



### National Pg 3 Ministry urged to support tobacco farmers



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Tanzania national debt reaches \$44.8bn

INSIDE

# Zanzibar, Comoro gearing up for closer engagements

For his part, the governor praised Zanzibar for its rapid development and transformation, affirming that his country could learn from Zanzibar's success

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ENHANCING trade between Zanzibar and the Comoros for the benefit of both sides needs to be conducted by reviving economic diplomacy in that sphere, President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has declared.

He made the remarks yesterday at the Zanzibar State House at a meeting with Ibrahim Mzee, the governor of Moroni City, Ngazija Islands accompanied by a delegation, who set out plans to strengthen cooperation between the two island states.

He advised the delegation to send groups of Comorian businesspeople to Zanzibar to explore trade and investment opportunities, as was the case in previous years.

Both sides should consider reviving sea

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Judge Francis Mutungi (L), the registrar of political parties, exchange greetings with Doyo Hassan (R), the National League for Democracy (NLD) secretary general, when the latter paid a courtesy call at a registrar's offices in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday. William Lukuvi (second right), the Policy, Parliament and Coordination state minister in Prime Minister Office (PMO) attended the talks. Photo: Correspondent Imani Nathaniel

## Ex-liberation movements converge for Nyerere Day

By Guardian Reporter, Kibaha

AN international dialogue at the Mwalimu Julius Nyerere Leadership School (MJNLS) attracting over 200 invitees will today be put to a presentation by an official of the Communist Party of China (CPC) on the enduring impact of Nyerere's guiding role in supporting Africa's liberation movements from the 1960s to the 1980s.

Suo Peng, the resident deputy head of mission at the Chinese Embassy will represent the country's ruling party, a long-time ally of CCM, will deliver that address before an audience of prominent government officials, diplomats, academics and notable figures like former South African president Thabo Mbeki.

A number of CPC officials and leaders of liberation movements in Zimbabwe, Namibia, South Africa, Angola and Mozambique will be present, on the basis of remarks here yesterday by Prof Marcelina Chijoriga, the school principal.

The diplomat will present a paper, "Building Bridges: The Ongoing Impact of Mwalimu Julius Nyerere's Support for African Liberation Movements on Africa's International Relations," she said.

From 1964 to the 1980s, Tanzania became a haven for various movements recognised by the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), coordinated by the OAU Liberation Committee, housed in Tanzania as it also provided its secretariat.

Activities of Angola's Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA), and the Mozambique Liberation Front (FRELIMO) ended in 1975 as the two countries attained independence, while the Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU PF) maintained its presence up to 1980 when elections were held there and it came to power.

The African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa maintained a partial presence in Tanzania after Zimbabwe became independent, while the Pan-Africanist Congress (PAC), the South African Communist Party (SACP) and the Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) or the Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU) mostly

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## SPORTS

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Hopeful Taifa Stars out to upset DR Congo in 2025 AFCON qualifiers

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Inside the 'insane' nature of Man City's latest court case and what it means for football's future

## Anti-drug enforcers arrest 17, burn 3,000 acres of cannabis

By Guardian Reporter, Musoma

LAW enforcers have arrested 17 individuals for suspicion of involvement in the cultivation of 3,007.5 acres of cannabis, destroyed during a three-week

operation in the Serengeti and Tarime districts, Mara Region.

Aretas Lyimo, the Drug Control and Enforcement Authority (DCEA) commissioner general, said at a press conference here yesterday that in the op-

eration, enforcement authorities seized 7,832.5 kilograms of dry cannabis and 452 kilograms of seeds.

At a briefing on the three-week operation, he said that it was aimed at combat-

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Ruth Mussa, the Mbagala Annex primary school assistant head teacher, plants a tree donated by KCB Bank (T) to mark Customer Service Week. Officials said the bank has undertaken a substantial environmental initiative by planting 1,500 trees across its operational regions in Tanzania.

## Customer service: KCB Bank (T) planting trees across eight regions

By Guardian Reporter

KCB Bank (T) is championing sustainability as a responsible corporate citizen, advancing the Sustainable Development Goal (SDGs) no. 14 by extensive tree planting around the country.

Paschal Machango, a senior official, stood in for Cosmas Kimario, the group regional businesses director and country managing director, at an event to commemorate Customer Service Week.

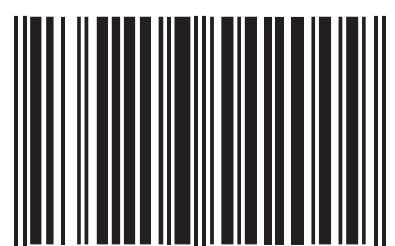
He said KCB Bank has undertaken a significant environmental initiative by planting 1,500 trees across its operational regions in Tanzania, part of a strategic focus on economic, social, and environmental pillars.

The bank executive appreciated staff at the Mbagala Annex Primary School, one of the beneficiaries of the initiative, for their acceptance to host the project in the city.

This had helped to boost the bank's participation in this crucial environmental cause, he said, asserting that the bank's commitment extends beyond business success.

"We are dedicated to environmental conserva-

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## Zanzibar, Comoro gearing up for closer engagements

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transport services to boost existing trade and social opportunities, he said, citing the need for a special arrangement for Zanzibar teachers to go to the Comoros to teach Swahili.

Comorians would also come to Zanzibar to learn the language, he stated, expecting this to be fairly easy as the languages of the two countries are quite similar. Some in the audience had the view that Comorian teachers could as well help Zanzibar pupils to become familiar with French.

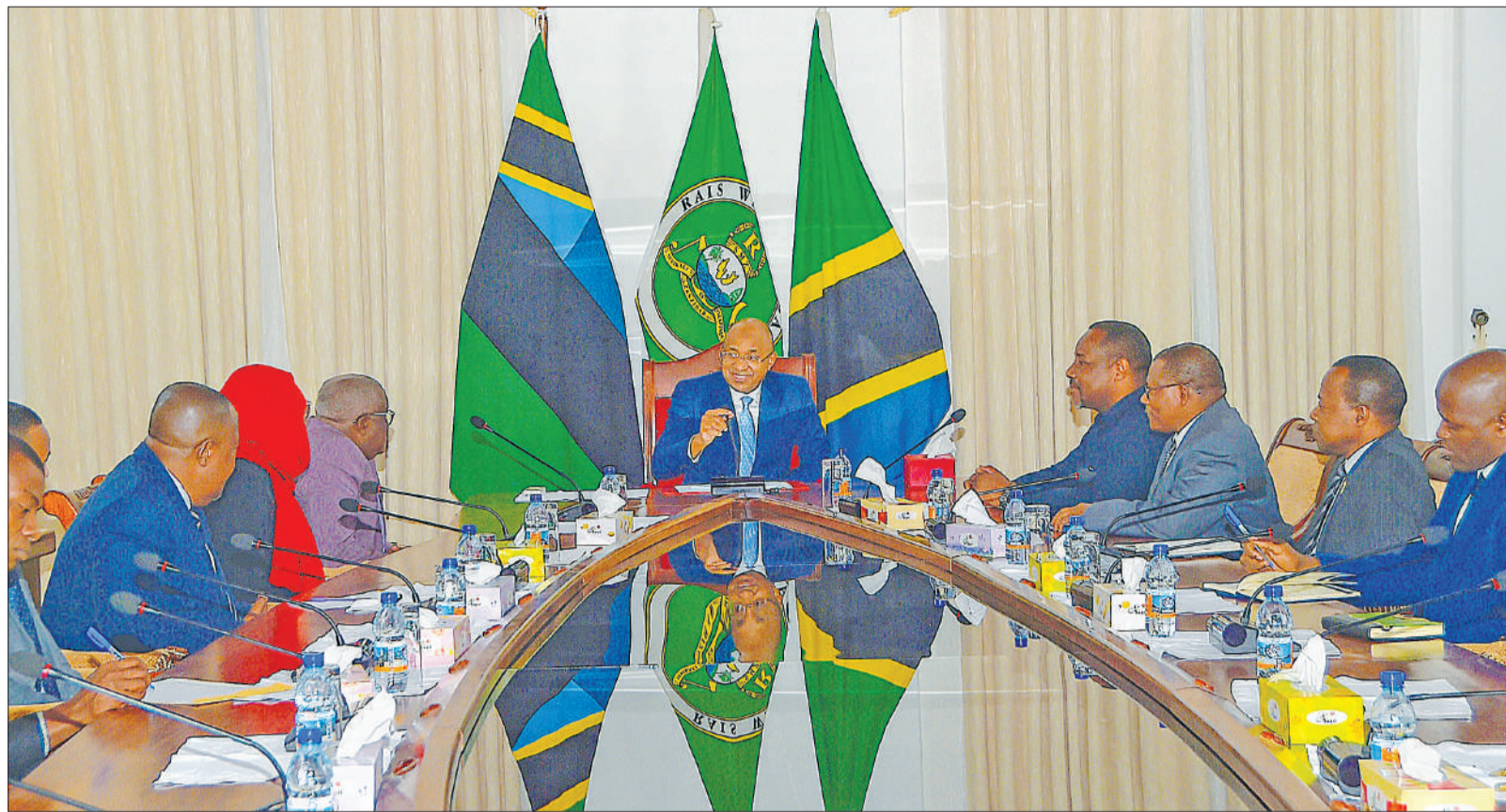
For his part, the governor praised Zanzibar for its rapid development and transformation, affirming that his country could learn from Zanzibar's success.

He extended an invitation to President Mwinyi to visit the Ngazija

Islands to exchange experiences on development initiatives, while stressing the need for closer cooperation between the respective chambers of commerce, farmers and industrialists in Zanzibar and in the Comoros.

Zanzibar City mayor Mahmoud Muhammed Mussa, accompanying the delegation, said that the delegation would be in Zanzibar for three days, engaging in discussions on cooperation between Zanzibar and Moroni city authorities and municipalities.

The delegation will visit the historic Stone Town as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and hold talks with Idrissa Kitwana Mustafa, the Urban West regional commissioner, on ways of enhancing cooperation, he added.



Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi, speaks with a delegation Comoro led by Moroni City Governor Ibrahim Mzee (4th L) at the State House yesterday. Photo: State House

## Customer service: KCB Bank (T) planting trees across eight regions

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tion. Today, we are proud to have planted over 1,500 trees in schools across Dar es Salaam, Arusha, Kilimanjaro, Zanzibar, Geita, Kahama, Mwanza, and Morogoro," he stated.

Ruth Mussa, an assistant head teacher, expressed gratitude to KCB Bank for their engagement in the initiative, while Phina Bernard, an

environmental officer with Temeke municipality, commended the bank for its impactful contribution.

Focus should also be placed on nurturing the planted trees, she stated, with the bank executive urging communities and organizations to join hands in promoting environmental stewardship and sustainability for the well-being of future generations.

## Ex-liberation movements converge for Nyerere Day

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had scant presence in the country during the period.

The don noted that "history speaks for itself regarding Mwalimu Nyerere's courageous leadership as, in collaboration with China and former eastern bloc countries such as Russia, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and the German Democratic Republic (GDR), played a crucial role in supporting the liberation movements in the delivery of weapons and diplomatic engagement on the wider stage.

Other speakers at the international dialogue will include Stephen Wasira, a seasoned politician and former cabinet minister, currently a member of the party's National Executive Committee (NEC) and the central committee.

He will present a paper on "Mwalimu Nyerere's Vision for Africa's Economic Self-Reliance," a controversial topic as to whether that philosophy succeeded or failed.

Also featured will be Lieutenant General Anselem Sanyatwe, current chief of the Zimbabwe Defence Forces (ZDF), who will discuss "Opportunities in Embracing Mwalimu Nyerere's Leadership Course."

Dr Charles Mubita, a former combatant with the Namibia liberation movement central committee member, will present a paper, "The Role of Educational Ideology in Preserving Mwalimu Nyerere's Heritage."

Prof. Chijoriga stated that MJNLS is honoured to host veteran figures of the liberation movement and their global allies, as the annual international memorial dialogue is conducted at the school upon its initiation.

Along with speakers from each of the former liberation movements, the conference will also feature former president Jakaya Kikwete, while the discussion will be moderated by Prof Palamagamba Kabudi, the current Constitutional and Legal Affairs minister.

## Kenya hopeful for further IMF funding by year-end

NAIROBI

KENYA expects more money from the International Monetary Fund by the end of the year and is in talks with the fund about combining the seventh and eighth reviews of its support programme, its central bank governor said yesterday.

The country and the IMF reached a staff-level agreement on the seventh review of its \$3.6 billion programme in early June.

But the review is yet to be approved by the Fund's executive board after the government was forced to scrap proposed tax hikes and draw up spending cuts in late June in response to mass protests that turned deadly.

"We are in the final stages of an agreement (with the IMF). The fiscal framework has been agreed," Governor Kamau Thugge told a news conference, a day after the Central Bank of Kenya cut its benchmark lending rate (KECBIR=ECL), opens new tab by another 75 basis points.

Kenya's government has asked the IMF to conduct an official assessment of corruption and governance issues.

While not directly linked to the next disbursement, the assessment is an attempt to build goodwill with the Fund as it tries to get finances back on track.

Thugge also said on Wednesday

that the central bank had been buying dollars on the foreign exchange market to boost Kenya's buffers against potential short-term shocks.

The bank has previously said it has no preferred level for the shilling and only intervenes on the forex market to smooth out volatility.

Thugge said the exchange rate was being supported by dollar inflows from agricultural exports, remittances and foreign investor interest in local securities given high interest rates.

He reiterated the bank's forecast for economic growth of 5.5% next year.

On Tuesday the bank lowered its 2024 growth forecast to 5.1 percent from 5.4 percent after slower growth in the second quarter.

Thugge said on Wednesday there could be scope for local interest rates to fall further given that the shilling exchange rate was stable.



**We are in the final stages of an agreement (with the IMF). The fiscal framework has been agreed**

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ing the production and distribution of drugs, particularly cannabis, and covered Matongo, Nyarwana and Weigita villages in the Masinki Valley, as well as Nkerege, Kembwe, Nyakunguru and Iseresere villages, close to the Mara River Valley.

The government is committed to protecting the public from drug-related harm, he said, highlighting the importance of community cooperation in reporting cannabis growing activity.

Affirming that cannabis farming in the region is often funded by individuals from neighboring countries, he said they provide capital to local farmers who then harvest and transport the crop for sale.

"We are giving the people of the region three months to cease all involvement in cannabis farming. After this period, we will launch a major operation to ensure these ar-

## Anti-drug enforcers arrest 17, burn 3,000 acres of cannabis

reas are used differently, while those still engaging in cannabis farming will be arrested and hauled to court, he stressed.

Tarime District Commissioner Maj. Edward Gowele acknowledged the challenges posed by cannabis farming, particularly in the Mara River Valley, and noted that the government has begun taking decisive actions to address the issue.

"We have initiated public education on the dangers of cannabis and the potential losses associated with its cultivation. Many residents have expressed their intention to abandon cannabis farming," he said.

Mwita Mataro, a water resources manager with the Lake Victoria Ba-

sin Water Board, stressed the importance of preserving water resources, noting that cannabis cultivation is illegal under water resource laws. Crops must be planted far from the river banks, ideally 60 meters from major river banks.

"Those cultivating cannabis are damaging water sources, as rain causes soil and sediment to wash into the river," he stated, elaborating that the board has developed a sustainable management plan for the northern region to oversee water conservation efforts.

Lepapa Molele, a regional agricultural official, advised farmers to transit to food crops that provide sustenance and income, and ditch

cannabis.

In a surprising development, residents of Nkerege village, Kiore ward chose to collaborate with DCEA to cut down and destroy cannabis farms. They explained the move as an effort to restore peace and stability in their community.

The commissioner said DCEA is conducting operations nationwide to eradicate drug cultivation and trafficking and striving to ensure a drug-free Tanzania.

"It is everyone's responsibility to fight against drugs. We must not contribute to the destruction of our nation by continuing to cultivate and engage in drug trafficking," he added.



Samwel Katamba (C), the disaster management manager for the Tanzania Red Cross Society, speaks to journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday as to deploying volunteers to border areas to provide detailed instructions on how to protect oneself against mpox infection. Right is Christa Christian, a disaster response officer, and psychologist Maudline Tarazo. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

## Off-grid solar provides ways to bridge electricity gap, says World Bank study

By Guardian Reporter

OFF-grid solar solutions provide the most effective pathways to bridge electricity gap in the world, the World Bank said yesterday in a report.

According to the 2024 Off-Grid Solar Market Trends Report, off-grid solar remains the most economical way to power nearly 400 million people worldwide without access to electricity.

"The sector already provided 55 percent of the new connections in sub-Saharan Africa between 2020

and 2022, where over 80 percent of the unelectrified population lives," says the report published by the World Bank's Energy Sector Management Assistance Programme and GOGLA, a global association for the off-grid solar industry.

The report was launched during the Global Off-Grid Solar Forum and Expo 2024, where over 1,500 high-profile delegates, including government officials and industry leaders, gathered for the three-day event from Tuesday, focusing on the future of energy access.

The findings indicate that cur-

rently about 685 million people around the world still do not have access to electricity.

According to the report, as of the end of 2023, more than 560 million people globally relied on grid solar solutions to power their households and commercial enterprises.

Qimiao Fan, World Bank country director for Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia and Uganda, said that providing access to affordable, clean electricity is critical for lifting people out of poverty on a livable planet.

Fan noted that off-grid solar will play a critical role in reach-

ing households and accelerating electricity access for businesses, schools, and health centers, unlocking development across sectors.

Sarah Malm, executive director at GOGLA, said that the off-grid solar industry has shown tremendous resilience under challenging macroeconomic conditions.

Malm noted that \$21 billion is needed to create a financially sustainable off-grid solar sector that can serve the hardest to reach and help achieve energy access and climate goals.



Dr Albina Chuwa, the chief government statistician, speaks yesterday to women in Singida concerning women and the 2024 local government elections. The meeting was meant to encourage women to participate in the polls by also seeking various leadership positions. Photo: Correspondent Thobias Mwanakatwe

## VP for solid measures to shield tobacco farmers from profiteer

By Guardian Reporter

VICE President Dr Philip Mpango has urged the Ministry of Agriculture to take decisive action to ensure that tobacco farmers receive fair benefits from their produce, protecting them from exploitation by companies and individuals.

Addressing residents of Magiri area in Uyui District, Tabora Region yesterday, he highlighted the need for robust measures to protect tobacco farmers.

He emphasized the importance of tackling issues such as crop smuggling as well as monitoring companies that owe money to farmers.

Dr Mpango also stressed the necessity of following government protocols for distributing subsidized fertilizers for crops, including tobacco.

In addition, he directed the Ministry of Home Affairs, through the Immigration Department, to intensify efforts to control illegal immigration in the district and accelerate issuance of national identification cards for residents in border areas.

He also spoke on communication challenges in Uyui District, instructing the Ministry of Information, Communications and Information Technology through Universal Communications Service Access

Fund (UCSAF), to improve communication infrastructure to support local economic activities.

Dr Mpango urged the society to uphold ethical standards, emphasizing the need to combat gender-based violence and child abuse.

He pointed out that the government has invested in modern educational infrastructure to ensure that all children, including those with disabilities, have access to education.

During his visit, he laid foundation stone for a new conference hall for Uyui District Council which will cost 700m/-. The facility is expected to generate internal revenue for the council through rental income.

Minister for Agriculture Hussein Bashe reiterated the government's commitment to providing direct subsidies to farmers, aiming to eliminate bureaucratic obstacles and misuse of funds.

He announced that tobacco farmers would soon enter into long-term contracts with purchasing companies extended for three years to help alleviate the debt burden they face each season.

Dr Mpango's visit to Tabora Region continues as he inspects development activities, inaugurates projects and listens to concerns of local residents.

By Henry Mwangonde, Maswa

CCM Secretary General Dr Emmanuel Nchimbi has issued a warning to what he termed non-performing Members of Parliament, stating that the party will not tolerate underperformance.

Speaking at a public rally in Maswa East constituency in Simiyu Region, Dr Nchimbi affirmed the party's support for MPs who actively advocate for the interests of their constituents.

He emphasized that the party stands behind MPs who effectively raise public issues and ensuring their concerns are directed to the

# Underperforming MPs have no place in CCM, says Dr Nchimbi

appropriate authorities for resolution.

"I support MPs who fight for the interests of the public and drive positive change. It is crucial for them to represent their constituents' voices and overcome any obstacles to development," he said.

Dr Nchimbi noted that MPs who fail to maintain good relationship with the public often misunderstand the people's needs and challenges.

He warned that such trends could hinder development and accountability in their areas, stating: "When

the time comes, we will gradually reduce their numbers."

He praised Stanslaus Nyongo, MP for Maswa East, for his efforts in securing development for his constituents.

Nyongo highlighted significant improvements in water access, not-

ing that in 2015, rural access was below 10 percent. Ongoing projects have raised the figure to 68 percent with urban areas now at 74 percent.

He mentioned that the government has allocated 1bn/- for a one-million-litre water storage tank and 712m/- for laying water pipes in ur-

ban areas.

"In terms of health, our district hospital previously lacked an X-ray machine but thanks to the government, we now have one. We have also received 900m/- to construct a laboratory building for the service," he said.

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA  
TANZANIA COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY  
ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFIED



PUBLIC NOTICE

### APPLICATION FOR LICENCE UNDER THE CONVERGED LICENSING FRAMEWORK

NOTICE is hereby given to the public that the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority has received applications for Licence under the Converged Licensing Framework from the following applicant: -

S/N	NAME OF APPLICANT	TYPE OF LICENCE	SHAREHOLDERS / NATIONALITY	SHARES %
1.	Dlocal Tanzania Limited	National Application Services	Dlocal markets Limited (Maltese)	99
			Dlocal PTE Limited (Singaporean)	1

Pursuant to Section 8 of Electronic and Postal Communications Act, Cap 306 of the Laws of Tanzania, written comments are hereby invited from any interested person in respect of the grant of licence to the applicant to reach the Authority, within 14 days of publication of this notice. Such comments will be taken into consideration when the Authority considers the application.

Comments should be addressed to:  
Director General  
Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority  
P. O Bo 474  
14414 DAR ES SALAAM  
Tel: +255 22 241 2011-2  
Fax: +255 22 2412009  
E-mail: [dg@tcra.go.tz](mailto:dg@tcra.go.tz)

Issued on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2024.

Dr. Jabiri K. Bakari  
DIRECTOR GENERAL

Mawasiliano Towers, 20 Sam Nujoma Road, P.O Box 474, 14414 DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA.  
Phone: +255 22 2199760-9 / +255 22 2412011-2 / +255 784558270-1 Fax: +255 22 2412009-10  
Email: [barua@tcra.go.tz](mailto:barua@tcra.go.tz), [dg@tcra.go.tz](mailto:dg@tcra.go.tz), Website: [www.tcra.go.tz](http://www.tcra.go.tz)



### TANZANIA INVESTMENT CENTRE (TIC) RE-ADVERTISEMENT

#### CALL FOR CONCEPT NOTES FROM POTENTIAL INVESTORS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATION OF A COMMERCIAL BUILDING AND TOURISM INVESTMENT AT KIMANDOLU IN ARUSHA

- The Government of the United Republic of Tanzania, through the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC), has allocated 47,324 square metres of land for investment in commercial building and tourism investment development opportunity at the Kimandolu, Arusha site.
- Kimandolu is located approximately 5 Km from Arusha City centre, accessible through old Moshi tarmac road and it is situated alongside the Old Moshi Road. With ideal tourism climatic conditions, high demand of commercial building infrastructure and tourism facilities, Arusha City is well positioned to serve the growing demand of tourist hotel beds, residential apartment and office accommodation demand-supply gap in the Northern tourist/ Commercial circuit.
- Through the Tanzania's five years strategic development plan initiative commercial developers do also stand to gain from complimentary investments opportunities by private investors in infrastructure, and tourism sector.
- Kimandolu investment site for commercial building and tourism investment land allocation process will be guided by the Tanzania Investment Centre approved land allocation manual.
- TIC is now inviting Concept Notes from Investors/ Developers who are interested to invest in commercial building and tourism investment to submit their concepts notes to invest and develop Kimandolu TIC site.
- The following investment site is available-Plot No. 144/2/1 Block "GG" situated at Kimandolu in Arusha Municipality with 47,324 square meters.
- The preliminary evaluation criteria for the Concept Notes are as follows:
  - Quality of the concept note and proposed project/investment;
  - Alignment to national priorities: Vision 2025 and the 5-year development plan;
  - Value for money in terms of benefits to TIC (including but not limited to land lease rental and concession fee), surrounding community and the Government of Tanzania at large including jobs, government revenues etc;
  - Financial capacity for the prospective investor; and
  - Investor track record or experience in undertaking similar projects; and
  - Project development plan, timelines and proposed land lease period.
- Preferred Developer who meets evaluation criteria will be obtained inline within TIC land bank allocation procedures and guidelines;
- Applicants who had earlier on submitted their proposal prior issuance of this notice are required to submit their application in-line with this notice requirements;
- The deadline for Concept Note submission shall be on **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2024 at 02:00pm (EAT)**. The hard copy of the proposal should be submitted to

Executive Director  
Tanzania Investment Centre (Head Office)  
Golden Jubilee Tower, 1st Floor, Ohio Street,  
P.O.Box 938, Dar es Salaam,  
Tanzania.

