term actions and ambitions but also short-term actions: the 'quick wins'. In addition, TPA can use the Green Port Policy as a formal yardstick for discussions about how to implement these actions: who takes ownership, which stakeholders need to be involved, funding possibilities, a timeline of the different steps and how TPA should move forward on the road to becoming a genuine 'sustainable port of the future', not only at Dar es Salaam but also at the other ports that TPA manages throughout Tanzania. 



*Port of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania*



*Port of the Future serious game*

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**Further reading:**

<https://www.deltares.nl/en/projects/ports-of-the-future/>

*Presentation by TPA deputy director on Green Port Policy*

