The District Road Management System (DROMAS), a comprehensive online database of a country’s entire road network, composed using real time engineer input

DROMAS was developed using free open source software during the lifespan of the Cardno implemented programme, “Improving Rural Access in Tanzania” (IRAT) funded by the Department of International Development (DFID) UK. The massive online system was built and rolled out in 184 local councils in Tanzania, mapping and detailing the entire road network and road maintenance work.

DROMAS not only maps the roads, but details all aspects of them, from volume of use, to aspect ratio and surface material. It will show the user each bridge, culvert and causeway. It displays maps of roadworks planned and the stage of construction, with progress photos and contract details.

The development of DROMAS was one of the main capacity building components of the IRAT programme. It uses data input by local authority engineers across Tanzania who work in unison to keep it updated and accurate in real time.

The software has proved a huge success. It fulfils the needs of the country road engineers and road agency (TARURA) management, and enables unprecedented levels of knowledge sharing across the entire rural and urban transport infrastructure sector.

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