Please note that, late submission will not be accepted.

Proposal must be clearly marked: **Concept Note for commercial building and tourism investment at TIC Kimandolu Arusha Site.**

Further enquiry should be communicated by **E-mail on [info@tic.go.tz](mailto:info@tic.go.tz)**



Silvest Arumasi, the Akiba Commercial Bank managing director, presents a certificate of appreciation to one of its customers, Twai Msechu during the Customer Service Week event at its Ubungu Plaza major branch



Bank of Africa (T) joined the rest of the world in celebrating Customer Service Week 2024, under the theme "above and beyond," with managing director Esther Maruma officiating, alongside other bank team members.



Stanbic Bank CEO Manzi Rwegasira (centre) ushering in Customer Service Week 2024 with clients, highlighting that this year theme, 'going above and beyond' is all about celebrating valued customers.



EAST AFRICAN  
CRUDE OIL  
PIPELINE

## REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: PROVISION OF LABORATORY SERVICES. REFERENCE NO. REQ-00000610

East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) LTD ("EACOP LTD") invites experienced and reputable companies or organizations to express their interest in undertaking the Laboratory Services for East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project.

The EACOP Project involves the construction and operation of an underground and cross-border pipeline to transport crude oil from Lake Albert area in Uganda to eastern coast of Tanzania for export to international markets. The pipeline will run from Kabaale, Hoima District in Uganda to the Chongoleani peninsula in Tanga, Tanzania. The length of the pipeline is 1,443 km, of which 296km will be in Uganda and 1,147 km in Tanzania. In Tanzania the pipeline will traverse eight (8) regions comprising of Kagera, Geita, Shinyanga, Tabora, Singida, Dodoma, Manyara and Tanga, 27 administrative District Councils, and 231 Villages.

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE SERVICES:

During the operations stage, EACOP Ltd will have a Laboratory located within the Marine Storage Facilities to provide the services of analysing the characteristics of the crude oil and associated water, including checking the Basic Sediment and Water (BSW) amongst other analysis. In order to have this laboratory operational, the company hereby invites capable companies that have both technical, and human resource capabilities to provides the services of operating this laboratory including:

- Provide one trained and government licensed personnel for coordination of chemicals handling, chemical stock management, laboratory equipment services and laboratory reports.
- Provide two Laboratory technicians for Tanga laboratory day-to-day activities and fiscal measurements related to offloading.
- Undertake EACOP Laboratory equipment calibration and maintenance.
- Support Tanga Laboratory achieve ISO 17025 Accreditation and sustenance of accreditation.
- Undertake Laboratory waste management.

### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

Companies expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:

- Brief description of experience, expertise, and capacity to deliver the required scope of services.
- Details of similar projects or activities undertaken which provide evidence of qualified and available team, knowledge of laboratory services, and track record of the above listed experience.
- Business License.
- Certificate of Incorporation and recent BRELA search report (attach copy)
- Proof of Registration with the EWURA Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database or an approved application at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is strongly recommended.
- Compliance with Local Content Regulations, 2017 and Local Company definition.
- Proof of registration with the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) and Tax Clearance Certificate for the latest year available.
- Financial capacity to deliver the services required including submission of financial accounts for the past three years.
- Evidence of a QHSE Management system, organization, and process in compliance with applicable Local and Industry standards for similar works.
- Proof of Anti-corruption, Anti-bribery, Compliance and Human Rights policies.
- Specialized in Oil and Gas Laboratory Services.
- Laboratory service provider should have ISO 17025 certification.

Companies or organizations which have the ability, capacity, and resources to implement the activities listed above should express their interest by sending an Expression of Interest (EOI) via email, together with the above listed documents through an email to [procurement.tz@eacop.com](mailto:procurement.tz@eacop.com) (max. email size 20Mb) on or before **17:00** hours East African Time (EAT), on **24th October 2024** Email subject shall be: **REQ-00000610 Provision of Laboratory Services**. Statements of EOI should be no more than ten (10) to twenty (20) pages long. **All Expression of Interests should be submitted in the English Language.**

**Note:** EACOP LTD will review and assess the documents provided by companies that have expressed interest in accordance with this EOI and conduct evaluations based on internal criteria to determine which companies will be included in the list of pre-qualified companies. Only the pre-qualified companies will receive, by signing a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), an invitation to bid as a continuation of the call for tender process. EACOP LTD reserves the right at its sole discretion to make the decision to select or reject a company/companies and maintain its decision without having to give reasons to the company concerned.

By Correspondent James Kandoya

TANZANIA has implemented eleven key action lines of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), laying a robust foundation for development of information and knowledge over the past twenty-five years.

WSIS is a multi-stakeholder platform that unites participants from governments, civil society and international organizations to address significant global challenges, particularly through leveraging digital technology.

Jerry Silaa, Minister for Information, Communication and Information Technology, said this in Dar es Salaam yesterday when opening the Africa WSIS+20 regional reviews meeting.

The minister said that the efforts reflect the country's proactive approach to leveraging technology for sustainable growth and addressing societal needs.

Silaa outlined key focus areas, including the role of public governance authorities and stakeholders in promoting ICT for development, ethical dimensions of the information society, information and communication infrastructure and access to information and knowledge.

He said others are the importance

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA and Oman have agreed to enhance cooperation in various areas of development, including energy and mining sectors.

Others are creating a favourable investment environment and exchanging experiences and training on tax matters as well as eliminating double taxation for investors and traders operating between the two countries.

This was stated in Dar es Salaam yesterday during a meeting between Finance Minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba and Omani Ambassador to Tanzania, Saud Al-Shidhani.

Dr Nchemba said that the main agenda of the government is to empower the private sector by easing the business and investment environment, adding that cooperation between the two countries will significantly benefit the private sector

## Tanzania outlines key gains in digital technology uptake

Development Vision 2025, currently under review recognizes ICT as a major driving force for rapid socioeconomic development.

The nation has adopted pro-ICT policies and supportive legal frameworks to build a robust digital economy and an ICT-enabled knowledge-based society.

Dr Macktar Seck, Chief of Emerging and Frontier Technology Innovation and Digital Transformation at the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, noted significant progress recorded across the continent over the past twenty-five years. He said that internet usage in Africa has surged from 2.1 percent in 2005 to over 37 percent in 2024 while mobile penetration has increased significantly.

He projected that smartphone subscriptions in Sub-Saharan Africa are expected to reach 689 million by 2028, indicating steady growth.

However, he cautioned that cybercrime currently impacts 10 percent of the GDP of some African countries, emphasizing the critical importance of data security and governance in sustaining digital growth across the continent.

Furthermore, Silaa said Tanzania

## Dar, Muscat agree to cement ties on trade across economic sectors

and investors.

"Our two governments have established a Joint Permanent Commission overseeing areas of cooperation between our countries, including trade and investment. I expect there will be opportunities to further expand our development cooperation for the benefit of our people," he said.

He agreed to the Ambassador's request, emphasizing the importance of his country learning more about Tanzania's tax systems since the Tanzania Revenue Authority has substantial experience in this area and Oman just recently began imposing taxes.

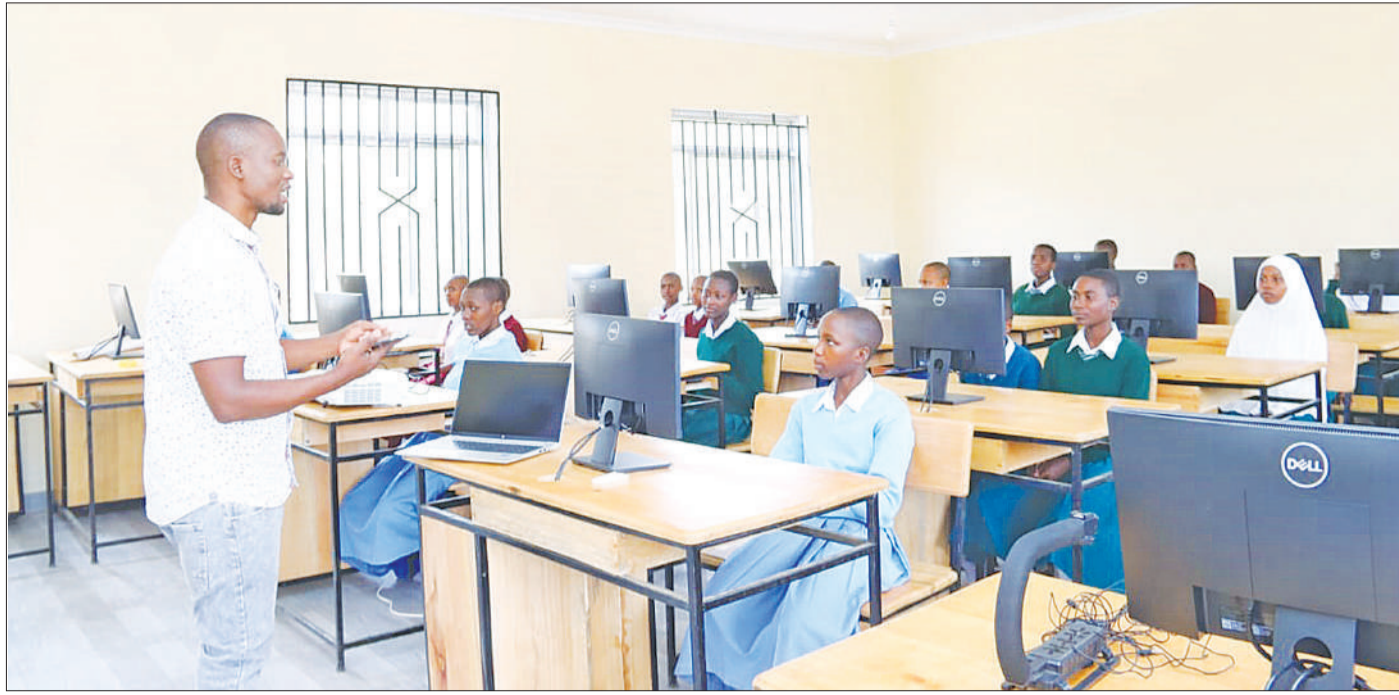
"We look forward to training cooperation, especially in tax matters and in areas where our two countries

have specific expertise. The goal is to build each other's capacity so that we can benefit more," said Dr Nchemba.

Ambassador Al-Shidhani praised Tanzania for its progress in tax matters and identified opportunities for capacity exchange in tax issues as one of the major cooperation areas between the two countries.

Al-Shidhani stated that trade between the two countries has significantly increased and there is great potential to eliminate double taxation for investors and traders operating between them.

"We would like to say that Oman wants to learn how to handle revenue collection since Tanzania has already made progress in these matters and we have only started in recent years so we have a lot to learn," he said.



A Lekule Secondary School teacher in Longido District, Arusha Region, instructing students in computer studies in a classroom that has been renovated with funding from the Legal Services Facility (LSF) in collaboration with the North South Cooperation aid consortium of Luxembourg. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

# Call for sustainability as 'impactful' project ends

By Guardian Correspondent, Longido

IMPLEMENTATION of empowerment initiative Wanawake Tunaweza project in Longido District, Arusha Region, brought social and economic relief to hundreds of beneficiaries but executors now call for its sustainability.

Implemented by Legal Services Facility (LSF) in collaboration with North-South Cooperation from Luxembourg, the two-year initiative has been concluded, empowering women and girls in the area with essential support to boost their development.

Launched in 2022, the project aimed to enhance social and economic status of women and girls by building their capacity through II women's groups.

During the project handover recently here, Jane Matinde, communication and partnership manager at LSF, urged the district government and stakeholders to ensure sustainability of the achievements.

She said that despite significant progress, there remains room for improvement, particularly in expanding market access for products created by women's groups and ensuring that support plans are fully implemented.

Matinde said during execution, the project helped establish various business ventures, including livestock farming, cereal trading, Maasai beadwork production, horticultural farming and village community banking. As a

result, the women formed a joint group called Osiligi and received 11 sewing machines to produce reusable sanitary pads, significantly improving the learning environment for girls at Lekule and Namanga secondary schools, the project's main beneficiaries.

Additionally, the project facilitated better access to quality education by constructing new dormitories, benefiting 1,214 girls and promoting gender equality and fundamental rights.

Over 200 women directly gained from business initiatives, while a total of 2,500 individuals, both men and women participated in educational campaigns on gender issues and women's rights during the project's implementation.

The initiative also strengthened the capacity of 20 traditional leaders and collaborated with seven male champions who received specialised training through WASHEWILO, an organisation funded by LSF, to foster positive changes in community perceptions on women's rights.

Among the project's notable achievements is the enhancement of an information and communication technology room at Namanga Secondary School, equipped with computers and modern facilities, enabling 40 pupils to receive ICT education simultaneously.

In addition, a tree-planting campaign planted and nurtured 1,420 seedlings across schools and communities despite challenges posed by drought.

# CSOs empowered on local resource mobilisation idea

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

REPRESENTATIVES of civil society organizations from across the country have been trained on approaches of mobilizing resources within their communities.

The focus was to remind the organizations to ensure that local communities realize that they have the power in their hands to solve local challenges and have a sense of ownership of projects on the ground.

The five-day training held in Dodoma and involved 25 participants was organized by the Foundation for Civil Society (FCS) with support from Change the Game Academy (CtGA) with the aim of empowering them to mobilise resources locally.

Speaking on the sidelines of the capacity building training, Neil Nagala, FCS programme Support Officer, said the aim was to provide local organizations with ways and skills on new perceptions on mobilizing support.

He said through the training, local organizations are able to gain a variety of options that can help to stimulate peer learning and experience sharing among members of various organizations.

Fredrick Alex, Trainer on Mobilizing Support, noted that it is important for organizations to gain knowledge on how to do advocacy at the project areas and get support from the local communities.

He added that the training was also to help the organizations not to continue depending on external donors or development partners while they can gain support locally and solve problems facing people.

"Aim of the training is to enable participants to mobilize support from the government, individuals, decision-makers and other stakeholders who can participate in helping solve problems" he said.

He said they were empowered on problem analysis, solution analysis and stakeholder analysis and

techniques for advocacy.

Happy Augustine from Tanzania Health and Social Services (THSS) noted that she managed to realize the gaps in mobilizing support within her organization.

"Local NGOs need more of such capacity building trainings to enable them operate effectively and

let people understand what they can do to solve problems in their communities" she said.

She also argued that sustainability of projects is very important and that organizations should shift from donor dependence and seek funding locally through different ways.

# TanESCO called upon to install new transformer to support new factory

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE government has urged Tanzania Electric Supply Company Limited (TANESCO) to install a new transformer in Mkuranga District, Coast Region, to enable new factories begin production.

Dr Selemani Jafo, Minister for Industry and Trade, made the directive yesterday during his visit to Lodhia factory which manufactures galvanized steel at Kitemvule in Mkuranga.

"I appeal that installation of the transformer be completed within three weeks to support the government's industrialization drive," he said.

Speaking about the factory's investment, the minister said that a total of 162bn/- has been invested in the plant and production should start soon.

Dr Jafo said that the investment is substantial as it will boost the national income and help reduce unemployment.

"I have noted some challenges that the government can address to ensure new factories are operational," he said.

Sailesh Pandit, Lodhia factory director, stated that the factory was fully prepared and only waiting for electricity to commence production.

He said that once the plant begins operations, they expect to produce between 5,000 and 10,000 tonnes of steel per month, urging Tanzanians to support local industries and stop the tendency to favouring foreign products.

"Tanzanians need to support each other and recognize the pride in buying locally made products. There is a perception that foreign products are superior to domestic ones but I can assure you that our products meet international standards," Pandit said.

"After three weeks, we expect to begin steel production as the Minister mentioned. TRA has completed its processes, and the transformer has been cleared from the port. Now, we are waiting for Tanesco to install it so that electricity can be supplied," he said.

Mkuranga District Commissioner Hadija Ally stated that the factory's presence will significantly boost the district's economic growth.

She added that once production begins, they expect to generate tax revenue and pledged to continue improving investment climate to attract more investors.



Our Chief Economist Standard Bank Group, Goolam Ballim with the regional outlook on Trade in the new age.



The Regional Chief Executive East Africa of Standard Bank Group, Patrick Mweheire framing the conversation with economic highlights of the East Africa Region.



(Left) Chief Executive Kabanga Nickel Benedict Busunzu, Ambassador (MP) Liberata Mulamula (centre) on looking is Hon Ambassador (Ret) Colonel Fred Mwesigye of Ugandan High Commission.



Standard Bank Malawi's Chief Executive, Phillip Madinga, engaging in a conversation with Ernest Rubondo, Executive Director Petroleum Authority of Uganda.



From Left Cletus Kiyuga Partner PWC Tanzania, Mr Kiprono Kitonyo Chairman of Nairobi Stock Exchange, George Misenda CEO EFFCO Solutions and (right) David Tarimo Chairman CEO Roundtable Stock Exchange



The Trade plenary led by our Stanbic Bank Kenya's Chief Executive, Joshua Oigara, featured valuable insights from Paul Makanza, Chairman of CTI; Ambassador John Ulanga from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and Monica Hangi, Regional Director at Trade Mark Africa.



The Energy plenary exploring how we unlock investment in the regional's energy sector hosted by Manzi Rwegasira Chief Executive Stanbic Bank Tanzania, featuring Gilbert Kamuntu, Chief Commercial Officer of Uganda National Oil Corporation.



Hon. Mr. Dennis Londo, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and East Africa Cooperation, delivered the closing remarks at the East Africa Summit extending his congratulations to the bank for the commendable initiative, which closely aligns with the Tanzanian government's efforts to support enterprises in Tanzania. The initiative aims to facilitate their expansion beyond borders in trade.



East Africa Represented by Standard Bank Malawi's Chief Executive, Phillip Madinga, Tanzania's Chief Executive, Manzi Rwegasira, Standard Bank Group's Regional Chief Executive (East Africa) Patrick Mweheire and Stanbic Bank Kenya's Chief Executive, Joshua Oigara.



Ambassador John Ulanga from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Stanbic Bank Tanzania's Chief Executive, Manzi Rwegasira, Hon. Mr. Dennis Londo, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and East Africa Cooperation and Hon. Ambassador Dr. John Simbachawene, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Industry and Trade

# Lavish use of electronic devices by children dangerous, warns expert

By Guardian Reporter

A Health expert at the Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation in Tanzania (CCBRT) Hospital has warned against excessive use of electronic devices by children, saying this can lead to vision problems.

The specialist urges parents and caregivers to promote outdoor activities for children alongside other measures to prevent vision issues associated with digital device use.

Dr Cyprian Ntomoka, CCBRT Hospital chief of medical services and eye specialist, made the call in Dar es Salaam yesterday at a special free eye screening camp organised by the hospital to commemorate the World Sight Day 2024.

Dr Ntomoka specifically wanted

close monitoring and control on the use of devices such as mobile phones, tablets, computers and television.

He said that the world advocates for children to not only understand the importance of caring for their eye health but also to be free from the burden of any social stigma associated with wearing glasses and other corrective treatments.

He added that CCBRT's eye services are designed to meet the diverse needs of the society,

*"That is why, in commemoration of this day, the hospital organised a two-day free eye screening exercise that started on Wednesday in Dar es Salaam"*

ensuring that everyone has access to essential eye care.

"That is why, in commemoration of this day, the hospital organised a two-day free eye screening exercise that started on Wednesday in Dar es Salaam," he said.

He said the hospital joins the global community in raising awareness on the importance of eye health.

This year's theme emphasises that young people should make their vision a priority.

"We are committed to ensuring that a generation of children has all the information they need to protect their eyes and, crucially, to take the necessary steps to look after their vision by reducing screen time, valuing outdoor activities and seeking help for any ailments or discomfort," he said.



Masani CCBRT Hospital optometrist Mwashija Matola (R) performs a comprehensive refraction test on a patient to assess their visual acuity to indicate appropriate corrective lenses during the hospital's free eye screening camp conducted at his optical instruments shop at Tegeta Kibo Complex in Dar es Salaam yesterday as part of events to commemorate the World Sight Day. Photo: John Badi

## THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF ZANZIBAR (SUZA)



### Request for Bids Goods

#### (One-Envelope Bidding Process)

**Country:** The United Republic of Tanzania

**Name of Project:** Higher Education for Economic Transformation

**Contract Title:** PROCUREMENT OF EQUIPMENT FOR UPGRADING DATA CENTRE AND EQUIPMENT FOR UPGRADING LOCAL AREA NETWORK INFRASTRUCTURE WITH INSTALLATION

**Credit No.:** P. 166415

**RFB Reference No.:** TZ-SUZ-451843-GO-RFB

- The United Republic of Tanzania has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Higher Education for Economic Transformation, and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for Procurement of Equipment for Upgrading Data Centre and Equipment for Upgrading Local Area Network Infrastructure with Installation
- The State University of Zanzibar now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for Procurement of Equipment for Upgrading Data Centre and Equipment for Upgrading Local Area Network Infrastructure with Installation and delivery period will be within Ten (10) weeks from the date of signing contract.
- Bidding will be conducted through National competitive procurement using a Request for Bids (RFB) as specified in the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" Fourth Edition, November 2020 ("Procurement Regulations"), and is open to all eligible Bidders as defined in the Procurement Regulations.
- Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from Secretary of Tender Board, The State University of Zanzibar, Transled Building, TR-05-PMU office, [pmu@suza.ac.tz](mailto:pmu@suza.ac.tz) and inspect the bidding document during office hours 0800 to 1600 hours at the address given below Secretary of Tender Board, The State University of Zanzibar, Transled Building, TR-05-PMU office state address at the end of this RFB].
- The bidding document in English may be purchased by interested Bidders upon the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of Tanzania shillings Two Hundred Thousand only (Tsh. 200,000). The method of payment will be by Bank through control number by requesting it from this email [pmu@suza.ac.tz](mailto:pmu@suza.ac.tz).

1. Substitute "contracts" where Bids are called concurrently for multiple contracts. Add a new para. 3 and renumber paras 3 - 8 as follows: "Bidders may Bid for one or several contracts, as further defined in the request for bids document. Bidders wishing to offer discounts in case they are awarded more than one contract will be allowed to do so, provided those discounts are included in the Letter of Bid."

- Bids must be delivered to the address below  
Secretary of the Tender Board,  
The State University of Zanzibar,  
Translead Building, TR-05- PMU,  
Tunguu Campus.  
on or before 10:30, 07 November 2024. Electronic Bidding will not be permitted. Late Bids will be rejected. Bids will be publicly opened in the presence of the Bidders' designated representatives and anyone who chooses to attend at the address below  
Secretary of the Tender Board,  
The State University of Zanzibar,  
Translead Building, TR-05- PMU,  
Tunguu Campus.  
11:00 am
- All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in the form of Bank Guarantee or Banker's Cheque of Five Million Tanzania Shillings only (Tsh.5,000,000) each LOT For Procurement of Equipment for Upgrading Data Centre LOT 1 and Equipment for Upgrading Local Area Network Infrastructure with Installation LOT 2. Attention is drawn to the Procurement Regulations requiring the Borrower to disclose information on the successful bidder's beneficial ownership, as part of the Contract Award Notice, using the Beneficial Ownership Disclosure Form as included in the bidding document.
- The address(es) referred to above is (are):  
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**Vice Chancellor**  
**P.O.Box 146, Tunguu Zanzibar**  
**vc@suza.ac.tz**  
**www.suza.ac.tz**

2. The fee chargeable should only be nominal to defray reproduction and mailing costs. An amount between US\$50 and US\$300 or equivalent is deemed appropriate.

VICE CHANCELOR  
THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF ZANZIBAR

# USAID reaffirms support to health projects in Lindi

By Guardian Correspondent

THE United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Mission Director for Tanzania Craig Hart has reaffirmed the agency's continued support of health programmes implemented in Lindi Region.

He made the remarks recently when he visited the region to observe implementation of programmes funded by the agency. He was accompanied by Dr Marina Njelekele, Chief of Party for USAID 'Afyu Yangu' southern and Dr Beatrice Christian, Deputy Chief of Party.

Hart said that USAID will continue to support programmes that make an impact that matters in Lindi Region and complement the government's effort in improving access to quality health services in Lindi.

At Sokoine Regional Referral Hospital, Hart talked about the USAID support over years, including services supported by USAID Afyu Yangu southern project.

He acknowledged their capacity to manage direct funding as well as showcasing regional sustainability

plans and what has been achieved so far.

He also visited Care and Treatment Center at Sokoine Regional Referral Hospital and met Community Youth Peer (Sitetereki Youth) who conduct demand creation through small group discussion and one on one discussion in communities

Other areas he visited are Facility Peer Champion who sit at OPD to conduct Peer-led OPTIMIZED PITC screening, Teen Club Peer, Young Mothers who attend PMTCT services and HIV negative children as well as CTC Rooms starting with data room which showcased how they keep files, uses of three boxes model, CTC database and Biometric Trend.

The USAID Afyu Yangu southern project is a five-year (November 2021 to November 2026) which is being managed by Deloitte Consulting Limited and implemented by local government authorities, health facilities, civil society organizations and faith based organizations.

The programme aims at supporting the government through the Ministry of Health and the President's Office

(Regional Administration and Local Government) to deliver high quality integrated HIV and TB prevention care and treatment services, particularly for youth and children through a comprehensive client centred approach leading to improved health outcomes.

The USAID project provides technical and material assistance as well as administrative and management support to the government to increase its capacity to manage and deliver quality HIV/TB services.

The project is the main implementing partner for HIV and TB interventions in Lindi Region. Lindi has a total of 263 health facilities in six councils.

It supports 98 out of 130 health facilities providing care and treatment services in all six supported councils. It aims to achieve three intermediate result areas namely improved access to quality, client-centred HIV and TB services, improved ability of individuals to practice positive health-seeking behaviours and enhanced enabling environment for quality HIV/TB service provision.

# Envoy hails Tanzania's economic growth, pledges more cooperation

By Guardian Reporter

HUNGARY has praised Tanzania for its effective management of financial and economic policies, affirming her commitment to deepening cooperation for mutual benefit.

Resident Ambassador Zolt Mészáros made the remarks at the weekend during a discussion with Finance minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba at the Treasury offices in Dar es Salaam, saying this has enabled the country to strengthen its economy.

Noting that Hungary has closely followed Tanzania's economic and social progress, in particular its efforts to attract foreign investments from Hungary and elsewhere, he stated that Hungary is ready to

collaborate with Tanzania in key development areas.

He pointed at the provision of social services like water, to be facilitated through inter-government cooperation which he described as a tied aid facility. That involves enabling procurement of materials and funds for specific purposes on condition that they are sourced from the facilitating country.

In response, the minister highlighted the country's economic achievements. He noted that in the first quarter of the current financial year, Tanzania's economy grew by 5.6 percent, compared to an average growth rate of 5 percent during the same period last year.

He projected that the country's economic growth for the 2024/2025

fiscal year would average between 5.4 percent and 5.8 percent, attributing this progress to the government's effective economic policies.

"The statistics at National Bureau of Statistics from August 2024 show that our economy has continued to strengthen despite various challenges, with growth driven largely by construction, agriculture, finance and insurance sectors," Dr Nchemba said.

He also informed the Ambassador that Tanzania's inflation rate has been kept under control, currently at 3.1 percent, which is well within the single-digit threshold. This rate aligns with the East African Community target of 8 percent and the Southern African Development Community standards.

## KINSHASA

A TOTAL of 940,000 people have been displaced this year in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Turk said on Tuesday.

That has brought the total number of internally displaced people to more than 6.4 million, Turk said in a briefing with reporters.

With 23.4 million people being

# Nearly 1m people displaced in DRC – UN human rights chief

food insecure, the DRC is the country most affected by food insecurity in the world, he added.

The illegal exploitation and illicit trade of natural resources have fuelled conflicts in eastern DRC, he warned, highlighting the involvement of both domestic and foreign companies, as well

as the spread and trafficking of arms.

"This is also plunging the population further into poverty. The DRC is one of the five poorest nations in the world, with around one in six people living in extreme poverty in sub-Saharan Africa residing in the DRC," he said.



Jabiri Shekimweri (L), the Dodoma district commissioner, participates in a coconut peeling game at a bonanza hosted by Dodoma Secondary School recently. The event was aimed at encouraging residents to register to vote in the local government elections scheduled for November 27. Photo: Correspondent Peter Mkwavila

## Govt highlights varsities' role in economic justice initiative

By Correspondent Christina Mwakangale

THE government has stated that universities play a significant role in implementing priorities related to economic justice and rights through the Generation Equality Forum (GEF) programme.

Felister Mdemu, Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups, made the remarks in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday during the opening of a meeting on GEF which involved vice-chancellors from various universities in the country.

The meeting, organized by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) in collaboration with the ministry, was also attended by Angellah Kairuki, Presidential Advisor and Chairperson of the National Advisory Committee on GEF.

Mdemu said the goal was to fulfill the country's ambition to achieve gender equality and continue implementing the 1995 Beijing Declaration.

"The declaration identified 12 areas of implementation and each country was required to choose its priority areas for action to achieve gender equality." Tanzania selected five areas for implementation.

"The areas are; economic empowerment of women; eliminating violence against women and children; increasing women's participation in leadership and decision-making positions; education, training and employment and integrating gender issues into sectoral policies," she said.

She noted that universities play a crucial role in achieving the goals because they are responsible for nurturing and developing young people and serve as hubs for various research initiatives that are essential for planning and preparing inclusive policies.

"I believe that through collective collaboration, we will be able to fulfill the country's commitments to the forum," she added.

Katherine Gifford, UN Women Deputy Country Representative,

said: "We are pleased to be here today to engage with scholars on how they can drive and outline Tanzania's GEF commitments. We look forward to exchanging experiences and perspectives on the crucial role that universities and academic institutions play in advancing this global agenda."

She said that UN Women recognizes the importance of academia in addressing gender equality, noting that universities have the potential to influence policies, shape social norms and prepare future leaders with the knowledge and tools to promote gender equality.

"As we move forward, we need to build strong relationships between academia and stakeholders across different sectors, including government and industry. By doing so, we can ensure that research conducted within universities is translated into global gender equality outcomes," Gifford added.

Prof Wineaster Saria, Deputy Vice Chancellor of the University of Dodoma, noted that the meeting provided valuable experience on gender issues, particularly the need to address the matters from the grassroots level to universities.

"The major takeaway I have seen is that our universities should learn from our colleagues in Kenya through their research on how they address these issues so that both genders have equal opportunities," said Prof. Saria.

Prof Judith Waudu from the University of Nairobi stated that it was time for scholars to present their research findings to the public in a simplified language to convey messages and achieve positive outcomes.

"Often, we conduct research and keep it to ourselves, which means we speak only among ourselves without considering the public. We have tried to communicate our findings to the public through projects we conduct at the university," she said.

*"I believe that through collective collaboration, we will be able to fulfill the country's commitments to the forum"*

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

## Invest more in educating people on tax compliance, TRA advised

THE Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) has been urged to invest more in educating people who are yet to start businesses about the importance of paying taxes.

Morogoro-based traders made the call here yesterday while presenting their grievances to a team of TRA leaders during this year's Customer Service Week.

One of the traders, Benward Ndunguru, emphasized that TRA should not wait for people to start businesses before pressuring them to pay taxes but should instead approach and educate them in advance.

"I urge TRA, if you want greater success in tax collection and to ensure traders comply, invest more in providing education before someone starts a business so that they understand the importance of

paying taxes. Don't wait until they are in business and then demand taxes," he said.

Winnfrida Msabila, at Kihonda Ward, asked TRA to frequently visit small traders in their places of business to assess their tax obligations on-site rather than estimating taxes from the office, which often results in higher assessments than their businesses can support.

"We small traders are ready to pay taxes. What we ask for TRA to come to our business locations, see our businesses, and then assess the taxes. But when we go to their offices, they assess much higher taxes than what our businesses actually make," she said.

Ashery Daud noted that TRA

has recently adopted a more community-friendly approach, unlike previous years when tax collectors' methods made traders to avoid them and view them as adversaries. He stated that when traders pay taxes on time, they contribute to better services for Tanzanians such as improved road infrastructure, healthcare, education and other essential services.

Chacha Gatora, TRA acting regional manager, said they have been conducting various outreach programmes to visit taxpayers at their business locations and set up temporary offices to listen to their concerns and provide services normally available at the regional office.

"We continually visit businesses and taxpayers with the aim of listening to their concerns and resolving them. Last month we set up temporary offices in various wards to reduce the cost of traders coming to our office," he said.

Gatora added that TRA has already established tax clubs starting from secondary schools to universities to encourage students to be ambassadors of tax education in their communities.

Immaculate Chaggu, TRA Taxpayer Services and Education Officer in Morogoro Region, said the customer service initiative will go hand in hand with educating businesspeople on the importance of paying taxes on time to avoid fines once payment deadlines elapse.

## State, private sector alliance key to driving Africa's economic growth - AfCFTA official

KIGALI

THE African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) is poised to continue its growth trajectory with the involvement of both state and private sectors, according to Secretary-General of AfCFTA Secretariat Wamkele Mene.

Speaking yesterday at a press conference in Kigali, Rwanda ahead of the second edition of the AfCFTA Business Forum branded 'Biashara Afrika 2024', Mene underlined the growing participation and critical role of both governments and businesses in realizing the full potential of the trade agreement.

"AfCFTA is not just about bringing governments together; it is about engaging the private sector in ways that drive meaningful trade across Africa. Biashara Afrika 2024 will serve as a platform to tackle the pressing issues that continue to hinder our progress, such as trade finance and logistics," Mene said.

Rwandan Minister of Trade and Industry Prudence Sebahizi highlighted Rwanda's proactive role in the establishment of the AfCFTA, reaffirming the country's commitment to spearheading initiatives within the framework of the agreement.

"Rwanda has always been eager to take the lead in every aspect of the AfCFTA, from its establishment to its full implementation. We urge our private sector to embrace and take ownership of this agreement to reap its full benefits," Sebahizi said.

He emphasized Rwanda's focus over the next five years on boosting industrial production and positioning the country as a manufacturing hub to better leverage the broader AfCFTA market.

"We are committed to increasing industrial output and using Rwanda's strategic location to serve as a key production center within the larger African market," he


said. The press conference set the tone for what promises to be a dynamic and insightful series of discussions at Biashara Afrika 2024, with both officials calling for collective efforts to empower the private sector and drive economic growth across the continent.

Under the theme of "Dare to Invent the Future of the AfCFTA," the upcoming business forum is expected to unfold from Wednesday to Friday in Kigali. This year's event will centre on addressing key challenges hindering intra-African trade, such as trade finance, logistics, and more, setting the stage for collaborative

solutions to unlock the continent's economic potential.

The AfCFTA, a flagship project of the African Union's 50-year continental development blueprint, Agenda 2063, is designed to eliminate trade barriers across the continent, significantly boosting intra-Africa trade, particularly

in value-added goods. With a market of 1.3 billion people and a combined gross domestic product of 3.4 trillion U.S. dollars, the AfCFTA is the world's largest free trade area and holds the potential to create regional value chains, spur investment, and generate jobs across Africa.



**ASASI YA UWEZESHAJI TANZANIA**  
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**REQUEST FOR QUOTATIONS (RFQ) FOR GOODS/SERVICES**

Asasi ya Uwezeshaji Tanzania - ASUTA working in partnership with FHI 360 on Epidemic Control (EpiC) program in Dar es salaam and Lindi, USAID Afya yangu project in Katavi Region, Mlele & Tanganyika District in partnership with JHPIEGO, USAID Heshimu Bahari Project in Dar es Salaam Region and Mtwara Region.

ASUTA is looking for vendors who are capable of providing the following goods or services for its head office in Dar es Salaam, Lindi, Mtwara and Katavi Mlele & Tanganyika District.

Category No.	Items for supply
1	Office Stationeries and IT Equipment Supply, Installation and Maintenance of IT equipment and Software
2	Vehicle Hires
3	Catering Service
4	Office space in Dar es salaam Temeke, Kigamboni, Lindi, Tanganyika, Mlele and Mtwara Area with minimum of 80sqmts
5	Supply for mobile and telecommunication service
6	Supply of Office Furniture and fittings
7	Supply for staff medical cover and asset/property insurance

**Deadline and Additional Information**  
A complete set of bidding documents in English may be purchased by interested eligible bidders upon the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **TZS 60,000.00 (Sixty thousand Tanzania Shillings)** for each category except supplier for Mobile and telecommunication service and Insurance service will be **TZS 100,000.00**. The payments can be made by Cash or through Tigo LIPA NAMBA # 8 083 614 both in the name of ASUTA. The bidder must provide proof of deposit(s) to enable ASUTA to issue the detailed RFQs.

The interested bidder should pick the detailed RFQ at ASUTA offices for respective category or categories stated above from 10-18 October 2024 from 10:00 to 16:00 hrs. A prospective bidder having any questions regarding the detailed RFQs shall contact ASUTA at: [asuta@asuta.or.tz](mailto:asuta@asuta.or.tz) three (3) days prior to the due date and time for submission of quotes. The **deadline for submission of the proposal is 25<sup>th</sup> October 2024 by 15:00hrs (East Africa Time)**. Please quote respective RFQ category number on the envelop.

All responses should be submitted in hard copies, no electronic or email copies will be evaluated. Responses to our RFQ should be sent to the physical address below

**Executive Director**  
Asasi ya Uwezeshaji Tanzania (ASUTA)  
Mwangi Tower, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Makumbusho, P. O. Box 70030, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.  
For additional information and clarification please call Tel: 0746460612/0766500684



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**Rwanda has always been eager to take the lead in every aspect of the AfCFTA, from its establishment to its full implementation. We urge our private sector to embrace and take ownership of this agreement to reap its full benefits**

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## How would buying 670 rapid transit compare with shifting to rapid trains?

**T**OP Transport ministry officials and those charged with local governments (apart from regional administration) have lately been airing the need for importing up to 670 rapid transit buses.

Some critics see this as far too large for the company concerned to administer or realise investments by the usual fares.

A number of bottlenecks confront the rapid transit buses initiative, first a perennial insufficiency of buses and, if number of buses rises, nearly total inability of their being properly maintained.

Cannibalism starts at an early stage, where a bus breaking down is lined up for dismantling to get spare parts easily.

That is also why going for a private investor could prove a problem for the firm to handle as no division of labour or functions will be suitable.

The options might then be scrapping the firm and asking a private company to provide the services - and then it pays taxes to districts and the national revenue body.

The idea that a foreign bus firm places buses on the roads and then the local entity collects fares and pays the operator is a non-starter for its potentially egregious revenue misstatements. Nor would the government via the ministry or the regional administration find the cash to buy 670 buses just for DART (Dar es Salaam Rapid Transit) use.

Looking at the wider environment in which the rapid bus transit plan was thought up and at present, there are vast changes in landscape. This implicitly calls for a fairly intensive review of what the city actually needs.

The bus service started towards the end of 2015 after protracted

differences of opinion over fares as well as within the fast-changing matrix of ownership and lease arrangements of the former Usafiri Dar es Salaam.

While those for its being leased to private operators on a long-term basis ostensibly retaining its city council status were being hauled to court, the entity itself was converted into a rapid transit unit - that is, the service provider for the new roads purchased buses.

Meanwhile, the city's population and its transportation needs was rising phenomenally with respect to the use of private vehicles and commuter transport.

Instead of rapid transit being a substantial replacement of such needs, it basically reduced the flow of buses to the city centre by eliminating Ubungo, Kimara and Kinondoni commuter buses, while everything else remained the same.

At the same time, it chiefly serves the few starting points of a specific axis after which it is fully boarded and bursting, taking in few passengers save by squeezing in when some of them alight at stopping points.

Strictly speaking, it isn't possible at present to say that the buses have changed the city even if they help with rapid transit at the starting points.

It means that there is acute need for a different mode that can cater for the city in a more comprehensive manner - but not importing 670 buses.

The argument here is that, even from an environmental viewpoint, this ought not to be the first option in transportation or regional administration.

Rather, what is needed is adapting the current routes or drawing a different map for a rail service on the traditional model that can pull ten wagons or even 20 - and be available non-stop every hour.

## PPP in power outlays looks like a fine start

**C**URRENT initiatives for engaging two foreign investors expressing interest in building power transmission projects valued at US\$1.2bn have not raised much excitement among policy watchers.

The reason is that two policy precedents related to it were won with difficulties for those in authority and even among policy advisers they left a troubling mark.

In the past decade the PPP effort had a bruising effect on the political system but this arrangement now looks generally both feasible and bearable.

The 'temperature reading' was done with the Dar es Salaam port investment arrangement, where older barriers of patriotism and fear of the unknown were raised - even national security interest.

All were being floated by reflex, including that port movement is an activity that needs to be supervised entirely by local officials.

That would make it impossible to allow foreign investment, the way we heard about telephone earlier, and one can guess how much government business at advisory level is conducted by private mobile phone service providers. This new power sector initiative can also succeed.

The Treasury director for the public-private partnership (PPP) recently talked of expected involvement of the private sector in constructing high-voltage power lines, marking a new approach in the sector.

The PPP centre and the procurement agency are reportedly drawing on best practices from countries executing PPP power transmission projects in South America and South Asia.

The director cited success stories in India, the Philippines, Peru, Chile and Brazil, though the socioeconomic parameters can have an impact in project execution and the cost environment cited.

There are significant challenges in implementing PPPs whether for the power sector or elsewhere, including regulatory, legal and institutional barriers.

Not much was said in pursuit of the bottlenecks, nor if the PPP centre has the last word on the contracts to be signed, etc.

The manner in which the port accords were reached are an illustration of how vexing the negotiations can be, similar to the liquefied petroleum gas project.

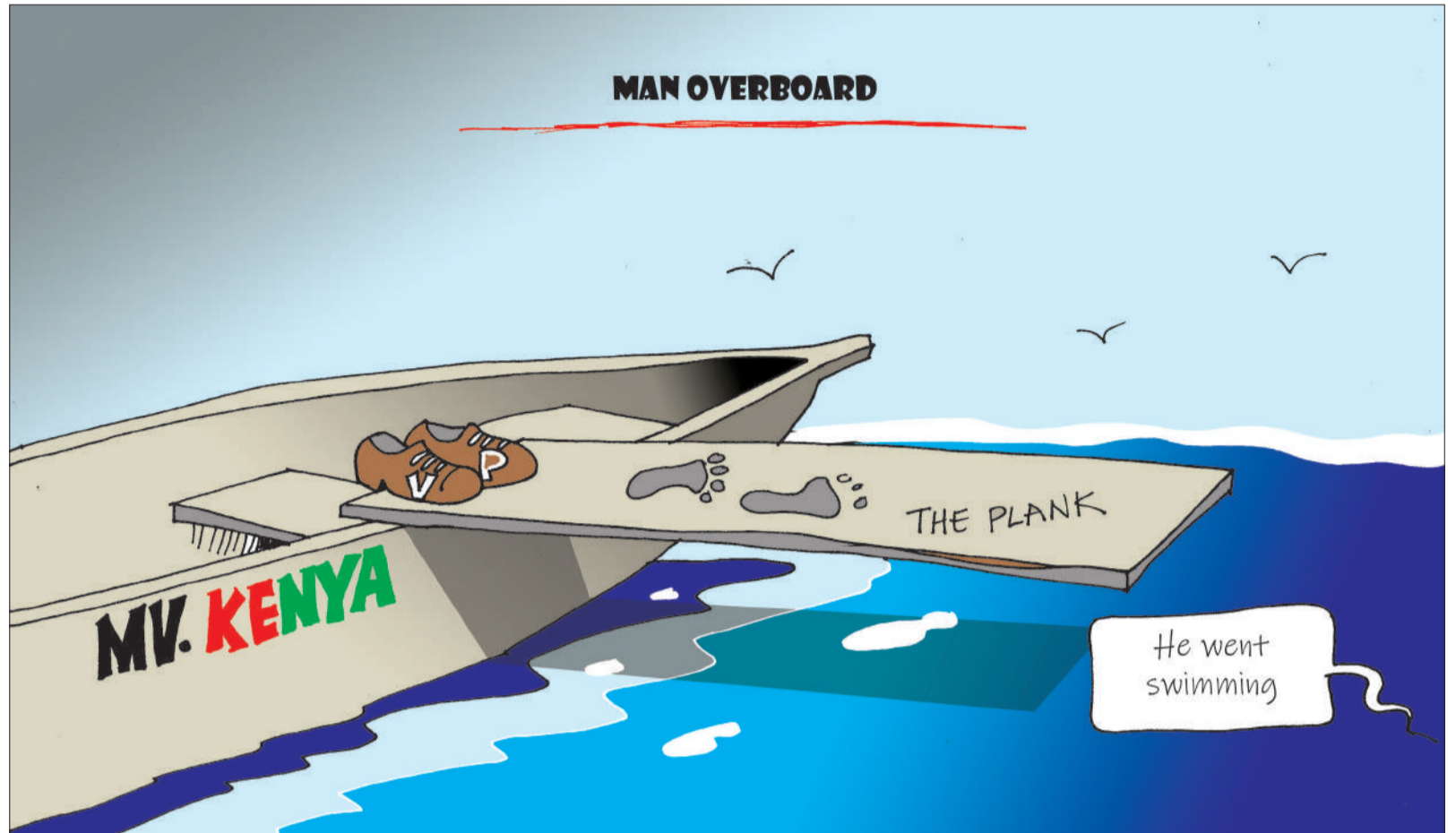
How far there is limited expertise in key government entities, or a pressing need for technical assistance and capacity-building support to enable the government to adopt PPPs effectively, in the energy sector elsewhere, is yet to be clarified.

Yet, as it is apparent that there are several development partners in the PPP framework across East Africa, the wider environment may cushion controversies in the new project. Still, as this involves building a new facility as in road building, resistance will be limited.

The worry comes up with reported views by energy economists that the sector could become self-financing if tariffs are set at commercially viable rates, with local power rates the lowest in East Africa.

This kind of reflection is standard formula on the issue, going by economists working with United Nations agencies incurably tied to the public sector, and thus commercially viable rates are to be calculated by the power monopoly.

Those with a solid idea of a competitive economy realise that commercial tariffs for a state firm would ruin the economy and lead the country into riots, in which case the firm is privatised first and dismantled into numerous firms, for competition, as costs will come down and rates remain stable with higher output.



## Vulnerable people on death row and why Tanzania ought to scrap the death penalty

By Anna Henga

**I**N 2012 Rose Malle, an 18-year-old woman from Moshi in Kilimanjaro Region found herself in prison, facing the possibility of a death sentence.

She had been accused of killing a bodaboda (motorbike taxi rider), and in December 2015 a court sentenced her to death for the driver's murder.

But police had arrested the wrong person - as Rose bore no responsibility for the man's death. Nevertheless, she spent several years in prison - two of them on death row - in horrendous and overcrowded conditions, lacking access to medical care and enduring immense stigma from other prisoners and guards because of her death sentence.

In 2017, Rose was finally acquitted and released, after spending a whole year in prison for a crime she had nothing to do with.

But there are many other women serving death sentences in Tanzania today who haven't been as lucky. One is Ghati Mwita, a 66-year-old survivor of gender-based violence, who has spent the last 15 years in prison, convicted of murder for the accidental death of a fisherman.

Even though witnesses gave inconsistent and contradictory accounts of what happened, and a jury initially returned a "not guilty" verdict, a judge overrode their recommendation and sentenced Ghati to death.

Ghati, who suffers from significant health problems, is at risk of dying in prison because the legal system has continually failed her.

Today (October 10) is World Day Against the Death Penalty. The stories of both Rose and Ghati help to illustrate the grave injustices faced by many women and other vulnerable people who have been sentenced to death in Tanzania.

These stories reaffirm the fact that the death penalty is an inherent violation of the right to life. They also demonstrate the discriminatory nature of the death penalty, which disproportionately affects the most vulnerable members of our society, including women, people with mental illnesses, and people living in poverty.

Because the death penalty is a mandatory sentence in Tanzania, courts cannot consider mitigating factors in individual cases. They cannot, for example, take into account histories of abuse or gender-based violence or a person's mental or intellectual disabilities when determining an appropriate sentence.



Rose Malle: A story of strength and survival from facing the death penalty to fighting for justice in Moshi, Kilimanjaro. Photos: courtesy of LHRC

Other countries in the region have recognized these problems, which are inherent in the continued use of the mandatory death penalty.

Tanzania's neighbours including Burundi, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Uganda and Zambia have abolished the mandatory death penalty.

Most of these countries have also taken the further step of abolishing the death penalty entirely,

recognizing it as a fundamental violation of the right to life.

Last year, Tanzania's President Samia Suluhu Hassan seemed to be moving in the right direction when she established a Criminal Justice Commission to review various aspects of Tanzania's justice system.

The commission called for the abolition of both the mandatory death penalty as well as life sentences. However, the

government has not implemented any of these recommendations to date.

Further, the African Court on Human and People's Rights has called on Tanzania to abolish the mandatory death penalty in at least nine cases over the past three years.

One of those cases was Ghati's, in which the continental court ruled that her mandatory death sentence was in violation of the African Charter - and ordered a resentencing hearing in which she would not be resented to death.

But the government has continuously ignored the court's judgments, refusing to conduct any resentencing hearings or to remove the mandatory death penalty from our laws.

The longer our country maintains this appalling status quo, the more vulnerable people like Rose and Ghati and their families will suffer.

It is high time Tanzania complied with the African court's rulings, accepted the recommendations of Tanzania's own Criminal Justice Commission and demonstrated a true commitment to human rights by abolishing the mandatory death penalty.

• **Dr Anna Henga is the Executive Director of the Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC). She can be reached at ahenga@humanrights.or.tz**





# Diverse methodologies, techniques crucial to effective teaching

**E**FFECTIVE teaching is the result of a careful and appropriate selection of methodologies and techniques. Competencies across different subjects vary in complexity—some are simple, while others are more challenging.

However, the simplicity or complexity of content depends on learners or individual needs. The goal is to ensure that all learners, regardless of ability, grasp the competencies so the curriculum objectives can be realized. When majority of students understand the material, the impact of teaching becomes more meaningful.

Educational psychologists emphasize that learners' understanding of various subjects differs from one person to another; meaning teaching requires the teacher's attention and creativity to ensure positive results.

A student struggling in one area might excel in another. Therefore, effective teachers must employ a variety of methodologies and techniques to make their lessons impactful and contribute to the learner's personal and societal growth.

A teacher's success lies in helping students understand what they are being taught, not simply showcasing their own expertise. Teachers already possess knowledge, so the focus should be on transferring that knowledge to the learners.

Relying on a single method of instruction may disengage some students. Learning thrives when students are intrinsically motivated. While ex-



trinsic motivation can help to some extent, learning becomes more effective when the drive comes from within the learner. Teachers should, therefore, prioritize fostering intrinsic motivation through the use of diverse teaching methodologies.

The key is not just what is taught but how it is taught. A teacher's approach can determine whether students enjoy or dislike a subject. For instance, using complex terms without explanation can affect student's understanding of a certain topic.

An effective teacher simplifies content, making it accessible to the majority of learners. Since classrooms have students with diverse learning needs, it is the teacher's responsibility to develop techniques that meet the demands of all students.

All teaching methods should aim

to encourage learners, not discourage them. Motivation lies in the variety of methodologies and techniques a teacher employs. When students feel respected and supported by the teacher, they are more likely to enjoy the lessons and perform much better.

Teachers must continually research how students learn to enhance the teaching process. Learning outcomes are often gradual, requiring patience before significant progress is visible. A teacher's success is measured by how well they prepare students to become independent learners.

Some key methodologies and techniques for effective teaching include:

Teaching difficult competencies first; students have different ways of processing complex concepts. Some may need more time to reflect or review materials independently before

fully understanding. By starting with the most challenging content, students have more time to practice, increasing the likelihood of mastering the material. Early exposure to difficult concepts allows for more revision, which enhances understanding.

Using learners as a resource; students are gifted in different ways, and their abilities can enhance the learning process. High-achieving students can lead group discussions, allowing their strengths to benefit others. Talented students motivate teachers to continue learning, and their insightful questions can serve as catalysts for deeper learning. Teachers can harness the potential of competent learners to drive classroom discussions and activities.

Providing ample exercises; younger students, in particular, may find it difficult to study without external moti-

vation. They are often more engaged when given tasks to complete. Providing frequent exercises encourages students to study and helps reinforce their understanding of key concepts. Teachers should aim to finish the syllabus on time, allowing room for revision through exercises.

Encouraging questions; some students learn best by asking questions. Teachers should be prepared to address learners' challenges without frustration. The question-and-answer method is an effective tool for assessing student understanding and offering clarification. A lack of questions may indicate that students do not fully grasp the material. However, questions should be limited to the topic at hand to avoid confusion.

The presence of diverse learners in a classroom necessitates the use of varied methodologies and techniques. Teachers should select teaching methods based on the learners' needs and the nature of the content. Failure to choose appropriate methods can result in learners not fully understanding the material.

To succeed in the teaching profession, teachers must be creative, conduct research, and continuously refine their techniques. They should consider students' feedback and be flexible in their approach, ensuring that their teaching has a meaningful impact on society. Methods and techniques are crucial to effective teaching.



## Taxation of bad debts: A growing debate between banks and TRA

By David Jandwa

**I**N recent years, the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) intensified efforts to maximize revenue collection from the banking and financial sectors. One of the most contentious issues has been the taxation of bad debts written off by banks and financial institutions.

This article provides an overview of the current practices employed by TRA in taxing these bad debts, the legal and regulatory framework governing this issue, and the potential implications for banks in Tanzania.

### What is a bad debt in banking?

In the banking and financial sectors, bad debts refer to loans and advances that are considered uncollectible due to the borrower's failure to repay. These debts typically fall under non-performing loans (NPLs), which negatively impact a bank's balance sheet, profitability, and overall financial stability.

Banks must make provisions for bad debts to manage the risk of default, as required by international accounting standards. Once all reasonable recovery efforts

have been exhausted, the debt is written off, meaning it is removed from the bank's books.

Bad debt write-offs are crucial for banks to meet international financial reporting standards and maintain capital adequacy ratios. For accounting purposes, once written off, the debt is no longer treated as an asset. However, the TRA views this process with skepticism, considering it a potential method for banks to avoid paying taxes.

### Legal and regulatory framework

The Income Tax Act, 2004 governs taxation in Tanzania, including taxation of bad debts. Under this law, businesses—banks included—must report their taxable incomes, which are subject to taxes. Business income tax is imposed on the profit margin, calculated as gross income minus allowable expenses.

Section 25 of the Income Tax Act allows banks and financial institutions to deduct provisions for bad debts as allowable expenses. Therefore, once a bank determines that a debt is irrecoverable, it is entitled to remove it from its books.

However, the TRA challenges this approach, arguing that writ-

ten-off debts may still be recoverable in the future, which makes them potential assets subjected to taxation. According to TRA, unless specific conditions are met, these written-off debts should not be fully removed from the tax calculation. This interpretation has led to significant disagreements between banks and the TRA.

### The controversy

Banks argue that once a debt is written off, it should no longer be classified as an asset and, therefore, should not be taxed. They claim that by removing uncollectible debts from their books, they are simply adhering to standard accounting practices.

However, TRA maintains that these debts might still be recoverable and should remain taxable until certain conditions—such as the expiration of the statutory period for recovery—are met.

This difference in interpretation has created an ongoing dispute between banks and the TRA, with far-reaching implications for the financial sector in Tanzania. For banks, it raises concerns about increased tax liabilities on assets that are no longer viable, while for the TRA, it represents a potential revenue source that should not be ignored.

### Conclusion

Taxation of bad debts remains a growing controversy in Tanzania's banking sector. While banks view the write-off process as a necessary step for financial transparency and stability, TRA sees potential revenue being lost.

Resolving this issue will require clear legal guidelines and a balanced approach that protects both the integrity of the financial sector and the government's revenue needs. As it stands, the debate continues to impact the banking industry's operations and the broader financial environment in Tanzania.

## Leaving an indelible mark: Role of African leaders in socio and economic development

By Thomas Lyimo

**S**CHOLARS have established a link between leadership and socio-economic development, underscoring the critical role that human resources play in organizing other resources for progress.

This awareness makes the quality of leadership vital for achieving meaningful development. African leaders who are genuinely committed to progress must prioritize the well-being of their citizens, recognizing that leadership is a responsibility rather than a privilege.

For leaders who truly care about the development of their countries, the burden of governance weighs heavily—making it impossible for them to rest while their people suffer from poverty and other challenges.

When leaders are genuinely concerned about the development of their people, they naturally become more committed. It is often said that one cannot achieve what they haven't envisioned; thus, leaders must have a sincere love for the development of their nations.

For development to be meaningful must be people-centered. This is why it can be confusing when economic statistics show growth, yet ordinary citizens do not feel the benefits. True development should be reflected in the improvement of individual's livelihood.

Development is multi-faceted, and its interpretation varies depending on the context. Sometimes, it involves comparing the present with the past, or reflecting on how historical conceptions of development affect current understandings.

For instance, during the 1960s, when African nations were fighting for independence, development meant freedom from colonial rule.

The leaders who achieved this were revered, and their legacies are often held up as models for future leadership. This has led to the belief that African leaders must prepare future generations who embody the spirit of these freedom fighters.

However, there is a divide among African leaders on this issue. While some emphasize the importance of grooming future leaders, others prioritize leaving a personal mark over succession planning. While the goal of development is shared, the path to achieving it remains a puzzle. The desire to bring socio-economic progress to Africa is evident in the objectives and declarations of African leaders, but how this is realized is still debated.

The development of the African continent requires its leaders to view leadership as a debt they must repay. Leaving a legacy is crucial, and African leaders can do so in the following ways:

### Developing and effectively utilizing human resources

Human resources are the driving force behind any country's socio-economic development. It is essential for African leaders to invest in education systems that promote critical thinking, creativity, and technological skills. In today's world, individuals who can think critically and adapt to technological advancements are key to development.

### Preparing future leaders

Young people must be made aware of the rationale behind current leadership decisions. Leadership is about making informed decisions, and by nurturing future leaders, African countries can ensure progress continues. These future leaders will be equipped to make logical decisions that foster

development.

### Establishing robust health systems

Socio-economic development depends on a healthy, energetic population. Achieving this requires investments in hospitals, healthcare professionals, and medical infrastructure. Governments must also increase health sector budgets and lower the cost of medical services to ensure access for all. Healthy citizens contribute more effectively to the country's development.

Encouraging domestic investors  
Promoting domestic investment is crucial for ensuring that economic benefits remain within African countries. While foreign investment is often necessary, African leaders must provide incentives for domestic investors to thrive and compete. This helps ensure that the rewards of economic growth benefit the majority of Africans, rather than enriching foreign interests.

### Formulating sound economic policies

Economic policies should prioritize fair investment and ensure that Africa's resources, such as minerals, are used for the continent's benefit. African leaders must defend their nations' resources, creating laws that prevent exploitation and promote equitable agreements with foreign investors. Policies should focus on a win-win situation; ensuring African nations receive just compensation for their resources.

African development requires patriotism, commitment, and hard work at every level of leadership. These values must be instilled in all Africans. To maintain true independence, Africa must produce enough to meet its own needs.

Without these attributes African nations risk losing control of their resources to foreign exploitation. If leaders fail to protect and utilize their resources wisely, others will inevitably seek to exploit them. Therefore, African leaders must develop competitive individuals capable of excelling in the global market.

Leadership should be about leaving a legacy, not a means to accumulate personal wealth. African leaders owe it to their people and the continent to work towards lasting development.

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# Five reasons Brazil struggles to attract international tourists

By Special Correspondents

PARIS hosted 26 million international visitors in 2023. Brazil, meanwhile, has never reached the mark of seven million foreign tourists in a year.

The competition to attract international tourists is fierce. The idea that Brazil's lush landscapes, vibrant culture, and friendly hospitality are enough to attract potential travellers is a fallacy.

The country currently attracts less than 0.5 percent of the world's international trips, a stark contrast to Mexico (3.2 percent), Thailand (2.2 percent), and India (1.1 percent). Its smaller neighbour Argentina welcomes more international tourists. How can this be? Although there are plenty of problems in Brazil, five reasons explain the country's challenges in attracting tourists. They are:

## Distances and transportation

First, tourists find getting where they want to go in Brazil difficult. Its continental dimensions and global position make trips long, expensive, and complicated.

It is worth remembering that Europe, North America, and Asia are the leading international tourist markets. As a result, most overseas travellers have no option but to make a great effort to arrive in Brazil.

Although it has been expanding recently, and there is a growing effort to attract new air routes, there are few options for direct flights to Brazil's north or northeast regions. Transport challenges occur despite the growing international appeal of the Amazon and beaches such as Fernando de Noronha, which are much closer to the European and North American markets.

Popular nature-based and cultural destinations depend on expensive domestic/regional aviation, usually with limited availability.

Additionally, ground transport suffers



Christ the Redeemer statue in Rio, Brazil, with its unparalleled natural beauty and rich cultural heritage, has the potential to be a significant player in international tourism. Despite the challenges of language barriers, geographical distances, high costs, safety concerns, and a lack of adaptation to international tourism standards, the allure of Brazil's natural wonders and vibrant lifestyle remains a beacon of hope for its future in the global tourism industry.

from the long distances involved and the precariousness of highways, including a lack of security and the scarcity of road and rail services suitable for foreign audiences.

## Feeling of insecurity and violence

The second factor is the feeling of insecurity. There are reasons for this: the homicide rate in the country is 20 per 100,000 inhabitants, placing Brazil as 16th in the most violent countries ranking. In the criminality and organized crime ranking, Brazil occupies the 22nd position.

Although violence is mainly concentrated in specific areas, it can be difficult for visitors to distinguish between safe and unsafe places.

An example is the "unsafety" classification that the U.S. Department of State gives U.S. citizens

who wish to travel to Brazil. The British government warns about kidnappings, rapes, robberies, and scams in Brazil.

Another facet of the insecurity problem is "small" scams applied to tourists, such as improper price rises and service deliveries that differ from what was contracted. The so-called "Brazilian way of doing things", a combination of informality with absent professionalism that promises easy solutions, contrasts with the difficulty that tourists find in defending themselves or appealing against these scams.

## Inadequate services

A third factor is that foreign tourists usually prefer services that suit their needs and preferences. Most Brazilian tourism service providers speak only Portuguese; recent surveys indicate that 1 percent of Brazilians are

fluent in English.

Tourist services are generally aimed at the Brazilian domestic audience, with few options that cater to both Brazilian and foreign preferences. Information available online, tours, activities, meals, and additional services are rarely designed to address the needs or tastes of international tourists.

The greater attention given to local clients is natural since the number of domestic visitors far exceeds that of foreigners. This disproportionate ratio dilutes the presence of international tourists among the mass of Brazilian visitors, practically eliminating specialized services for them.

## Costs

Foreigners cannot make a quality trip to Brazil on a low budget. The country is not cheap for travelers.

This fact does not mean Brazil is an expensive destination, like Switzerland or Japan. Although Brazil is not among the most expensive countries to travel to, it is not one of the cheapest either. Brazil has a median cost of living.

Unlike really cheap countries, such as Indonesia, India, and Egypt, in Brazil, the average tourist cannot hire services at a competitive price that guarantees compatibility with experiences from the best locations.

For example, public urban transport is cheap but of poor quality, and specialized transport services for tourists are good but priced highly.

Erratic promotion of the country

There has been a lack of continuity in the country's international promotion. Building, maintaining, and constantly improving a tourist destination's positive image is essential.

In addition to the rational decisions that impact the purchase of travel, emotional factors are increasingly present. For experienced travelers, visiting a country perceived as a friendly and creative place, vibrant in culture, and where you can rest in tranquility becomes increasingly essential. Buying a holiday is, after all, making a dream come true.

## Holistic solution

Addressing isolated issues is not enough to attract more international travelers and generate prosperity in Brazil. A comprehensive approach is needed to create a high-quality tourist experience, which is challenging.

This challenge is particularly significant for destinations where local citizens struggle daily. Developed countries with high quality of life find it easier to develop and thrive in tourism. In contrast, developing or least developed countries often see tourism flourish in wealthy enclaves protected by security barriers, such as Cancun (Mexico), Bali (Indonesia), or the Maldives.

However, developing tourism in such enclaves is controversial and can lead to social and political conflicts. In Brazil, this model has become increasingly politically unfeasible and rejected by public opinion.

Discussions about Brazil's stagnation in international tourism often focus on specific aspects like limited flight options, a lack of trained workers, and uneven marketing investments. While these points are important, addressing them in isolation without a holistic approach will continue to hinder Brazil's potential as a major international tourism destination.

By Marianne Thamm

ANTHONY Scaramucci, the financier who was a former Trump adviser, offered an astute observation about the US's current flirtation with authoritarianism.

The Mooch, who was White House director of communications for all of nine months during Potus 45's term (until he was fired), told the Wall Street Journal that Democrat wartime president Franklin D Roosevelt's successful countering of the German American Bund (established in 1936) and the America First Movement (launched in 1940) had deprived Americans of feeling the true burn of flirtations with fascism.

The US, instead, rushed to the aid of its Allies -the Soviet Union, France and Great Britain - to defeat Adolf Hitler's disastrous Nationalist Socialist hallucination.

In the end, about 80 million human beings died in that war, more than are alive in South Africa today.

In Germany, Japan, Russia (the former USSR) and South Africa, and across Europe and other countries once ravaged and ruined by war, a "hereditary memory" of trauma keeps alive an understanding of the consequences and folly of anti-democratic populism.

"We do not have the memory of the violence. We don't have the memory of the terror, the lack of certainty and predictability of law and the legal system," Scaramucci told the Wall Street Journal.

# Spared full horror of war, US can flirt with fascism



## Memory over forgetting

Scaramucci noted that in Japan schoolchildren visit Hiroshima, site of one of the US atomic bombings, to commemorate their ancestors.

In Germany, Stolpersteine or "stumbling stones" pockmark the cobble pavings across cities where persecuted Jewish families once lived.

Monuments exist to homosexuals and Gypsies who were also persecuted and exterminated.

In the UK and across Europe, the Normandy D-Day landings are celebrated with military pomp and ceremony and high-profile presidential visits in memory of the millions of young men slaughtered, some of them South African, in two European wars.

Vladimir Putin and the Russians have long harboured resentment for not being included in celebrations of the defeat of fascism in the West.

South Africa, with more than

400 years of imperialism, colonisation, land wars, institutionalised white hegemony and violence, as well as tension between Afrikaans and English speakers and indigenous inhabitants, provides a cauldron of trauma and memory.

Across the country there are monuments, old and new, to those held dear in the collective history.

In KwaZulu-Natal, history is revived and commemorated annually by both sides of the significant 16 December 1838 Battle of Ncome, as it is celebrated by Zulus, or the Battle of Blood River, as celebrated by some Afrikaners.

History professor André Wessels, who specialises in South African military history, opined that "we must not judge historical moments in isolation or from a single perspective. There are other sides to the story."

He told writer Anja van den Berg for the magazine Taalgenoot that it was possible to celebrate the battle in an "inclusive manner".

"Compatriots can walk in each other's shoes and acknowledge the bravery on both sides, even celebrate a defeat and show respect for each other's history. But it requires knowledge and adult insight," Wessels said.

Today a "bridge of reconciliation" stretches from the bronze laager of wagons where the Voortrekkers fought across the spruit to Ncome where the Zulu warriors are honoured.

Scaramucci said that people who had been directly exposed to fascism understood that it always ends badly. When those with hereditary memory watch Donald Trump play with fire, they muse: "But it ended badly in my country."

That the American public was shielded from the direct ravages of war deprived them of this hereditary memory.

It's about immigration, stupid

Trump's grandfather was a German immigrant. Sergei Brin, the founder of Google, arrived in the US penniless from Russia and is now a dollar billionaire.

Though the roots of illegal immigration are what should form part of US

policy solutions, Trump has instead made immigration a single-issue campaign point.

Legal immigrants to the US are now being targeted by Trump's Maga nativists who hold no history.

"I don't like the demonisation of immigration," said Scaramucci, born to Italian immigrants to the US.

The country needed to restate its "love affair" with immigration, and in this instance Scaramucci agreed with Elon Musk (also an immigrant to the US), who has opined that the US needs growth.

The US, said the financier, was "a beacon of freedom" for people who bring this growth. The flirtation now with the "Team of One" that is Trump was a response to the lack of a deep memory of terror and the loss of freedom.

Celebrating history, its wounds, its bandages, its lessons and, more importantly, its warnings is essential as we exit Heritage Month in South Africa and endeavour to understand and absorb the tributaries of history that run through us. DM

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**RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI**

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS HALI HALISI 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS  22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO )	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO )	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS  22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO )	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS  21:00-23:00HRS MALUMBANO YA HOJA  22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO )	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS KIPIMA JOTO  22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO )	07:30-10:00HRS DK 90 DUNIANI 10:00-11:00HRS KADOGOO 11:00-13:00HRS BONGO HITS 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS ZAIDI YA UMJUAVYO 16:00-18:00HRS ALIYEVUMA 18:00-21:00HRS BUZUKI TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI  22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO )	07:00-09:00HRS HABARI NA MATUKIO YA WIKI  09:00-11:00HRS THE SUNDAY 11:00-13:00HRS TOP 20 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CAPITAL MICHEZONI 16:00-18:00HRS UKURASA WA MBELE 18:00-21:00HRS JIACHIE 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-01:00HRS LADHA LAINI  01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO )

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO



# Nigeria town celebrates after hunting down 'killer hippo'

By Mansur Abubakar, Kano

People in Yauri had been afraid to go out as the hippo was also wandering into paddy fields by the river

Residents of a town in north-western Nigeria are celebrating after a rare but feared hippo - along with its calf - was killed by rice farmers and fishermen in a hunt lasting several weeks.

People in Yauri, in Kebbi state, have been terrified of the hippo after she killed a fisherman who worked for the local traditional leader.

It prompted the Kebbi state government to order that the animal be killed for the safety of the community living along the River Niger.

Nigeria's hippo population has declined rapidly over the last few decades - estimates suggest there are now around 100 animals, which mainly live in conservation areas.

The hippo in Yauri was tracked down by young men, who used locally made spears known as a "zagos" to kill it.

Its carcass has since been ferried in a canoe to the palace of one of the Emir of Yauri's high-ranking administrators, where it has been

butchered and its meat given to those in local community.

"We are a town of fishermen and farmers and this hippo has made many to stop going out due to fear of an attack," said resident Sani Yauri.

"Apart from killing a member of the emir's staff, it also seriously injured another person - not also forgetting the damage it regularly does to our farmlands."

There are many paddy fields along the banks of the river near the town, where the hippo had sometimes been spotted.

"We are happy it has been killed and people came out in jubilation - and also got their share of the meat," Yauri said.

Another resident, Isa Jamilu, said he was relieved that could now go to his farm, which he had abandoned weeks ago.

Photos of the dead animal have been widely shared on social media - with mixed reactions: some hailed members of the local community for standing up for themselves while others expressed concern about the welfare of the animal.

The common hippopotamus is on the red list of threatened species put together by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

"This is an endangered species and I was sad when I saw the video clip of people celebrating after it was killed," Isyaku Abdullahi, animal rights activist and founder of Nigeria's African Voice for Animals Initiative, told the BBC.

"What the people of Yauri ought to have done was to report to relevant authorities who would capture and relocate it."

He said communities living in rural areas, especially places like Kebbi state where there are several rivers and lakes, needed to be made aware of other options when dealing with the dangerous mammals.

Kebbi is renowned for hosting the annual Argungu Fishing Festival, which is on the United Nations' cultural heritage list.

Hippos are the third-largest land mammal and their teeth can reach up to 50.8cm (20in) in length. Despite their size, they can also reach speeds of up to 20mph (32km/h).

While the animals are herbivores, they can become highly aggressive when they feel threatened or their habitats are disturbed - and kill around 500 people every year in Africa.

# TCRA underscores significance of cyber safety

By Guardian Reporter

In the information and digital era, where most services from banking to entertainment are accessed through on-line systems, cyber security becomes of paramount significance than ever before.

As the Country propels through digital transformations, there has been dramatic increase in the number of registered SIM Cards amounting to 76.6 million as of June 2024, out of which 57.6 million are used for accessing on-line, mobile money services, which is equivalent to over 90 per cent of the population, benefiting the services in the Country.

Therefore, issue safe and secure mobile money plus other on-line services becomes of paramount significance so as to enhance public trust in the services that enable improved living standard of the people thus contributing to the sustainable development of the Country.

In protection of users of on-line services, the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) has reminded Tanzanians to be vigilant against cybercrime, including verifying sources of unsolicited informa-



tion or requests before responding.

Dr Jabiri Bakari, TCRA Director General said this in Dar es Salaam yesterday, saying that a safe cyber environment would enable Tanzanians to meet their economic and civic aspirations.

The authority has launched a countrywide multipronged campaign known as "Ni Rahisi" (It's Easy) to raise public awareness of digital opportunities and cyber security. The two-phase campaign that involve live and recorded radio and television programmes, newspaper stories plus social media outlets, will run from October to December 2024 and January to March 2025 respectively.

According to Dr Bakari, TCRA will disseminate cybersecurity tips and

techniques, like sending phone number of fraudsters by short message to 15040, free of charge.

He said it would also urge more individuals and entities to use "106# to verify the registration status of phone numbers plus using the Tanzania domain name Dot TZ for their websites and email addresses. The campaign also includes how to detect misleading online content, including detecting fake news and reporting fraudulent online activities.

It will also enhance public awareness of digital clubs and innovations. The latter and stakeholder protection are among the strategic objectives in TCRA's rolling strategic plan (2021/22-2025/26).

The strategy also seeks to ensure reliable and secure communication services and applications in Tanzania.

Dr Bakari said TCRA had developed messages to be disseminated through media, mobile phones, public places, buses, trains and ferries as well as exhibitions and seminars.

He explained that although public awareness was a permanent TCRA agenda, it was crucial to equip Tanzanians with the means to protect

themselves against new cyberspace attack types, tools and techniques.

He added that TCRA strives to give the public information on the safe, secure and positive use of cyberspace, he said. "Promoting digital literacy and cyber security aims at ensuring a safe and secure digital environment."

The campaign follows another TCRA programme promoting the benefits of owning a Tanzania domain name. They include easy access to a website.

It also demonstrates professionalism and provides branding opportunities, users trust and confidence in a business or service. A local domain name also enables an organization to improve its credibility and build a solid client base.

It also coincides with a global cyber security assessment report placing Tanzania among 46 world role models in this area.

Tanzania is the first in East Africa, third in Africa, and is occupies 25th position in world cyber security excellence, according to the 2024 Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI), which has just been released by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in September 2024.



## Employment Opportunity

Pact is an international nonprofit that works in nearly 40 countries building solutions for human development that are evidence-based, data-driven, and owned by the communities we serve. Our vision is thriving, resilient, and engaged communities leading their own development. Founded in 1971, Pact works with partners to build resilience, improve accountability, and strengthen knowledge and skills for sustainable social impact. To learn more about Pact Tanzania, visit: <http://www.pactworld.org/country/tanzania>

We are a recognized global leader in creating social impact. Our staff have a range of expertise in areas including capacity development, public health, governance, civil society, climate change adaptation and mitigation, energy, women's economic empowerment, fragile states, artisanal and small-scale mining communities, monitoring and evaluation, microfinance, and more.

### Project Overview

The Adolescents and Children HIV Incidence Reduction, Empowerment, and Virus Elimination or ACHIEVE is a seven-year (2019-2026) USAID-funded global project whose primary goal is to reach and sustain HIV epidemic control among pregnant and breastfeeding women, adolescents, infants, and children. To reach this goal, ACHIEVE supports Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) and DREAMS service delivery, provides technical assistance to strengthen social welfare systems, and supports capacity development for local partners to sustain services at the community level. In 2023, USAID added global health security to the project's scope of work. ACHIEVE is implemented by Pact in partnership with Jhpiego, Palladium, No Means No Worldwide, and WI-HER. ACHIEVE's countries of implementation include Burundi, the Dominican Republic, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa, South Sudan, Tanzania, and Zambia. To learn more about ACHIEVE, visit [www.pactworld.org/achieve](http://www.pactworld.org/achieve)

In Tanzania, ACHIEVE is a six-year project (October 2020 to December 2026) that works: (1) to improve national- and community-level social welfare systems to sustain support for orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) and families affected by HIV and (2) to strengthen the capacity of local organizations to deliver OVC services and (3) to deliver high-quality OVC services and DREAMS interventions for AGYW 10-14 years.

**Pact Tanzania is looking for enthusiastic, creative, energetic individual to fill the following vacant position for the ACHIEVE Tanzania Project:**

**Position:** Grants Contracts and Compliance Officer, Head Office, (1 position)  
**Contract Duration:** 12 months (Renewable)  
**Reporting to:** Senior Grants and Operational Manager

**Position Purpose:** The Grants, Contracts, and Compliance Officer reports directly to and is supervised by the Senior Grants and Operations Manager. This officer is responsible for the day-to-day management of subgrants and contracts, providing high-level oversight to achieve the goals of the Pact Tanzania project in collaboration with project partners. The range of tasks encompasses all stages from pre-award to close-out, as outlined below. This role requires close collaboration with key units, including Pact Program, Finance, Procurement, Administration, and others, to ensure compliance with USG rules and regulations as well as other donor guidelines.

### Specific Duties

#### Sub-award Administration:

#### Pre-Award Cycle:

- Conduct pre-award assessments to evaluate the responsibilities of prospective grantees using Pact's capacity assessment tools.
- Determine the risk profiles of prospective grantees and recommend appropriate strategies to mitigate the identified risks, including the development of special award conditions.

In addition to conducting pre-award assessments, the Grants, Contracts, and Compliance Officer will also be responsible for the following pre-award tasks:-

- Selecting the appropriate award instrument.
- Performing cost analysis and budget negotiations.
- Preparing negotiation memoranda.
- Completing the submission of award documents for approval by the Country Director, Chief of Party, or Finance Director, through the Senior Grants and Operations Manager.
- Utilizing the Promise and Serenic systems for all key processes.

#### Post-Award Cycle:

- Provide technical assistance to staff and grantees on the following key issues:
  - Pact's grants management policies and procedures
  - Policies and procedures for procurement under subgrants
  - Interpretation of donor regulations and Circulars
  - Preparation of solicitations (RFA, APS)
  - Simplified grants
  - Modifications
  - Grantee monitoring
- To ensure the following documents are maintained by the grantee.
  - Inventory of property in grantees' custody is properly maintained
  - VAT reports of grantees
  - Audit reports of grantees
  - Other deliverables (programmatic and financial) of grantees
- Monitor compliance with special award conditions by grantees.
- Conduct investigations to resolve contractual issues/problems/disputes arising from grants and make recommendations to the Senior Grants & Operations Manager.
- Routinely monitor the maintenance and control of the archive of grants.

- Utilize Promise and Serenic systems for all key processes.

### Compliance

- Enforce compliance with federal, state, and local legal requirements by studying existing and new legislation, enforcing adherence to requirements, and advising the unit on needed actions.
- Provide Support to Grantees to comply with relevant organizational policies.
- Provide Support to Grantees to comply with Cost share policy by ensuring the policy is adhered to and reporting is done.
- Review, analyze, and draft contract language to ensure they comply with all applicable donor, and host government regulations.

### Contract and Consultancy Management

- Review all the contracts (lease, insurance, project contacts) as required by various projects with Pact Tanzania.
- Prepare Consultancy contracts and guide consultancy engagements within Pact Tanzania.
- Performs contract administration activities for selected contracts and assists in the monitoring of contractor's performance, approval of progress payments, verification of deliveries, and similar activities.
- Utilizes price/cost analysis techniques to support the development of cost-related sections of solicitation documents and the analysis of cost and price data, labor, and material costs.
- Supports the extension of periods of performance and contract closeout processes.

### Training and Other Technical Assistance

- Contribute to the development and delivery of training in grants and finance management in the field.
- Contribute to substantive discussions in the Grants Community of Practice.

### Perform All other duties as assigned.

### Required Qualifications

#### Education and experience:

- Bachelor's degree in business administration, Commerce, social science, or related field and 6 years related experience or equivalent combination of education and experience.

#### Additional qualifications:

- At least 6 years of relevant experience in the NGO sector within Tanzania, managing the award and administration of sub-grants funded by the Global Fund, USAID, or other international donors.
- A minimum of 3 years of relevant work experience on USAID-funded projects is required.
- Experience in managing sub-award design and administration.
- Proven experience in donor funds administration.
- Understanding of local contract and procurement law.
- Excellent communication skills in both Kiswahili and English, both verbal and written.
- Knowledge of USAID CFR 200 and other relevant Circulars.
- Familiarity with USAID DATIM financial report preparation is a plus.
- Strong understanding of donor auditing requirements and demonstrated ability to oversee agreements programs.
- Solid knowledge of USAID and other donor regulations applicable to agreements administration.
- Strong analytical skills to effectively perform compliance reviews, financial assessments, and other forms of quantitative analysis.
- Effective written and oral communication skills.
- Highly organized and capable of developing and streamlining systems for the efficient execution of daily tasks.
- Proficiency in word processing, spreadsheets, and database management.
- Ability and willingness to travel.
- A financial background is a plus.

#### Preferred Qualifications:

- Experience assessing the responsibility and grantworthiness of organizations through financial statements, audits, and other documentation presented in a proposal or support of an award.
- Proven capacity to design and deliver a range of training and technical assistance programs to build a full range of capacities for grant management.
- Proficiency in a local language

#### Instructions on How to Apply:

If you believe you are the ideal person we are looking for, please submit your application letter and a Curriculum Vitae online via email describing why you are the right candidate for this position detailing your experience and three (3) professional referees from your previous and current place of employment. Please send the application online (through email: [humanresourcestz@pactworld.org](mailto:humanresourcestz@pactworld.org) identifying the position you are applying for in the subject line). Only the applications sent online will be reviewed.

**The closing date for applications is on Tuesday, October 22, 2024**

**Qualified candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.**

*Pact is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate in its selection and employment practices based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, marital status, disability, genetic information, age, citizenship status, genetic information, matriculation, family responsibilities, personal appearance, credit information, tobacco use (except in the workplace), membership in an employee organization, or other protected classifications or non-merit factors.*

**Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.**

By Zecharias Zelalem

# 'No place to go': As Israel bombs Lebanon, African migrants and domestic labourers feel abandoned

**S**ORETI, an Ethiopian migrant domestic worker living in Lebanon, says she feels lucky to be alive. She was not home when Israeli air strikes struck buildings in her neighbourhood in the southern Lebanese city of Tyre on September 23.

"It was a massacre," the 34-year-old said from a private home where she and dozens of fellow African migrants, including children, are now sheltering. "They just hit apartment buildings where old people and children live. I'm OK, I think I lost some hearing, though. Children here are scared to sleep from nightmares," she said.

Soreti is among an estimated 175,000 to 200,000 foreign domestic workers living in Lebanon, the majority of them women. According to a 2019 Amnesty International report, which cited the Ministry of Labour, at least 75 percent of migrant domestic workers in Lebanon at the time were Ethiopian. They began arriving in the 1980s, and after the end of Lebanon's civil war flocked to the country in droves throughout the 1990s and 2000s. Most take up low-paid jobs as live-in caregivers and send money to their families back home.

Israel, which has been waging a war on Gaza since October last year, escalated its attacks on Lebanon last month. Its military says the offensive is targeting facilities being used by the Lebanese group Hezbollah.

At least 1,900 people have been killed in Israeli attacks on Lebanon in the last year, according to the country's Ministry of Health.

More than one million people have been displaced from their homes, and Soreti said many fellow migrant domestic workers are among them.

"Everybody fled the city towards Beirut or other places where they have relatives. But for migrants, there is no place to go," she said. "There are others sleeping outdoors with nowhere to go."

In Lebanon's third-largest city, Sidon, schools have been converted into makeshift shelters for displaced Lebanese, said Wubayehu Negash, another Ethiopian domestic worker who has lived there for nearly 20 years, and is considering fleeing.

"We haven't been hit too hard yet. Nearby areas, like Nabatieh and Ghazieh were destroyed. We're OK, but I feel uneasy about staying," she said. "I was here since the Israelis attacked in 2006, and this is much worse."

The attacks on Lebanon come several years into a crippling financial crisis that began in 2019 and saw the local currency, the Lebanese pound, lose up to 90 percent of its value. By 2021, three-quarters of Lebanese were living below the poverty line, according to the United Nations.

As the COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated the crisis, thousands of domestic workers lost their jobs. Many Lebanese employers, unable to pay the salaries of their foreign workers, chose to abandon them on the streets outside of their countries' embassies in the capital, Beirut, according to Amnesty. Despite this, many migrants elected to stay in Lebanon, citing a lack of prospects in their home countries.

But with the onset of near-daily exchange of fire between Israel and Hezbollah across Lebanon's southern border for the past year, embassies in Beirut became increasingly pressed with repatriation requests.

The government of the Philippines



A woman from Sudan holds her newborn baby in a temporary shelter for migrants at St Joseph Church in Beirut, Lebanon.

one of the countries many domestic workers arrive from - mobilised and has been repatriating its citizens for much of the year free of charge.

However, the response of African diplomats in Lebanon has been close to absent, according to domestic workers from four African countries.

"It's as if we don't have embassies here," said Sophie Ndong, a migrant domestic worker and Cameroonian community leader in Beirut. "Since the Israelis began bombing Lebanon, I get requests from Cameroonian women for me to help repatriate them. As if I'm the ambassador!" Cameroon only has an honorary consul in Lebanon.

"Over the past few weeks, we've had women flee southern Lebanon and come to Beirut seeking shelter. Others have called me after their employers locked them in their homes, fled the region and left them to die," Ndong said.

"Domestic workers are not viewed as human"

Migrant workers in Lebanon are excluded from protections afforded to workers under the country's national labour law. Instead, their status is regulated by the "kafala" or sponsorship system, which has been likened by human rights researchers to a modern-day form of slavery.

Under the kafala system, migrants cannot seek legal redress for abuses meted out against them, no matter how grave they are. This has led to rampant

abuse of domestic workers over the years, according to Human Rights Watch, and by 2017, Lebanese authorities estimated that two migrant domestic workers were dying weekly, mostly during failed escape attempts or by suicide.

"Unfortunately, domestic workers are not viewed as human beings here," Ndong added. "The racism and abuse we suffer in the workplace knows no bounds. It has been like this for decades and I don't see any signs of improvement."

Under the kafala system, migrant workers often require the intervention of their country's diplomats to escape an abusive employer or to defend themselves in court.

A number of the consular offices of countries domestic workers in Lebanon hail from are not staffed by diplomats but rather "honorary consuls" - often Lebanese citizens working on a part-time or voluntary basis. Previous reports uncovered the neglect and mistreatment of citizens by such honorary consuls.

As the crisis in Lebanon escalated, the honorary consulate of Kenya and the Ethiopian consular offices were using their social media pages to call on citizens to send personal identification documents on WhatsApp to register citizens for eventual potential repatriation.

But with the cancellation of most flights out of the Beirut Rafic Hariri International Airport and the increasing intensity of

Israeli attacks, it is unclear if repatriation flights could be scheduled any time soon.

Kicked out 'for not being Lebanese'

Sandrine\*, a Malagasy national, said she spent two days homeless with nowhere to go after fleeing her home in Beirut's Dahiyeh suburb, which has been devastated by Israeli air strikes.

"[Madagascar's honorary consul] issues messages on Facebook wishing us well, but they don't actually help us," Sandrine said. "I still remember the blast on the day they killed [Hezbollah leader Hassan] Nasrallah. It was the most terrifying sound, like a hundred earthquakes. It reduced everything to ashes."

It's unclear if migrant domestic workers are among the more than 11,000 casualties tallied by Lebanon's Health Ministry, although Sandrine says she is certain that many of them must be, judging by the destruction she witnessed.

Two Ethiopian nationals in the city of Tyre said they were aware of the deaths of two Ethiopian domestic workers who were killed with their employers when their apartment buildings were flattened in air strikes - accounts has yet to independently confirm. Lebanon's Health Ministry is not listing the casualties by nationality.

Sandrine said that for those who survive, finding shelter is a challenge, not only because of the severe shortage of accommodation. In Beirut, many

homes and schools have been converted into public shelters for displaced people, but all have refused her and other migrants access on account of their documentation, she said. Eventually, she managed to find friends to shelter with.

"They said we lacked documentation, but I think the rule is 'Lebanese only'."

North of the country in the city of Tripoli, Selina\*, a Sierra Leonean migrant worker, said that she was among a group of 70 mostly Sierra Leonean migrants and a few from Bangladesh, who were kicked out of a school shelter for not being Lebanese.

"I fled my neighbourhood because we got the warning from the Israelis that they were going to bomb the area. I joined a group of my community members who like me were displaced from different areas and looking for shelter. There were mothers and infants with us."

"We heard there was a shelter at a school in Tripoli, so we boarded a bus from Beirut and made it there. We got to the school between midnight or two in the morning. Nobody really saw us I think. It

was in the morning hours that they noticed we were migrants.

"In the morning, General Security [Lebanese immigration authorities] came and told us that the shelter wasn't for us. They forced us to leave and called us 'ajinabi' (Arabic for "foreigner," or "alien")."

Selina said the group eventually made their way back to Beirut, where they were told by police they weren't welcome on the pavement of the city's downtown area, despite it being flooded with displaced people.

"We spent five days like this sleeping outdoors. There was heavy rain and bombings each night. Still, people kept calling the police on us. Once I tried reasoning with the police, by saying there were babies with us. I broke down crying."

Migrant-run organisations and local Lebanese nonprofits have scrambled to find private homes of kind strangers and churches offering to shelter displaced migrant men, women and children.

So far, major humanitarian agencies, including the UN's International Organization for Migration (IOM), have done little to shoulder the burden and are reaching out to migrant community organisations to tackle the shelter issue, according to three aid workers familiar with the issue. The IOM's office in Beirut is yet to respond to the matter.

"Shelter is a big problem here. There is nothing officially arranged for migrants. If it wasn't for kind individuals, even more would be outside on the street. Winter is coming so it is getting colder here."

Tsigereda also shared footage of what she said was an abandoned construction site in Beirut being used as a shelter by 60 Bangladeshi migrants displaced from areas of the country targeted by bombings and similarly denied access to public shelter space.

The aid worker said she worries that many of the displaced migrants "have anxiety and heart conditions that are worsening because of the air strikes". But small organisations like hers cannot provide much assistance.

"We don't have the means to meet the demand," she said. "We need food, medicine, clothes for displaced and traumatised people."

# RADIO One RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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# BOT: Financial services set to reach 80 percent of Tanzanians by 2028

By Guardian Correspondent

The government, through the Bank of Tanzania (BOT), aims to ensure that integrated financial services reach 80 percent of citizens by the year 2028.

At the launch of Access Tanzania Bank, Deputy Governor of BOT Sauda Kassim Msemo (pictured) stated that currently, financial services have reached 76 percent of the population, while banking services are at 22 percent.

She emphasized that financial inclusion is vital for fostering sustainable economic growth in Tanzania.

"The government continues to create a conducive investment environment. The central bank is committed to ensuring that loans to the private sector, especially in agriculture, are accessible through various sponsors to stimulate investment and enhance our

economy," said Sauda.

She also noted that BOT has eased the conditions for agents providing financial services, aiming to expand access for the majority of Tanzanians.

The rise of mobile banking services has played a crucial role in expanding financial access, especially in rural areas. Mobile money platforms have made it easier for individuals to conduct transactions, save, and access credit.

The Tanzanian government has implemented various strategies to enhance financial inclusion. The National Financial Inclusion Framework aims to ensure that financial services are accessible to all citizens, particularly the underserved segments of the population.

Continued investment in fintech solutions is expected to drive further improvements in financial access. By leveraging technology, financial institutions can offer in-

novative products tailored to the needs of diverse populations.

"In launching Access Tanzania Bank, I encourage you to enhance creativity in your service delivery and focus on digital platforms and technology, as the world is moving in that direction," she added.

Deputy Minister of Information, Communications, and Information Technology Engineer Maryprisca Mahundi, speaking on behalf of the Deputy Minister of Finance Hamad Chande, highlighted that the bank's launch demonstrates the resilience of the Tanzanian economy.

"The government will continue to cooperate with all investors and support their efforts. I urge the bank to ensure that your financial services reach citizens in remote regions," said Maryprisca.

Imani John, the bank's CEO, announced that the bank was established following the acquisition of BancABC Tanzania.



"This marks the beginning of providing better services and boosting the economic growth of our country, while also creating opportunities for businesses and citizens," he said.

He added that plans are in place to ensure services are available in rural areas, thus expanding opportuni-

ties for all citizens. Janeth Lekashingo, a member of the bank's Board of Directors, expressed gratitude to President Samia for fostering a favorable business and investment environment that facilitated the bank's establishment.

# Farmers to benefit from IFC's trade financing facility

By Guardian Reporter

Tanzanians farmers are expected to benefit from the International Finance Corporation (IFC) commodity trade financing facility aimed at supporting pre-export of agricultural commodities in Africa.

IFC, a member of the World Bank Group, and Absa Group Limited, a South Africa based bank, acting through its Corporate and Investment Banking division, will provide a commodity trade finance facility to Singapore-based Valency International Pte Ltd, a key player in Africa's agricultural commodities market, to support the company's pre-export of agricultural commodities in West and East Africa.

Valency has strategic equity investment from British Internationally Investments (BII), the development finance arm of the Government of UK.

The US\$50 million facility will provide Valency with working capital for the purchase of agricultural commodities including cashew nuts, sesame seeds, shea nuts, ginger, and soya beans.

These products will be sourced from Valency's network of an estimated 150,000 smallholder farmers and local traders in Cote d'Ivoire, Nigeria, Ghana, and Tanzania.

An estimated 80 percent of Africa's farmland is managed by smallholder farmers and agriculture is an industry on which they rely for jobs and livelihoods. However, many smallholder farmers lack access to financing.

Funders will each commit US\$25 million to the facility, which will allow Valency, through its procurement activities, to provide much-needed working capital financing to cooperatives and local buying agents to support sourcing from smallholder farmers, which in turn provides the farmers better access to the market.

IFC's investment is part of the Global Warehouse Finance Program envelope of IFC's US \$1 billion Africa Trade and Supply Chain Recovery Initiative, which is supported by the IDA Private Sector Window.

"As one of the largest global investors in agribusiness in Africa, IFC sees a tremendous opportunity to support economic growth and job creation in this critical industry," said Sérgio Pimenta, IFC's Vice President for Africa.

"We are pleased to work with Absa and Valency to help ensure that farmers across the region are better integrated into the marketplace and have the opportunity to grow and thrive."

"IFC and Valency share our strategic vision of supporting Africa's growth and development," said Tshimbi Ntuli, Head of Structured Trade and Commodity Finance for Absa's Regional Operations at Absa Corporate and Investment Banking.

"We believe that partnerships like these are crucial in driving the continent's economic transformation and are excited to collaborate with the IFC and Valency to drive sustainable impact in the African agricultural sector. Together, we are making a meaningful impact on the continent's agricultural sector and the communities we serve."

"Valency is excited to work with partners like IFC and Absa as we continue to develop the West and East Africa agricultural sectors," said Sumit Jain, Valency's Group Chief Executive Officer.

"This facility will enable us to engage more directly with thousands of farmers, further integrating them into the value chain and bringing their produce to more markets."

Given that agriculture employs a significant portion of Africa's population and contributes to a substantial share of GDP, effective trade finance mechanisms are vital for enhancing productivity, improving supply chains, and ensuring food security.



# How African approach to financing models can drive growth, inclusion

By Edwin Obonyo & Alisa Sydow

Defaults have risen in Africa - from Nigeria to Kenya. While it is partly caused by high interest rates and inflation, there is one more component that needs to be discussed: the African view of consumer debt and finance system.

The Western financial model, characterized by widespread use of credit cards and high consumer borrowing, starkly contrasts with African financial behaviour.

For example, in the US - where there is an ingrained culture of credit usage and a robust financial infrastructure supporting consumer debt - there has been high consumer borrowing in 2024.

In Africa, however, the concept of consumer debt is approached with much more caution. Many Africans prefer to avoid debt, reflecting a cultural emphasis on financial prudence and a historical reliance on informal, community-based financial systems.

Traditional financial systems in Africa often do not account for these cultural nuances, leading to a disconnect between financial products and consumer behaviour.

For example, while credit cards are ubiquitous in the West, their uptake in Africa remains limited. This reluctance can be attributed to socio-cultural factors, such as a lack of trust in formal financial institutions and a preference for cash transactions.

While Kenya is known for M-PESA - a mobile money platform used to send and receive cash and make payments - this is more of an outlier than the norm.



Most people, merchants and small businesses have stopped using the mobile money platform and reverted to cash because of the high transaction costs. It is important to note that Africa's economy is predominantly informal.

For instance, many Africans operate within informal economies where trust-based transactions are more common than formal banking. Rotating savings and credit associations (ROSCAs), known locally by various names such as "esusu" in Nigeria or "stokvels" in South Africa or "chama" in Kenya, illustrate this point.

These community-based savings groups rely on social bonds and mutual trust rather than formal contracts. Recognizing and integrating such indigenous financial practices into formal banking systems could significantly enhance financial inclusion. Most people prefer to be in stokvels than banks.

In fact, in South Africa, stokvels are successful despite the harsh economic conditions and seem to be an untapped

opportunity.

A study by Ipsos showed immense potential, with more than 800,000 stokvels in South Africa with a high persistent mistrust of traditional banking institutions, fuelled by perception of high fees and hidden charges. In Kenya the people have preferred chamas to formal banks as a savings and investment vehicle because of the trust within the group.

With these cultural influences in mind, entrepreneurs and innovators should strive to possess a deep understanding of the African communities' needs and challenges. By leveraging this local knowledge, financial products can be designed to be more effective and widely accepted.

One such fintech company trying to adapt to African behaviour is Money Fellows. This Egyptian fintech raised \$31 million in funding in 2022, and CEO Ahmed Wadi was inspired to launch Money Fellows by the prevalent "cash-is-king" behaviour in Egypt and the widespread lack of bank accounts among

Egyptians.

According to Ahmed Wadi, CEO of Money Fellows, "It's a huge market, providing a very big opportunity. ROSCAs are more social, more culturally favourable, and more affordable to many. And the model has been there for hundreds of years and it hasn't died yet. It's still just as common years after the formation of the modern financial system. I think this is where the opportunity comes in, especially if we modernize it and ensure this model is done in a more efficient, more scalable, and more secure way."

This approach demonstrates how a deep understanding of local financial behaviours and challenges can lead to the creation of innovative and relevant financial solutions that resonate with the target market. It represents a fascinating mix between traditional behaviour and digital innovation.

We've demonstrated that financing models based on Western-centric financial products often struggle to gain traction in African communities because they don't align with local realities. Therefore, simply copying and pasting Western business models into the African context isn't the answer. Here's what you should consider instead:

Understanding African behaviour: While ROSCAs are prevalent in countries like Nigeria, South Africa, and Kenya, it's crucial to recognize that Africa is a diverse continent with 54 culturally distinct nations. This diversity means that saving and investment behaviours may vary significantly, so it's essential to approach African markets with a nuanced understanding of these cultural differences.

# Tanzania national debt reaches \$44.8bn

By Guardian Reporter

The Tanzania's national debt stock was US\$44.891.5 billion at the end of August 2024, reflecting a 1.7 percent increase from the stock at the end of the preceding month, the central bank has reported.

Out of the total debt stock, 72.8 percent was external debt. External Debt External debt stock recorded a monthly increase of 2.1 percent, reaching US\$32.675.1 billion at

the end of August 2024.

External loans disbursed during the month amounted to USD 433 million, mainly to the central government, while external debt service totalled US\$30.6 million.

Of this, US\$20.6 million was principal repayment, and the balance was interest payments. The composition of external debt stock by borrower and creditor remained unchanged from the preceding month and the corresponding period in 2023.

External debt owed to the central government and issued by multilateral institutions remained dominant, at 76.9 percent and 53.7 percent, respectively. Similarly, transportation and telecommunications economic activities continued to hold the largest portion of the disbursed outstanding external debt at 21.3 percent, followed by social welfare and education. The outstanding external debt maintained its currency composition, with the US dollar hold-

ing the largest share at 67.9 percent.

Domestic debt stock was 32.7trn/- at the end of August 2024, reflecting a monthly increase of 295bn/- billion from the previous month's stock, driven by new issuance of Treasury bonds.

Treasury bonds continued to dominate the domestic debt portfolio, accounting for 77.7 percent of the stock, while commercial banks and social security schemes remained the primary holders of the govern-

ment's domestic debt.

In August 2024, the Government raised a total of 755.6bn/- from the primary domestic market for budget financing, of which 650.9bn/- was through Treasury bonds and 104.7bn/- was through Treasury bills (Chart 2.6.2).

Debt service payments during the month amounted to 731.2bn/-, consisting of 454.6bn/- in principal repayments and 276.7bn/- in interest payments.

# Rethinking African financial stability reports

By Udaibir Das

Following the Asian and 2008 financial crises, financial stability became the bedrock on which modern market-based financial systems were designed to withstand shocks. This shaped how central banks globally managed systemic risks, with many, especially in advanced economies like the Bank of England and Sveriges Riksbank, beginning to publish financial stability reports. As a policy instrument, the FSR reflected a system's robustness in managing systemic risks and the needed reforms.

Fast-forward to today: 70 central banks across all income levels release reports primarily detailing macroeconomic conditions, systemic risk threats, stress test results and adherence to international standards.

However, adopting an FSR suited for developed financial systems does not cut it for low-income developing countries where the context could not be more different. These countries, with small and shallow financial markets and highly adverse macroeconomic and balance-of-payment conditions are particularly vulnerable to disruptions and drying up of financing, magnifying endogenous

structural weaknesses. Reliance on market mechanisms and private sector agents to adjust to such disruptions or respond to a country's development financing needs is a tall order.

The state of financial systems and their riskiness vastly differs along income lines (Figure 1). Some countries have elevated risk of government debt and banking crises, and most of the countries with a high sovereign-bank nexus - a phenomenon prevalent across all LIDCs - tend to be less ready to manage financial stress and make timely policy interventions.

## The case for rethinking financial stability

The Covid-19 pandemic and the ensuing crises - rising debt, climate change and developmental failures - have pushed LIDC financial systems to their limits. Over 50 conflicts worldwide, many in Africa, have further weakened financial systems by eroding public confidence, disrupting financial flows, diverting money into nonformal channels and uses, and exacerbating fiscal distress.

OMFIF's 2023 Absa Africa Financial Markets Index offers a detailed assessment of the financial market vulnerabilities highlighted in the FSRs. It underscores significant



disparities in financial market development across the continent. In 2023, South Africa and Mauritius led the index in market transparency, liquidity and regulatory frameworks, with scores exceeding 70. These countries benefit from well-developed financial systems that attract foreign investment. However, countries like Ghana, Nigeria and Kenya lag, struggling with limited capital market depth and weak regulatory environments.

Global economic disruptions, including supply chain shocks and exchange rate volatility, have compounded these local vulnerabilities. These pressures prevent LIDC financial systems from facilitating much-needed investment growth and development financing.

## Areas for improvement

Unfortunately, as a policy instrument, many African FSRs mirror templates used in advanced economies, fo-

cus on traditional risks - liquidity, credit and market risks - without addressing the role of finance in long-term growth. These LIDCs require a tailored approach towards financial stability policies, aligned with their local market realities and capacity, which goes beyond systemic risk and prudential management to include fostering long-term and sustainable economic growth. Several key areas are underrepresented in African FSRs, limiting their effectiveness to evaluate the tradeoffs between finance for development and finance as a vehicle for wealth management, unhealthy arbitrage and speculative investment.

For LIDCs, FSRs must sharply and analytically reflect local economic realities and the critical role of finance in growth and development. Recent African FSRs highlight risks such as inflation, fiscal dominance and sovereign debt challenges. But they are unable to offer a clear narrative on how the traditional measures of financial soundness and financial stability are impacting development and growth.

Three actions could help address this shortcoming and provide a more country-specific framework for monitoring the role finance is playing in a country's development.

First, to improve the effectiveness of FSRs, the financial stability construct should be broadened beyond managing risks to include facilitating investment in development infrastructure that supports economic growth and climate resilience. This reorientation would transform FSRs into strategic instruments that guide policy towards ensuring that financial intermediation and risk-taking foster broad-based societal benefits, rather than exacerbating existing income disparities. By expanding their scope, FSRs could play a crucial role in aligning financial stability with sustainable development goals, particularly in emerging and low-income economies.

Second, African FSRs must prioritise financial inclusion. Large segments of the population in LIDCs remain disconnected from formal financial systems, exacerbating economic fragility. Without access to credit, savings and other financial services, marginalised groups - such as microenterprises and rural communities - are excluded, weakening the broader economy. Expanding financial access would not only bolster economic resilience but also cultivate a more robust middle class, which in turn enhances financial stability. To better demonstrate this

impact, FSRs should move beyond descriptive statistics on financial inclusion and incorporate impact indicators that capture the transformative role of finance in these communities.

Third, partnerships and collaboration are critical for building financial resilience. While African economies are deeply interconnected, their financial systems remain fragmented. Most FSRs narrowly focus on domestic risks, often overlooking the potential of regional or continental arrangements - including data sharing, statistics and digitalisation - to enhance the role of finance in driving growth.

Incorporating regional risk assessments in African FSRs could not only help manage external shocks but also enable coordinated cross-border responses, boosting investor confidence and attracting long-term investments to the region.

**Udaibir Das (pictured) is former Assistant Director and Adviser of the Monetary and Capital Markets Department at the International Monetary Fund. He is a Non-Resident Fellow at the National Council of Applied Economic Research and a Senior Non-Resident Adviser at the Bank of England.**

## PPP to drive healthcare innovations in Tanzania

By Correspondent Zuwena Shame

The government believes that Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) are crucial for driving innovation in healthcare, leading to affordable and modern health services nationwide.

This was emphasized by Dr. John Rwegasha, Director of Medical Services and Treatment at Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH), during the three-day MedExpo Tanzania event, which gathered participants from over 20 countries.

Dr. Rwegasha highlighted that innovation in healthcare is essential and can be achieved through PPP, which facilitates shared investment, improved efficiency, and enhanced quality of services.

"We recognize the importance of innovation, especially within PPP frameworks, as

it sharpens healthcare delivery. The health sector faces a dual burden of diseases and resource constraints. We need medical interventions, including advanced health equipment and essential medicines," said Dr. Rwegasha.

He noted that exhibitions like MedExpo Tanzania play a vital role in connecting medical entities globally, thus advancing the Tanzanian government's ambition for universal health coverage and disease prevention.

"I encourage proactive and efficient use of innovations to ensure they positively impact the wellbeing of Tanzanians. The government is committed to making healthcare services affordable and accessible for all through PPP models," he added.

Dr. Rwegasha pointed out that Tanzania has made significant strides in ensuring healthcare

services reach every corner of the country. Learning from the technologies showcased at the exhibition is crucial for improving overall healthcare provision.

He also stated that exhibitors are presenting affordable and accessible innovations in healthcare technologies, which Tanzania can adopt to modernize and enhance its healthcare services.

The government has invested heavily in treating chronic diseases such as heart conditions and kidney transplants, which previously required overseas referrals. Thanks to PPP, these treatments are now available domestically at lower costs.

Duncan Njage, Director of Expogroup East Africa, noted that MedExpo Tanzania provides a platform for sharing the latest medical technologies, including diagnostic tools and

treatment methods. It enables developed countries to showcase innovations while learning from advancements in other nations.

"Even in developed countries, healthcare systems constantly seek to improve efficiency, reduce costs, and enhance patient care. MedExpos allow healthcare providers to discover new technologies and solutions that can improve infrastructure and service delivery," said Njage.

He added that MedExpo brings together professionals from various sectors, including healthcare providers, pharmaceutical companies, researchers, and policymakers, fostering collaboration that can lead to joint ventures, partnerships, and research opportunities. International cooperation can yield breakthroughs that benefit global healthcare systems.

The CBK considers credit growth of 12 to 15 percent to be sufficient to support the healthy growth of the economy.

The high cost of borrowing had discouraged borrowers from tapping loans in an economic setting where demand for products is sluggish, forcing firms to freeze hiring and expansion plans.

The drop in the cost of loans is expected to prompt consumers to take up funds for investments and consumption in the coming months, boosting economic activities.

It could also help banks easily manage the rising stock of non-performing loans that have surged due to expensive credit and Kenya's soft economy.

Analysts at Genghis Capital bet that the sharper cut in the benchmark rate will offer notable relief to borrowers than the marginal 0.25 percent cut in August, and forecasting further reductions into 2025. "In our view, the modest effect of the rate cut on lending rates can be attributed to the fact that the cut was not substantial enough to provide significant relief to borrowers.



## Bank reduces interest rate by record margin

basis points in August to 12.75 percent after the committee said there was scope to ease policy gradually as inflation had fallen below the midpoint of its target range.

Inflation fell to 3.6 percent, its lowest level since December 2012, keeping the cost of living measure within the government's target range of between 2.5 percent and 7.5 percent over the medium term. "The MPC noted that overall inflation has declined further and is expected to remain below the midpoint target range in the near-term, supported by stable food inflation attributable to improved supply from

the ongoing harvests, a stable exchange rate and lower fuel inflation," CBK said in a statement on Tuesday.

"The MPC also noted a sharp deceleration in credit to the private sector, and the slowdown in growth in the second quarter of 2024, and concluded that there was scope for a further easing of the monetary policy stance to support economic activity." Demand for credit slowed to 1.3 percent growth in August compared to an increase of 3.7 percent in July - the lowest since 2017, when Kenya introduced controls on lending rates that dimmed supply for loans.

## EA leaders, experts call for strategic approaches to integrate energy, trade

By Correspondent Mary Kadoke

East African leaders and experts have called for a more strategic approach to integrating the region's trade and energy sectors.

They made this call during the recent East Africa Business Summit held in Dar es Salaam, emphasizing the need for stronger local content, value addition, and financial inclusion to ensure that the benefits of regional projects reach the grassroots level.

One key initiative that highlights both the promise and complexity of regional cooperation is the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP). This 1,443 km pipeline will transport crude oil from Uganda to Tanzania's Tanga port.

Paul Mkanza, Vice Chair of the Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF), underscored the importance of public-private partnerships (PPPs) in financing such significant infrastructure projects.

"EACOP exemplifies what we can achieve through cooperation in sharing energy resources within East Africa. It also demonstrates the potential of collaboration between the private and public sectors in financing large projects," he said.

Mkanza further noted that while EACOP represents a significant advancement in energy integration, the region must focus on enhancing its capacity to process and add value to its resources.

"The time for exporting raw materials is over. Unfortunately, we are still exporting raw crude oil, which means we are missing

the opportunity for local value addition," he added.

Monica Hangi, Trademark Africa's Regional Director for East and Central Africa, expressed concern over the high compliance costs that push many businesses into the informal sector, limiting their access to financial services.

"We have a substantial amount of informal trade due to these high compliance costs. Most affected are women and youth. As we advocate for regional integration, we must address the challenges faced by these groups," she said.

Former Foreign Affairs Minister Liberata Mulamula emphasized the importance of digitization in alleviating trade bottlenecks at the region's borders.

"We are transitioning from a one-stop border post to a two-stop post, but in reality, it feels like we are at a full stop. Trade at our borders is hampered. How do we capture this informal sector and expand financial services for those involved? We need to address these issues to achieve meaningful regional integration," she stated.

John Ulanga, who is currently involved in international trade and economic diplomacy at the Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation Ministry, highlighted the need for a cohesive trade integration strategy.

"We need a clear strategy for the next five years of East African Community (EAC) trade integration. It's not just about trade; it's about infrastructure, digitization, and ensuring that regional cooperation benefits everyone," he said.

# Stakeholders move to discuss the future of TZ's energy investments

By Guardian Reporter

Tanzania is expected to host the energy investments summit, scheduled to be held from 12th to 13th November in Dar es Salaam, which will specifically discuss the future of the country's energy investments.

This landmark event aims to bring together energy industry stakeholders from Tanzania and across the region, offering a platform for networking, knowledge-sharing, and discussions on the future of energy investments in the country.

Co-organized by HBZ International and the Tanzania Association of Oil Marketing Companies (TAOMAC), the summit aligns with Tanzania's emerging status as an energy hub for the region with a growing focus on clean energy solutions and sustainable development.

Endorsed by TANTRADE, and other relevant government institutions, the event marks a significant milestone in the country's energy landscape, as it aims to showcase Tanzania's emerging opportunities for investment in the energy sector.

Herman Zaidin, Managing Director of HBZ International, said, "This is a very timely event for Tanzania as it continues to strategically position itself as a well-optimized energy hub and catapult the region to become a major player in the global energy market. We invite all stakeholders to join us in this hallmark event."

Salim Baabde, Ex-Vice Chairman of the TAOMAC Board of Governors hailed the timing of the summit, stating that it



Herman Zaidin, Managing Director of HBZ International (C), addresses the media on the forthcoming energy investment forum during a press conference held in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday. Right is Raphael Mgaya, Executive Director of TAOMAC and left is Salim Baabde, Ex-Vice Chairman of the TAOMAC Board of Governors. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

has come at an opportune time as the country embraces positive developments in the energy sector.

"The timing of this event could not have been better when the Sixth Phase Government has embarked on the clean energy cooking promotion in the country with the adoption of the National Clean Cooking Strategy (2024-2034). The principal objective of this strategy is to ensure that 80 per cent of Tanzanians use clean cooking solutions by 2034. Tanzania has also witnessed the commissioning of the Julius

Nyerere Hydroelectric Project, with an installed capacity of 2,115 MW. This is an exciting moment for investments in Tanzania's energy sector," said Baabde.

The summit will feature a world-class conference vetted by a specially convened Conference Committee, comprising of a selected group of seasoned industry professionals, including Salim Baabde.

It aims to provide participants with a comprehensive understanding of the current legal and policy landscape in Tanzania's

energy sector and discuss pressing issues that will be deep-dived by industry experts.

Attendees will gain insights into key topics such as investment opportunities, latest project updates, clean energy solutions, deliberations of key industry issues, regulatory frameworks and more. Mr. Raphael Mgaya, Executive Director of TAOMAC, emphasized the importance of the event for energy stakeholders: "It is our pleasure and honour to co-organise this premier event. We believe it will be a good platform for energy stakeholders to network and interact with policymakers, financiers, regulators, suppliers, and investors".

He said participants will be able to understand the existing legal and policy landscape in Tanzania while also learning about the opportunities available in the energy sector.

"Our valued members and other suppliers will have the opportunity to showcase their products and solutions to potential customers, enhancing their brands." He said.

The summit is expected to attract a diverse audience from the local and regional energy sectors, including policymakers, investors, suppliers, and industry leaders.

The event will play a crucial role in fostering collaboration and driving investment in Tanzania's energy industry by providing a forum for these stakeholders to connect and exchange ideas.

# Handeni villagers embrace sustainable wood-fuel production

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon, Tanga

As the government pushes for cleaner energy solutions, environmental stakeholders have launched a new comprehensive program aimed at helping the people of Tanga Region shift away from firewood use.

The initiative promotes sustainable harvesting of wood-fuels from village-conserved forests, enabling local communities to earn income and support development projects.

Hilda Fundi, Good Governance and Advocacy Officer at the Tanzania Community Forest Conservation Network (MJUMITA), made this announcement yesterday during a one-day evaluation workshop on the Integrated Forest Biomass Energy Solutions for Tanzania (IFBEST) project.

The event brought together planning officers, community development officers, agricultural, livestock, and fisheries officers, as well as village leaders and MJUMITA members from Handeni District.

As part of the program, villagers will designate special plots within their village land forest reserves for sustainable wood-fuel production and forest management.

"We have begun by building the capacity of MJUMITA network members and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) on good governance, policies, laws, and regulations governing Community-Based Forest Management (CBFM) and sustainable wood-fuel production," Fundi said.

"This will empower them to advocate for and influence the implementation of CBFM and sustainable wood-fuel production, with support from the European Union."

The European Union has allocated a total of 5.4 bn/- through the Ministry of Finance to facilitate the implementation of the IFBEST project by the Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG) and MJUMITA in Handeni District.

The project's main goal is to encourage the people of Handeni District and other villages to move away from using firewood and engage in sustainable wood-fuel production and forest management within their conserved village forests.

Training sessions have been conducted for individuals with private forests, members of the Village Natural Resources Committee, village leaders, forest advocates, and sustainable timber harvesters. So far, 237 people have received training, 80 of whom are women.

Yibarika Kamele, Handeni District Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries Officer, praised the IFBEST project for arriving at the right time. "We will continue to conserve our existing forests. "We are grateful to the European Union and the Ministry of Finance for providing the funds that will help reduce forest destruction in Tanga Region," he said.

He urged the community to stay involved in forest conservation and see themselves as key stakeholders in the project.

# Cycling tour seeks to support climate action

By Guardian Correspondent

A few days ago, Twende Butiama Cycling Tour, a transformative journey seeking to turn Tanzanian schools green and improve learning environments was initiated.

This initiative aims to make a significant impact on the environment and the lives of many Tanzanians.

For about two weeks, passionate cyclists participating in the Twende Butiama Tour will cover an impressive 1,846 kilometers from Dar es Salaam to Butiama, traversing 12 regions.

Their mission is to improve the lives of over 100,000 people along the way. This initiative honors the legacy of the late Mwalimu Julius Nyerere, focusing on combating ignorance, poverty, and disease through cycling—a sport cherished by Nyerere.

Among the key initiatives of the tour are the planting of 50,000 trees in 23 schools and public spaces, and the donation of over 1,000 desks.

Additionally, medical camps will be set up in four regions, offering health check-ups with specialized medical doctors.

These camps will provide communities with access to consultations, screenings, treatments, and referrals for patients needing special medical attention.

During the flag-off event, Gabriel



Among the key initiatives of the tour are the planting of 50,000 trees in 23 schools and public spaces

Landa, Founder of this cycling initiative expressed the significance of participating in this annual event.

"We are doing this not only to commemorate the late Father of the Nation but also to serve as an important opportunity for physical exercise and staying fit. This tour is about more than just cycling; it's about giving back and honoring Mwalimu's commitment to education, health, and the environment. With every kilometer pedaled, we inspire action for a better Tanzania," Landa said.

Stanbic Bank's Sustainability Manager, Annette Nkini, highlighted their commitment to the tour, stating, "At Stanbic, we support initiatives that drive sustainable devel-

opment. This is why we decided to join hands with Vodacom Tanzania on the Twende Butiama initiative."

She emphasized that this partnership reflects Stanbic's dedication to advancing education, health, and climate action, which are central to their Corporate Social Investment and Sustainability strategies.

Moreover, the bank is extending financial literacy education to students in benefitting schools.

Vodacom Tanzania Foundation Director, Zuweina Farah said; "We believe in creating lasting social impact by empowering people and protecting the planet. Last year, our partnership resulted in planting 6,000 trees, donating 610 desks to 13 schools, and providing free medi-

cal care to over 3,200 people. With more support this year, I'm confident we can achieve even greater impact."

She added that on top of the partnered bank, this year's event has received support from several stakeholders, including Youth of the United Nations Association (YUNA), Kuunda, ABC Impact, DarVelo Cycling and Afroil.

At one of the school handover events in the Coast Region, YUNA's Chairperson, Suzan Sylvester, spoke about the importance of the tour in honoring Mwalimu Nyerere's legacy.

"Mwalimu was a patriot and highly disciplined in matters of the nation. His commitment to health, education, and social equality remains a guiding light for our country. This tour not only honors his memory but also keeps his dreams alive by continuing his mission of fighting ignorance, poverty, and disease," she said.

Sylvester added that YUNA joined hands with corporates because their objectives align with health, education, and environmental initiatives, which directly impact the community.

As part of this year's Twende Butiama Cycling Tour, YUNA has donated 5,000 trees to schools, emphasizing their advocacy for the environment.

BANKING&FINANCE

# WMA encourages correct use of measurement in mining industry

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

GEITA Regional Weights and Measures Agency, acting manager Eva Ikula, has urged stakeholders in the mining sector to use verified scales to ensure the accurate weight of minerals bought and sold.

Speaking at the 7th International Mineral Exhibition held at the EPZA Bombambili grounds in Geita, Ikula emphasized the importance of verified measurements in the mining and other sectors. The WMA's participation aimed to educate the public on the significance of proper measurement practices.

"WMA's role is to ensure that all scales used in trading gems and minerals are verified to measure accurately. We also provide professional advice to stakeholders in this sector," said Ikula.

She further explained that once a scale is verified, a special mark is placed to indicate its approval. "The verified scales are marked with a sticker bearing a seal with the national emblem and the last two digits of the year, for example, '24,' indicating the scale was verified in 2024," she added.

In addition to verifying scales, the WMA conducts surprise inspections in various mining business areas to ensure compliance. "We inspect ten markets here in Geita, including Geita City,

Katoro, Chato, Lwamgasa, Nyarugusu, Mbogwe, Bukombe, Nyang'wale, Mguusu, and Nyakagwe, as well as markets nationwide," Ikula said.

Patrick Charles, a trader at the main gold market in Geita, expressed his gratitude to the government and WMA for their efforts in regulating the mining sector. "I encourage my fellow traders to ensure our scales are verified by WMA. It benefits us by ensuring fair transactions, as required by law," he said.

The WMA has been participating in these exhibitions since 2018, focusing on promoting the correct use of measurements across various sectors, including mining, water, electricity, gas, and agriculture.



Lightness Justine, a measurement officer at WMA Geita Region (L), attends to visitors at the agency's pavilion during the mineral exhibition in Geita. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

## WORLD

# Chinese envoy urges support for Great Lakes region countries to strengthen ties



Fu Cong (center, front), China's permanent representative to the United Nations, speaks at the UN Security Council's high-level open debate on the Palestinian-Israeli issue at the UN headquarters in New York, on April 18, 2024. (PHOTO / XINHUA)

## UNITED NATIONS

THE international community should support the countries in the Great Lakes region to strengthen solidarity and cooperation to build a common future, said Fu Cong, China's permanent representative to the United Nations, on Tuesday.

For some time now, the countries in the Great Lakes region have actively pursued peace, security, and development, giving new impetus to the revitalization of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and the Great Lakes region, Fu said at the UN Security Council briefing on the Great Lakes region.

"At the same time, the region still faces multiple challenges, such as continuing violent conflicts and a prominent humanitarian crisis," he said.

Fu called on regional countries to strengthen dialogue and reconciliation and

stay committed to peaceful coexistence, work together to address challenges and maintain common security, and alleviate the humanitarian crisis and promote common development.

The countries in the Great Lakes region live side by side with common interests and a shared future, said the ambassador, adding that resolving differences through dialogue and consultation and promoting good neighborliness serve the long-term and fundamental interests of all regional countries.

"China reaffirms its support for the efforts of the DRC to safeguard its sovereignty, territorial integrity, and national security, and is ready to continue our positive role to promote peace and stability in the region," he said.

Noting that the countries of the region have made joint efforts to combat armed groups and strengthen border and defense cooperation, while MONUSCO (United Na-

tions Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo) has actively protected civilians, Fu urged all armed groups in the region to follow the spirit of the ceasefire agreement, silence the guns, stop the violence, and maintain the momentum of de-escalation.

"All parties concerned should honor their commitments under the frameworks of the Luanda process and the Nairobi process, and refrain from providing support to any armed group," he said.

The envoy noted that the DRC and Sudan have seen a large concentration of displaced persons, due the protracted conflict, the spread of the mpox epidemic, and the prominent food problem, and called on the international community, especially developed countries, to hon-

or their aid commitments and close the humanitarian emergency funding gap as soon as possible, in order to help more refugees return home.

He also called on the international community to support regional countries in their legitimate exploitation of natural resources to continue to improve their people's livelihood, and increase technology transfer and application to enhance the independent development capacity of regional countries, so as to eliminate the breeding ground for recurrent conflicts.

As a strong supporter and companion of Africa on its road to modernization, China is ready to work with the international community to contribute more to the lasting peace, development, and prosperity in the Great Lakes region, Fu said.

Xinhua

# Baker, Hassabis, Jumper win 2024 Nobel Prize in Chemistry

## STOCKHOLM

SCIENTISTS David Baker, Demis Hassabis and John Jumper won the 2024 Nobel Prize in Chemistry, the award-giving body said on Wednesday, for work on the structure of proteins.

The prize, widely regarded as among the most prestigious in the scientific world, is awarded by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences and is worth 11 million Swedish crowns (\$1.1 million).

Half the prize was awarded to Baker "for computational protein design" while the other half was shared by Hassabis and Jumper "for protein structure prediction", the academy said.

The third award to be handed out every year, the chemistry prize follows those for medicine and physics announced earlier this week.

The Nobel prizes were estab-



Chair of the Nobel Prize Committee for Chemistry Heiner Linke, Secretary General of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences Hans Ellegren and Member of the Nobel Prize Committee for Chemistry Johan Aqvist announce the laureates of the 2024 Nobel Prize in Chemistry, (on screen left to right) David Baker, Demis Hassabis and John M. Jumper, at the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences in Stockholm, Sweden, Oct 9, 2024. AFP

lished in the will of dynamite inventor and wealthy businessman Alfred Nobel and are awarded to "those who, during the preceding year, shall have

conferred the greatest benefit to humankind".

First handed out in 1901, 15 years after Nobel's death, it is awarded for achievements in

medicine, physics, chemistry, literature and peace. Recipients in each category share the prize sum that has been adjusted over the years.

The economics prize is a later addition funded by the Swedish central bank.

Chemistry, close to Alfred Nobel's heart and the discipline most applicable to his own work as an inventor, may not always be the most headline-grabbing of the prizes, but past recipients include scientific greats such as radioactivity pioneers Ernest Rutherford and Marie Curie.

Last year's chemistry award went to Moungi Bawendi, Louis Brus and Aleksey Ekimov for their discovery of tiny clusters of atoms known as quantum dots, widely used today to create colors in flat screens, light emitting diode (LED) lamps and devices that help surgeons see blood vessels in tumors.

Alongside the cash prize, the winners will be presented a medal by the Swedish king on Dec 10, followed by a lavish banquet in Stockholm city hall.

# Congress wants to divide Hindus for political gains - PM Modi

## NEW DELHI

A day after securing a historic win in Haryana Assembly elections, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday lambasted the Congress party, accusing them of dividing the Hindu society for political gains. The Prime Minister laid the foundation stone of various development proj-

ects in Maharashtra worth over Rs 7600 crore virtually on Wednesday.

While addressing the event virtually, PM Modi said, "Just yesterday, the election results of Haryana and Jammu & Kashmir were declared. Haryana has told what the mood of the country is. It is historic to be elected for the third consecutive time after completing two terms."

"The policy of Congress is to make one caste of Hindus fight against another caste. Congress knows that the more Hindus get divided, the more it will benefit.

Congress wants to keep the Hindu society on fire by any means to make political gains out of it. Wherever elections are held in India, Congress applies this formula," he added.

PM Modi also claimed the Congress party attempted to mislead the public of all sections including Dalits, farmers, youth, but their efforts were thwarted.

"The entire ecosystem of Congress and the entire gang of urban Naxals were busy misleading the public. But all the conspiracies of Congress were ruined.

ANI

# EU-Morocco partnership: Growing support from European countries against ECJ ruling continues

## RABAT

MORE countries have joined the growing list of European Union member states denouncing the biased ruling of the European Court of Justice (ECJ), which targets the EU-Morocco partnership agreements related to fisheries and agricultural trade.

On Saturday, Portugal emphasized the importance of the EU-Morocco partnership, describing it as "essential," and reaffirmed its willingness to work with European partners to deepen it in all areas.

"Portugal considers the partnership between the European Union and Morocco to be essential and will work with European partners and EU institutions to deepen it in all areas," the Portuguese Foreign Ministry stated.

Both countries maintain a strategic partnership marked by a "long-standing relationship of respect and friendship with significant political, diplomatic, and economic substance," the statement concluded.

Several countries, including the Netherlands, Belgium, France and Finland, echoed the same sentiment.

On Saturday, the Netherlands said that it is committed to its strategic partnership between the EU and Morocco.

"We reaffirm our firm commitment to the EU-Morocco strategic partnership," the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs said, noting the country's support for the joint statement by the President of the EU Commission and the High Representative of the EU regarding the European court's ruling.

On Friday, the court issued a biased ruling aligning with Polisario and pro-Polisario campaigns, targeting Morocco's territorial integrity and sovereignty over its southern provinces in Western Sahara.

The ECJ ruled that the EU Commission "violated the right to self-determination of the people of Western Sahara" by concluding trade agreements with Morocco that included products from Morocco's southern provinces.

In response to the ruling, the European Union backed its partnership with Morocco, noting that it is committed to its long-standing, strategic, and mutually beneficial relationship with Rabat.

"The EU reiterates the high value it attaches to its strategic partnership with Morocco, which is long-standing, wide-ranging, and deep," the statement said.

Morocco also responded to ECJ's verdict, noting that the North African country is consistent in its position that it will not agree to any agreement or legal instrument that does not respect its territorial integrity. The country added that it does not consider the ECJ's ruling as relevant or important for its agricultural or fisheries agreements with the EU.

"The content of this decision contains obvious legal errors and suspicious factual mistakes," the ministry stated, arguing that this indicates a complete misunderstanding of the case's realities "if not a blatant political bias."

Agencies

# Russian embassy slams US vice president's remarks about Putin as outrageous

## WASHINGTON

US Vice President Kamala Harris's recent remarks about Russian President Vladimir Putin are outrageous, the Russian embassy in Washington said in a statement.

"The recent unacceptable statements made by US Vice President Kamala Harris towards Russian President Vladimir Putin are outrageous. However, we have to admit that such a boorish language has become a habit among the current so-called American statesmen," the statement reads. "It only shows the frustration and impotence of the ruling circles in Washington. Due to their inability to deal with the Russian Federation and inflicting 'a strategic defeat,' their speech apparatus channels anger and offensive rhetoric," the embassy pointed out.

"The US authorities should come to terms with the fact that Russia is pursuing a policy based on its national interests. Such US escapades insult the entire Russian people, who demonstrate unwavering unity around the leader of our country," the statement notes.

In an earlier interview with the SiriusXM radio station, Harris commented on the allegations that US journalist Bob Woodward made in his book, saying that ex-US President Donald Trump had secretly sent coronavirus tests to Putin during the pandemic. Harris criticized the move and made offensive remarks about the Russian leader.

# Autonomous driving technology makes freight services more intelligent

AUTONOMOUS freight transport is making rapid progress in China as the country continuously improves relevant policies and standards and strengthens pilot and demonstration projects.

Leveraging pilot applications of intelligent transport, China is putting autonomous driving technologies into trial use on a larger scale, focusing on typical freight transport scenarios including road freight, delivery, intra-park transport and port freight services.

Statistics indicate that as of the end of 2023, around 1,000 autonomous driving trucks had been put into operation by over 100 entities joining pilot projects for intelligent transportation applications, and autonomous driving container trucks had been employed at some 20 ports.

On a morning, a red heavy-duty truck, about 16 meters long, was running steadily on the Shanghai-Nanjing Expressway. After passing a toll gate in Suzhou, east China's Jiangsu province, the driver Sun Yefu activated an intelligent pilot mode. Henceforward, all he needed to do was to sit on the driver's seat and watch, as the truck would automatically drive, avoid obstacles or switch lanes according to actual traffic.

"The driver's compartment of the heavy-duty truck is equipped with multiple types of sensors, including millimeter wave radars, laser radars and high-definition cameras. They serve as the 'eyes' of the truck that enable it to see traffic hundreds of meters ahead," said Cui Dixiao, chief scientist of Smarttruck, a developer of autonomous driving solutions headquartered in Suzhou.

According to Cui, the heavy-duty truck's multi-sensing capabilities allow it to be resilient even in heavy rain and fog. It can detect traffic congestion in advance and adjust its speed accordingly, ensuring a steady drive while saving fuel.

Last year, in collaboration with Chinese automaker JAC Group, Smarttruck tailored an intelligent heavy-duty truck model for the courier industry. So far, the model has been employed by logistics companies in the Yangtze River delta, Pearl River delta and Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei region. No accident has been reported, and the model saves as much as 10 percent of fuel.

At the Nantong port in east China's Jiangsu province, five autonomous driving container trucks were working in an orderly manner in an enclosed operation area. They drove

to a designated spot along a planned route and docked with a gantry crane. Later, the crane lifted containers and put them on the trucks' trailers.

It is the first fleet of autonomous driving container trucks in Jiangsu province. "In the past, it took a lot of time and energy for drivers to get this job done, but now, with the intelligent trucks, the error can be controlled within five centimeters," said Jiang Haozhou, an employee at the port.

Jiang said that with technological advancements, the emergence of truly unmanned and intelligent transport equipment has become possible. Not only are they more flexible and intelligent, but they also do not require infrastructure modifications at the docks, which makes them suitable for over 95 percent of traditional docks across China. This upgrade in freight transportation methods will

elevate the industry to a new level.

On an open road in the Wuxi New District Free Trade Zone, Jiangsu province, a modified autonomous logistics vehicle was carrying 10 tons of raw materials and components, on its way from a bonded warehouse of Jianguo JD-Link International Logistics Co., Ltd. to a warehouse of a U.S.-funded enterprise in the free trade zone.

Safety inspector Xu Hongming told People's Daily that guided by high-definition maps and an intelligent driving system, the vehicle could automatically start, accelerate, switch lanes, and park. Since the vehicle was put into use last September, there has been no chance that Xu needs to intervene in the truck's operation.

After the vehicle entered its destination warehouse, it parked in front of a platform 1.3 meters above the ground. A self-driving forklift directly

entered the cargo tank, unloaded the cargo, and moved it onto a conveyor belt. The automated conveyor belt then sorted the cargo and placed it on a shelf.

Qian Shaohua, head of an innovation research institute of Jiangsu JD-Link International Logistics Co., Ltd., told People's Daily that the route in this scenario is simple and fixed, making it ideal for autonomous driving.

This technology enables 24/7 real-time response for precise deliveries, facilitating seamless integration and deep collaboration between the logistics and manufacturing industries. It enables small-batch, high-frequency, and customized flexible production, which is shaping the future of manufacturing as it continues to transform and upgrade, Qian added

People's Daily.



## New EU sanctions against Russia to remain in effect until October 9, 2025 – document

BRUSSELS

THE new mechanism of restrictive measures against Russia the EU Council adopted on Tuesday will remain in effect until October 9, 2025, according to a resolution published in the Official Journal of the EU.

"This Decision shall apply until 9 October 2025," the document says.

At present, although some mechanisms of the EU are approved for one year, the main sanction measures against Russia in the EU are revised every six months.

On September 13, The Financial Times reported that the permanent representatives of the EU countries will consider the possibility of extending anti-Russian sanctions less frequently than every six months, and their term may be extended to three years.

As the publication explained, this is due to the demands of the United States, which is ready to participate in providing a loan to Kiev in the amount of \$50 billion at the expense of income from Russian assets as part of the G7, if it receives guarantees that these funds will not be released in the near future.

On October 8, the EU Council adopted a new mechanism of restrictive measures that will be aimed to battle certain "destabilizing activities" of Russia abroad.

Decisions on what is regarded "hybrid activities" and "interference" will be taken exclusively by the EU Council, on the proposal of EU members or its foreign policy service.

In turn, European Union High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy,

Josep Borrell, issued a separate statement in connection with the approval of the new sanctions mechanism, where he provided a list of "hybrid threats" that Brussels accuses Russia of in relation to EU and NATO countries today including "cyber-attacks, information manipulation and interference campaigns, cases of arson, vandalism and sabotage, including against our critical infrastructure as well as, instrumentalization of migration and other disruptive actions." Borrell also believes that Russia "continue to disrupt satellite communications, violate European airspace and conduct attacks physical attacks against individuals on the territory of the EU."

Agencies

## Africa's largest gold mine probes significant new discoveries

KINSHASA

VERY significant near-mine discoveries within trucking distance of the plant are poised to keep growing Kibali, Africa's largest gold mine, well into the future, says Barrick president and chief executive Mark Bristow.

The company is also consolidating new prospective grounds for both gold and copper to expand its footprint in the DRC.

Speaking to media and local stakeholders here, Bristow said the newly defined ARK target located four kilometers from the processing plant had the potential to deliver, through additional exploration, a high-grade multi-million-ounce orebody. This, in addition to the KCD down-dip extensions, support Kibali's ability to continue replacing reserves depleted by mining with high-quality ounces going forward. The mine is currently on track to meet its production and cost guidance for the year and remains one of the most cost-efficient producers on the continent.

Bristow noted that Kibali was a frontier mine which over 15 years had catalyzed and promoted the growth of a thriving regional economy in the country's remote North East region. This continues to be driven by its multi-stakeholder model

of partnering with local businesses and communities. To date, it has spent \$2.87 billion with local contractors and suppliers.

Kibali is currently collaborating with the government on a series of initiatives aimed at further enhancing its local content initiatives in the region which will benefit more than 500 local companies. In addition, 41 of the 44 projects targeted under Kibali's community development fund have been completed while nine of the 14 projects supported by the mine's Cahier des Charges initiative are nearing completion.

The mine's commitment to biodiversity preservation is set for its next stage as it fine-tunes plans to add 64 white rhinos to the 16 successfully relocated to Garamba National Park last year.

Kibali continues to contribute to the Barrick group's emissions reduction roadmap. When the commissioning of its new 16-megawatt solar plant and battery energy storage system, which augments its three hydropower stations, is completed, its renewable energy penetration will increase from 79% to 85% and for six months of the year its energy use will be entirely renewable.

Agencies

## Israel vows to hunt every terrorist; says October 7 will never happen again

JERUSALEM

ISRAEL'S Foreign Ministry deputy spokesperson Alex Gandler vowed that Israel will hunt every terrorist and October 7 will "never happen again" for Israelis.

In an interview with ANI, Gandler said that the people of Israel have a "very long and rich history and they learn from mistakes and asserted that the "mistake will never happen again."

When asked about the direct message to Hezbollah and other terrorists, he responded, "Well, I think our direct message is quite clear with our soldiers at the front, we're going to hunt every terrorist. The 7th of October for Israelis will never happen again. It is a huge lesson for us. But, we're people with a very long and rich history, and we learn from our mistakes. This mistake will never happen again, not because of these people."

The conflict in Gaza started after Hamas attacked Israel on October 7. About 2,500 terrorists breached the border into Israel from the Gaza Strip, leading to casualties and the seizure of hostages. Following the October 7 attack, Israel launched a counter-offensive against Hamas, vowing to eliminate the entire terror group while making efforts to minimize civilian casualties.

He said that there is nothing that they can talk about right now as Israel is at war on multiple fronts. He stated that Israel has to achieve its strategic goals for any peace to be talked about.

Asked if he believes a two-state solution is viable, Alex Gandler said, "Well, the two-state solution is something that I don't think was ever off the table, but it's something that we'll need to revisit once this is done, because at the moment there is nothing really that we can talk about. We're in a war. We're in war on multiple fronts, on seven fronts. We

have to achieve our strategic goals in order for any peace to be talked about. At the end of the day, as I told you, on October 6th that's where we were, we were in peace. We were in a state where there was no war. We want to go back to that state. We want to go back to a state where our children and their children can live in peace. So I don't think there's anything off the table at any time."

"But, the right conditions need to be there in order for the leaders to speak to each other. That's how we've done it. You know, a couple of years ago, four or five years ago when I would tell you that Israel and the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain and Morocco will have a peace agreement, I don't think anyone would have believed it and we've done it. Peace is possible everywhere, same thing with other countries in the region, there were conversations regarding Saudi Arabia just before October 7th. Everything is possible, everything for us is possible at the end of the day Israel seeks peace. We understand that only through peace will we have an end of war," he added.

Israel's Foreign Ministry deputy spokesperson said that there have not been any talks for the past several weeks. He noted that Hamas' leader Yahya Sinwar had contacted mediators once again yesterday.

Asked whether there have been talks to bring back Israeli hostages, Alex Gandler said, "Unfortunately, for the last several weeks, we haven't seen any talks. Just yesterday, we've heard that the terrorist leader of Hamas, Yahya Sinwar, had contacted the mediators once again. But, there weren't any talks for the last several weeks, since Israel decided to stop Hezbollah in Lebanon, Sinwar has disappeared. Probably, he understands that what happened to Hassan Nasrallah, the Hezbollah terrorists might happen to him." ANI

# ZOOM AFRICA: Why mobile payment is booming in Africa

NAIROBI/BEIJING

ON the bustling streets of Nairobi, the green glow of the M-Pesa (a mobile money platform) logo is inescapable, from high-end hotels to street vendors. In some tourist hotspots, signs declaring "No Cash" highlight a striking shift: over 90 percent of adults in the East African country now use mobile payments.

Across Africa, digital payments are booming, with 17 percent of consumers using them daily and nearly half at least weekly in 2023. The rise of mobile money has reshaped business and daily lives alike, where smartphones are the new wallets.

What has contributed to the rapid development and widespread adoption of mobile payments in Africa?

### ACCESSIBLE & COST-EFFECTIVE

The number of digital payment users in Sub-Saharan Africa increased by 191 million between 2014 and 2021, according to the World Bank. In 2022, McKinsey estimated Africa's digital payments market would grow by 152 percent from 2020 to 2025.

What are some of the favorable conditions that led to the rapid adoption of digital payment in Africa? Firstly, the number of smartphone users is rapidly increasing among a young and urbanizing population, creating a solid foundation for digital payments.

Secondly, digital payments are more convenient and efficient compared to traditional financial services which are often too expensive and not accessible in some areas. Moreover, the rapid expansion of mobile Internet coverage supports the widespread adoption of digital payments across the continent.

For many Africans, owning a phone is easier than having a bank account. Thus, mobile payment, with its very low access threshold, has become the preferred payment method.

This payment method is fast, convenient, and cost-effective, especially for cross-border transfers.

It is estimated that the average fee for a 200-U.S.-dollar mobile payment transfer is only 2.77 percent, significantly lower than the 6.09 percent for traditional payment methods. According to data obtained by dLocal, an international payment platform, the number of registered mobile payment accounts worldwide exceeded 1.75 billion by the end of 2023, with over 156 companies operating in this sector in sub-Saharan Africa.

### MOBILE MONEY

Mobile money is the leading and most dynamic form of digital payment in Africa. Africa remains the region with the largest and fastest growth in the global mobile money sector, according to The State of the Industry Report on Mobile Money 2024 released by GSMA, an international mobile operator association.

## China builds world's largest healthcare service system

HEALTH is closely tied to the well-being of every household and is essential for the future of a nation. In recent years, China's healthcare system has seen remarkable strides toward high-quality development.

China has expanded high-quality medical resources to the primary level, ensuring that residents have access to nearby medical services. The country has established 13 national medical centers specializing in different fields and 125 regional medical centers in 29 provincial-level regions. This has led to a more balanced distribution of medical resources to better serve the public.

So far, 92 percent of the county-level hospitals across the country have met the standards for Grade-II hospitals in terms of medical service capacity. By the end of August this year, 90.9 percent of counties in China had sent staff members from county-level hospitals to township health centers.

Besides, China has pushed for coordinated reforms in medical services, medical insurance and pharmaceuticals.

The country has stopped the practice of raising prices of medicines and medical supplies to make up for low medical service costs since 2012. It has introduced a new system centered around medical services. Chinese public hospitals are now only funded by government allocations and medical service fees, highlighting the non-profit nature of medical services.



A visitor learns about China Mobile's services during the Africa Tech Summit in Nairobi, Kenya, Feb. 15, 2023. Xinhua

In 2023, the number of mobile money accounts in Africa reached 856 million, accounting for 49 percent of registered accounts worldwide, and 136 million new accounts were opened, representing over 70 percent of total global growth.

M-Pesa in Kenya is a representative case. As one of the largest mobile money platforms in Africa, M-Pesa has made Kenya a leader in financial inclusion in sub-Saharan Africa. According to data from the Communications Authority of Kenya, by March 2024, the number of mobile money users in Kenya reached 38.7 million, representing 75 percent of the total population. Among them, M-Pesa held a market share of 94.9 percent.

M-Pesa, which means "mobile money" in Swahili, was officially launched by Kenya's telecommunications company Safaricom in 2007. Since 2012, Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd. has been a partner of the telecom operator to provide technical solutions, assist in system upgrades, and bring new products and services to Africa.

With a simple mobile phone, without an Internet connection or bank card, users can make transfers, payments, and purchases simply through SMS messages. This convenient payment method is very popular locally and has evolved into an integrated platform offering various financial services such as deposits, transfers, payments, loans, and financial management. It has expanded into seven African countries, becoming a leading service for mobile payment on the continent.

Mobile payment applications like M-Pesa are widespread in Africa. Nigeria, the most populous country in Africa with a population of over 200 million with a median age of 18.1 years, saw nearly 80 percent of real-time payment transactions conducted via mobile phones in 2020, according to local media.

In South Africa, logos of mobile payment platforms like SnapScan and Zapper

can be found everywhere in restaurants, hotels, parking lots, and shopping malls.

### CHINA-AFRICA COOPERATION

In early October, PalmPay, one of the emerging digital payment platforms in Nigeria, launched a new USSD code function that allows users without smartphones or those facing Internet connectivity issues to access its services.

Chika Nwosu, the managing director of PalmPay, said that more Nigerians are embracing digital payment since the last cashless policy implementation of the Central Bank of Nigeria, according to a local media report in May.

The young Nigerian mobile payment company, funded by Chinese investors, is one of the promising stories of China-Africa's private sector partnership. The number of active PalmPay users has increased fivefold over the past year, reaching 25 million, and the company plans to expand its cross-border operations from Ghana to Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania.

Nigerians can manage about 80 percent of their financial lives through the PalmPay app on their phone, said Nwosu, adding that by early next year, new features are expected to push the number towards 100 percent.

The success of PalmPay is partly attributed to its constant service innovation. It has so far developed features to allow users to pay energy bills, recharge phone accounts, purchase products and services, conduct bank transfers, and borrow and receive funds, among others.

Africa has seen more domestically grown digital payment solutions like M-Pesa and PalmPay, which drive the continent's digital transition and economic development with locally tailored innovations, boosted by South-South cooperation, unleashing the development potential of digital technologies.

Xinhua

a high-quality and efficient TCM service system. The country has advanced the construction of national TCM service centers, established 27 regional TCM medical centers, and designated 1,158 national-level TCM specialty departments. These initiatives have expanded the accessibility to quality medical resources and ensured a more balanced resource distribution.

Additionally, China has supported the development of 130 city-level hospitals with TCM specialties, and over 1,000 county-level hospitals have been encouraged to set up two advantageous TCM departments and one promotional center for TCM technique.

The China Center for Evidence Based Traditional Chinese Medicine has become part of the International Traditional Medicine Clinical Trial Registry (ITMCTR), which is recognized as a primary registry of the World Health Organization (WHO) and contributes data to the WHO International Clinical Trials Registry Platform (ICTRP). The center has released a series of treatments, techniques, and highly effective herbal medicines for diseases where TCM has advantages.

In terms of talent development, China has implemented a national training initiative for TCM specialists. The number of licensed TCM practitioners in the country had reached 868,000 by the end of last year.

To effectively prevent and manage infectious disease outbreaks, China has developed a comprehensive infectious disease monitoring and early warning system.

In recent years, the country has established 10 monitoring systems for various infectious diseases and initiated monitoring of 15 common respiratory pathogens, providing vital support for clinical treatment and epidemic control.

China is also developing an infectious disease monitoring and emergency command information platform, installing intelligent monitoring and early warning software in Grade-II and higher-level medical institutions nationwide.

So far, China has established an advanced pathogen detection system that can identify over 300 known pathogens within 24 hours and effectively recognize new pathogens within 60 hours.

Twenty-three provinces across the country have built biosafety level-3 (BSL-3) laboratories, and all provincial-level and 90 percent of city-level disease control centers have the capability to detect and isolate viruses.

By the end of this year, the number of Chinese national emergency response teams for acute infectious diseases will increase to 25, and all cities and counties in China will have infectious disease response units at the primary level.

People's Daily



Lisa Marie Presley and Michael Jackson. Agencies

## Lisa Marie Presley describes day Elvis died in posthumous memoir

By Nada Tawfik

WHEN Elvis Presley's only child, Lisa Marie, died aged 54 last year she left behind an intimate request: for daughter Riley Keough to finish off her memoir based on recorded tapes and their time together.

On the day of the book's release, the BBC met with Keough in New York to discuss *From Here to the Great Unknown*, a life story filled with trauma, addiction, loss and grief.

"It made me emotional that she was sharing it with the world because it was a story that she felt very protective of," Keough, a soft-spoken 35-year-old actress, said on Tuesday.

In the memoir, Lisa Marie Presley details the toll that her legendary dad's death - when she was just nine - took on her.

For the first time, she describes waking up on the afternoon that he died in August 1977 and sensing something was wrong, before running into her father's room across the hallway and seeing him facedown on the bathroom floor.

His body was displayed in an open casket at Graceland for two days. After the crowds left, Lisa Marie Presley would go and "touch his face and hold his hand, to talk to him".

"There have been nights as an adult when I would just get drunk and listen to his music and sit there and cry. The grief still comes. It's still just there," she says.

It is an event that Keough believes her mother never fully processed.

She told the BBC that she felt angry at her famous grandfather as a child because she associated his songs with seeing her mother in pain, even so many years after his death.

### \*Her son's death

While there are also memories of tender, private moments at Graceland, tragedy is a constant theme in the story.

The death of Lisa Marie Presley's son, Ben Keough, who took his own life in July 2020 at the age of 27, led to such intense grief that his body was kept in the family home on dry ice for two months before finally being buried.

"Ben was the love of mom's life" and they "shared a very deep soul bond," Keough writes about her brother.

She told the BBC that having more time with his body helped her mother to "get her thoughts together".

"I think that it's pretty common in the way that we handle death in the Western world to [keep it] very quick and there's not really a grieving process," she said. "The body is taken away and the doors are shut and you don't see anything. It's not the way that it's done so much in other places."

Presley's health went downhill following her son's death and burial. Keough writes in the book that she believed her mother was going to ultimately die of a broken heart.

\*Michael Jackson's Vegas proposal

Presley first met pop icon Michael Jackson when she was six years old. Her father was performing at the Hilton in Las Vegas and the Jackson 5 were performing nearby.

They met again in 1993 when she was 25 and hit it off, she says in the book. They worked out a secret phone call routine and began meeting regularly.

During an eight-day trip to Las Vegas, she would go to his room each night and they would stay up talking and watching movies. "Nothing happened physically but the connection was so

insanely strong. No one had ever seen that side of him," she says.

On the final night, he turned off the lights in the hotel room and proposed. "And in the darkness Michael said, 'I don't know if you've noticed, but I'm completely in love with you. I want us to get married and for you to have my children'."

Lisa Marie agreed and they married in 1994. It was her second marriage, having divorced from Keough's father, Danny.

But the couple often fought over Jackson's suspected drug use, Presley writes. He became secretive and "awful", and disappeared for days - behaviours that she recognised from her father.

"It was very passionate and kind of just went up in flames. I know they both cared for each other very deeply, and there were a lot of things at play," Keough said.

### \*Nicolas Cage gets fleeting mention

Presley's short-lived and tumultuous third marriage, which was to actor Nicolas Cage, lasted only 108 days. That's reflected in the book, with no direct mention of the American actor in the tapes.

Keough writes that she "doesn't know if they were truly in love, though she said they were".

She recalls that Cage would bring her mother diamonds and every time he showed up it would be in a different coloured car, usually a Lamborghini.

Cage said in a 2003 interview "sometimes I wish we couldn't have rushed the marriage and sometimes I regret rushing the divorce".

### \*Seeking stability in England

Presley moved to England for "her last shot at stability" with her fourth husband Michael Lockwood, Keough says.

She bought a historic property in Rotherfield and took up gardening, cooking and also enjoyed having tea by the fireplace.

The first couple of years of a "sweet little life in the countryside" were "magical", she writes, but overall the move turned out to be unhealthy for her.

She was distanced from her friends, the loneliness and isolation took a toll and her drug use increased.

Lisa Marie only had two friends cited during the period: the late English guitarist Jeff Beck and the former Duchess of York Sarah Ferguson who shared a moving tribute at her funeral.

### \*Unanswered questions

The book doesn't fully tackle the reported rifts between Presley and her mother, Priscilla Presley, but it is clear they had a difficult relationship.

"I was a pain in her ass immediately and I always felt she didn't want me," Presley says in the opening chapter.

It also doesn't touch on the family's financial difficulties, including high-profile battles over the Graceland estate.

However, Keough told the BBC she hopes readers will come away with an ability to relate to "very human things that happen, like addiction and grief and love and mothers and daughters and family".

"I'm aware that there's a lot of tragedy in the book, but I think that all of us had a really wonderfully joyful, colourful, funny, crazy life as well," she said. "I'm just grateful to be here."

BBC

## Coastal Union in talks to appoint Robert Matano as new coach

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi &amp; Agencies

COASTAL Union are reportedly in negotiations with Sofapaka FC's head coach, Robert Matano, to take over as their new gaffer. This comes after the dismissal of David Ouma last month, with Joseph Lazaro currently serving as interim coach for the Tanga-based club.

Sofapaka FC president, Elly Kalekwa, has acknowledged the possibility of losing Matano (pictured) to Coastal Union, just three months after the experienced coach joined Sofapaka following his departure from Tusker FC.

The Kenyan tactician, who has overseen a difficult start to Sofapaka's season with three losses and one draw from the first four matches, is now being considered for a move to Tanzania.

Speculation about Matano's potential move intensified last week, with reports suggesting that he is being targeted to replace Kenyan coach Ouma, who was dismissed by Coastal Union in August.

Ouma's sacking came just two days before Coastal Union's crucial CAF Confederation Cup return match against Angola's Bravos Do Maquis, following a disappointing 3-0 defeat in the first leg of the tournament.



Despite Matano denying the rumours, Kalekwa confirmed that discussions between the coach and Coastal Union have indeed taken place, and Sofapaka are fully aware of the situation.

"Coastal Union approached Robert (Matano) and invited him for negotiations. They've been interested in him for quite some time, and I'm not one to stand in the way of someone looking to advance their career," Kalekwa said.

He also mentioned that Matano had travelled to Tanzania for discussions and was awaiting a final decision on whether he would stay with Sofapaka or join Coastal Union.

"I'm waiting for Matano to return and update us on the outcome of the talks. I have no issue releasing him if Coastal Union offer him a contract,

but nothing has been finalized as of now," Kalekwa explained.

The Sofapaka president also addressed the matter of finding a replacement, stating that they would not consider new candidates until Matano's departure is confirmed.

"As of now, Matano remains the Sofapaka coach. He signed a one-year contract with us before the season started, so unless Coastal Union secure him, he's still ours."

Matano, Kenya's most decorated local-based coach, boasts an impressive resume, having won three FKF Premier League titles - two with Tusker FC and one with Sofapaka. He also claimed another title in the 2021/2022 season, although it was later annulled when the FKF reinstated its leadership after a government-installed caretaker committee had taken over.

Coastal Union are eager to secure Matano's services as they seek to build on their recent achievements. Nicknamed "Wagosi wa Kaya" or "Mangushi," Coastal Union qualified for the 2024/25 CAF Confederation Cup after finishing fourth in the NBC Premier League last season.

Despite being eliminated in the first preliminary round of the competition, the club remains determined to replicate its recent success.

Having secured a fourth-place finish for the first time in several years, Coastal Union are aiming to establish themselves as a regular contender in the CAF Confederation Cup.

Their impressive 2-2 comeback draw against Simba SC in the NBC Premier League further underscores their potential and ambition to compete at the highest level.



Barefooted youths Ali Omari (L) and Frank Michael pictured yesterday fighting for the ball during a training session at Kivule in Dar es Salaam. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

## Record-breaking Root and Brook lead England to a strong 492-3 against Pakistan in 1st test

MULTAN, Pakistan

JOE Root celebrated his record-breaking day with a resolute 35th century as England cruised to 492-3 on Day 3 of the first cricket test against Pakistan yesterday.

Root overtook Alastair Cook as England's top run-scorer in tests to make an unbeaten 176 and his Yorkshire teammate Harry Brook compiled a spectacular 141 not out off 173 balls on a placid pitch of Multan Cricket Stadium.

The two have combined for a 243-run partnership, hitting 24 boundaries between them, and made Pakistan bowlers toil hard on a benign wicket which hasn't deteriorated over the last three days.

England now trails Pakistan by 64 runs through its usual "Bazball" aggressive batting in 3 1/2 sessions, in comparison to the home team's score of 556 over 5 1/2 sessions.

Root overcame cramps in intense hot weather to bat the entire day after resuming on 32.

He also featured in two other century-stands with Ben Duckett (84) and Zak Crawley (78), who were the only wickets to fall in the first two sessions.

Brook followed his 108 at the same venue two years ago, with another belligerent century as Pakistan couldn't separate the pair even after taking the second new ball.

Naseem Shah (1-87) and Shaheen Shah Afridi (1-88) were ineffective after hardly finding any reverse swing for with the old ball. Leg-spinner Abrar Ahmed also couldn't find any turn of the hard surface, which had some cracks, as England plundered the leggy for 0-174 off his 35 wicketless overs.

Brook had a lucky escape on 75 in an otherwise flawless knock when Aamer Jamal's short ball gently rolled back to

the stumps but didn't dislodge them after ricocheting off the batter's chest.

Root survived two leg before wicket reviews in a patient knock of 277 balls. Naseem was mighty close to getting the England star batter lbw on 168 and Jamal went for unsuccessful television referral before Root had surpassed Cook's run-tally of 12,472 in the first session.

Root crossed Cook's tally with a straight-driven boundary before lunch off Jamal to reach 71 and then completed his first test century in Pakistan with a reverse sweep after the break.

Brook was aggressive from the onset and didn't hesitate to loft Abrar for a straight six as he raised his sixth test century - and fourth against Pakistan - off 118 balls with Pakistan captain Shan Masood running out of ideas to break the partnership.

Both batters didn't give Paki-

stan any chance with the second new ball, taken in the latter half of the final session, as England scored at a brisk pace of 4.87 an over in a dominant day for the visitors.

Earlier, Duckett recovered from a thumb injury which denied him opening England's first innings on Tuesday afternoon and smashed 84 off 75 balls before he was pinned lbw by Jamal when he came round the wicket to the left-hander in the second session.

England lost the wicket of Crawley inside the first half hour when he chipped a catch of Afridi after adding 14 runs to his overnight score of 64. Jamal pounced on the opportunity on a second attempt at short mid-wicket as Crawley tried to whip the fast bowler on the on-side.

But Root stayed calm and Brook showed plenty of aggression to take England into a dominant position. AP

## Former Liverpool boss Klopp takes Red Bull role

BBC

FORMER Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp has been appointed global head of soccer at Red Bull. The 57-year-old German will begin the role on 1 January 2025.

"After almost 25 years on the sideline, I could not be more excited to get involved in a project like this," said Klopp.

"The role may have changed but my passion for football and the people who make the game what it is has not."

Energy drinks brand Red Bull owns RB Leipzig in Germany's Bundesliga, Austrian side Red Bull Salzburg and Major League Soccer side New York Red Bulls, as well as Brazilian side Red Bull Bragantino.

It also took a minority stake in Championship side Leeds and became the club's front-of-shirt sponsor earlier this year.

Red Bull says Klopp will not be involved in day-to-day operations but will advise teams on playing philosophy, transfer strategy and coaching development.

"Jurgen Klopp is one of the greatest and most influential figures in world soccer, with extraordinary skills and charisma," said Oliver Mintzlaff, the company's CEO of corporate projects and investments.

"In his role as head of soccer, he will be a game-changer for our involvement in international soccer and its continued development."

Klopp won eight trophies in nine years at Liverpool, including the Premier League and Champions League, before stepping down at the end of last season.

He began his managerial career at Mainz in 2001 before joining Borussia Dortmund in 2008, where he won two Bundesliga titles and reached the 2013 Champions League final.

He resigned in May 2015 to take a sabbatical but cut it short to succeed Brendan Rodgers at Anfield in October that year.

Red Bull has invested in ice hockey, extreme sports, motorsports and two teams in Formula 1, with Red Bull Racing currently holding both the drivers' and constructors' titles in the sport.

A news conference formally announcing Klopp's appointment will take place in mid-January.

## Pochettino meets rest of US team for first time after coming across Robinson in London restaurant

AUSTIN, Texas

ANTONEE Robinson became the first American player to meet new U.S. coach Mauricio Pochettino – by chance at a London restaurant during a dinner out with Fulham teammates.

"A couple of the guys walked in and said, 'Ah, we just walked past your new manager,'" Robinson recalled Tuesday after Pochettino's first training session with his full U.S. roster. "And a couple of the lads on our team have played for him before, so they went over and said hello."

Pochettino arrived in the U.S. on Saturday and had a group meeting Tuesday ahead of friendlies against Panama on Saturday and Mexico on Oct. 15. Sixteen players trained Monday, and all 25 were on the field Tuesday.

"They've worked in some movement things and connection things with the back line and midfielders, and the attackers all went together and worked on a few things," defender Tim Ream said. "Just really getting their ideas onto our heads and into our understanding to make sure that we're all on the same page going forward."

Robinson noticed a difference in style from Gregg Berhalter, who led the team from December 2018 through December 2022, then returned in the summer of 2023 only to be fired this July following a first-round elimination at the Copa America.

"Straightaway it seems a little bit more intense," Robinson said. "Usually the lads getting in on a Monday or getting in on a Sunday, train on Monday, if you've played on Saturday it's kind of light. You're not doing a lot. You're recovering on the bike. Yesterday, we were kind of straight into training and it was a tough session so, yeah, we were kind of ready to work and so it was definitely intense."

Pochettino and his assistants have been meeting with players individually.

"They want to get to know us and obviously we want to get to know them," said Ream, who turned 37 on Saturday and is the oldest player on the roster. "The message is that he wants to win, right? He has his principles. He has his ideas, but at the end of the day, it's about winning and it's important to have that mentality, it's important to have that mindset going forward."

# Inside the 'insane' nature of Manchester City's latest court case and what it means for football's future

By Miguel Delaney

IF the consequences of Monday's legal ruling remain unclear, right down to who "won", the legal power involved couldn't be more explicit. You can count them. There were 13 barristers on the case, five of whom were King's Counsels. The senior King's Counsels are understood to have junior King's Counsels, who had senior barristers, to go with multiple experts. This, in the view of one executive intimately familiar with such processes, "is insane".

It also comes at a time of logjam in the wider legal system. Football is socially important but it's not that important – unless you view it in the prism of geopolitical aims.

Is this serving society? Is this even serving football?

What has actually been achieved here, other than more acrimony and expenditure, to go with amending some of the rules for business to continue as normal? By Monday evening, Manchester City were sending a letter to the Premier League complaining about how the judgment on the club's legal challenge against the competition's Associated Party Transaction rules had been presented to its members, arguing the statement was "misleading" and contained "inaccuracies". City's general counsel Simon Cliff wrote that the club's "position" is that the judgment "means all of the APT rules are void, and have been since 2021". This was despite the

judgment recognising the rules are in keeping with competition law. Lawyers immersed in these issues likened it to Uefa complaining about the European Court of Justice press release on their Super League judgment in December 2021.

That is also inherently connected to all this, especially given how the Super League was brought up in the case.

This is just the latest in a wearisome long line of stories that showcase how football is being decided by courts and lawyers as much as stadiums and players, all that before the big final battle of the City hearing and its potentially existential consequences for the sport as we know it. It's a new world, where victories being declared in statements appear to be as important as victories in matches.

On Friday, it was Fifa and the players' representatives over European labour rights. On Monday, it's the Premier League and their repeat champions over competition law.

And that's just the bookend of one weekend. The online world is consumed with fans debating fine legal points and distinctions between "unlawful" and "illegal" more than what the sport is about: whether one team is better than another. It is, frankly, exhausting.

The hostility with which City have addressed this outcome does raise questions over how compatible such stances can be with the principles of sporting competitions dependent on partnership between members. This is one of the issues with



Manchester City latest case with the Premier League was resolved on Monday. Agencies

letting autocratic states in. Many of these issues simply don't arise without such ownerships.

The view of many in football – even outside the Premier League – is that this does not look like "all-out war".

Absurdly, that's why it's important to remember what we're actually talking about here. It's the playing of a game, by teams who proudly represent their historic geographical areas. That's it. These clubs don't exist to make profit, nor do they even need to. They don't exist to represent anything other than their own identity.

And yet the sport's greed has allowed in all manner of other interests that have escalated to this, and this mess that football is in. Why? Initially because a host of figures with Reaganomic outlooks – from Silvio Berlusconi to some Premier League founders – wanted to make more money.

Is this inevitable consequence what anyone actually wants? Does this serve the sport's social role? Look at the money spent on that legal expertise, and this at a time when supporters'

groups – including City's – complain about ticket prices. This isn't to say legal defences in such cases are not essential. It is to ask questions about how we got here.

These just aren't the sort of complications that arise with supporter-owned and democratically-run clubs – ideas that are anathema to the vast majority of Premier League owners.

It is why it's so important to have a discussion about the direction of football, which makes the uncertain status of the independent regulator all the more relevant.

The Premier League's philosophical objection to the regulator illustrates one of many reasons why meaningful discussions are never going to come from within football, so change will have to come from without.

This is where many of these legal challenges may actually come full circle. Two things can be true at once. As lamentable as it is that football is even in the courts in these ways, the outcomes are pointing to potential solutions – maybe even a better way

forward.

One of the reasons that we are even in this situation is the historic regulatory failure of football institutions, from the Football Association in the early '90s right up to the Premier League and Fifa now. They have been found badly wanting on so many profound challenges to the sport, from the destruction of competitive balance to state ownership.

Many legal outcomes of these cases are explicitly recognising this.

City evidently intuited this, as part of an approach that essentially amounted to throwing anything they could at the Premier League – including a provision on shareholder loans they previously had no issue with. Legal circles still viewed them as exceptionally clever in appointing Christopher Vajda KC, a former European Union judge, to decide in a case where EU law and European Court of Justice case law were everywhere.

This is also why it is crucial that the judgment recognised that the premise of the rules is not just in keeping with competition law,

but also essential for the running of sport.

The main issue for the Premier League here is not a victory for City. It is a rightful rebuke for the Premier League for not conducting their processes correctly, something numerous executives see them as "sloppy" on. The recent Leicester City example was a case in point.

It's also where the issue of interest-free loans may be influential. The tribunal can't force the Premier League to adopt any rules, since only the clubs can vote them in, but it does mean they can't just vote on what suits them.

This, as should go without saying, is a stance that is essential to fair running of football. It is badly lacking, though.

Through that, the judgment has been interpreted in some circles as like December's Super League case. The complainants didn't get what they really wanted, to use legal precedents for bigger arguments, but there is a warning for football's regulators that they have to start doing things properly.

They have to be fair and transparent, with correct process.

It is also notable that so many of these rulings on competition law – which is forming the basis of so many cases – are recognising that football needs to have much more financial balance.

It is why there are potentially positive outcomes for the wider game, from these unseemly legal squabbles that involve the most narrow of interests.

THE INDEPENDENT

## France starts post-Griezmann era amid Mbappé controversy

By SAMUEL PETREQUIN

ANTOINE Griezmann has retired from France duty. Kylian Mbappé is absent, nursing a minor thigh injury in Madrid.

Ahead of Nations League matches against Israel and Belgium, France's leadership is scarce.

"The lack of experience doesn't help," France coach Didier Deschamps admitted this week.

Mbappé is France's usual captain while Griezmann (pictured), who surprisingly announced the end of his international career last month, was the vice-captain. Together, they led France to the 2018 World Cup title and were Deschamps' most influential players in recent years.

Deschamps has yet to announce who will wear the captain's armband for the upcoming matches.

"The end of Antoine's international career and Kylian's absence, that leaves room," Deschamps said. "The group is obviously younger, with less experience."

For sure, the armband won't be going to veteran midfielder N'Golo Kanté. He was left out of the squad because of an adductor injury. Neither will experienced defender Dayot Upameca-

no, who has 27 caps for France but had to withdraw from the squad with a right thigh injury.

Deschamps said he will choose among players who are capable of taking on the responsibility of captaincy, without it altering their behavior, or diminishing their level of performance.

Following a mediocre European Championship where it reached the semifinals without playing well, France is in need of good and convincing results. Its previous Nations League matches were not entirely reassuring – defeat to Italy followed by a win against Belgium.

Italy has a three-point lead over France and Belgium in their group after two rounds. France plays Israel on Thursday and travels to Belgium four days later.

Mbappé, who has 48 goals for France, failed to score against Italy and Belgium and Deschamps later said he had not been his usual self during the international break.

After the Real Madrid forward went on as a substitute in Real Madrid's 1-0 loss at Lille last week, his omission from Deschamps' squad came as a surprise. And that surprise turned into controversy when

the Tricolors captain started a Spanish league game for Madrid following his omission from the France squad, amid sharp criticism from fans.

Deschamps insisted that Real Madrid is Mbappé's employer, not the French Football Federation, and he took the best option to avoid putting the striker in a delicate position.

"I know very well that he's not going to go against his club," Deschamps said. "You have to do what's in the player's best interests without putting him in difficulty."

Deschamps is hoping his rejuvenated squad will bring an extra dose of enthusiasm that has been lacking in France's previous outings, but without getting carried away.

"You have to channel everything," he said. "There is an emotional aspect, managing the emotions will be important."

Tipped as a potential replacement for Griezmann, Chelsea forward Christopher Nkunku has



ment for Griezmann, Chelsea forward Christopher Nkunku has

been recalled by Deschamps and could play for France for the first time in more than a year after struggling with injuries.

"Antoine Griezmann left an immense legacy with the French team," Nkunku said on Tuesday. "I'm not trying to replace him, I just want to give my best."

Asked for his views on what makes a good leader, Liverpool defender Ibrahima Konaté said, "It's something you are born with." Konaté added he was "saddened" by Griezmann's decision to retire. "He was a typical example of a leader."

Now that the way is clear for someone to take his place, Konaté said he could see himself taking over and mentioned the names of goalkeeper Mike Maignan, defender Jules Koundé and Aurélien Tchouaméni as possible new leaders.

"A leader," Konaté said, "has to be there when things go wrong."

AP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



## SPORT

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## Simba coach Davids strategizes for tough North African challenge

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SIMBA SC head coach Fadlu Davids has assessed the challenges ahead for his team as they prepare for the daunting CAF Confederation Cup group stage.

The Tanzanian giants have been drawn into Group A alongside Tunisian powerhouse CS Sfaxien, Algerian club CS Constantine, and Angolan newcomers Bravos Do Maquis.

Davids (pictured) expressed confidence in his team's ability, highlighting the importance of their experience from the preliminary round victory over Al Ahli Tripoli. He believes that this exposure to North African football will help Simba prepare for their upcoming encounters with CS Sfaxien and CS Constantine.

However, he also acknowledged the unpredictable threat posed by Bravos Do Maquis, a side with limited scouting information available.

Davids stressed the need to secure at least 10 points early in the group stage to avoid a tense qualification battle.

"This is a challenging draw. North Africa is always a tough environment. CS Constantine and CS Sfaxien are strong teams, and Bravos Do Maquis is a formidable opponent. We must win as many early matches as possible to ensure we advance," he said.

With the international break underway, Simba resumed training on Tuesday. The players not involved in national team duty focused on fitness and preparations for their domestic match against archrival Young Africans, while keeping their sights on the upcoming CAF fixtures.

Davids noted that winning the back-to-back matches in North Africa is crucial. "We need to be cautious playing away in Algeria and Tunisia. Securing decisive results will be key, and we aim to avoid fighting for qualification in the final matches," he added.

Simba's record in CAF interclub competitions includes five previous quarterfinal appearances, and this tournament presents a fresh opportunity to break new ground. The Msimbazi Reds are determined to advance deep into the competition, and with the intensity expected in Group A, the road ahead will require resilience, tactical prowess, and adaptability.

CS Sfaxien, a three-time CAF Confederation Cup champions, remain a strong threat despite their recent challenges, while CS Constantine's continental experience could make them a difficult opponent.

Bravos, entering their first-ever group-stage appearance, may be inexperienced, but Simba must remain alert to avoid potential upsets.

Simba's journey through Group A will test their ability to succeed in one of the most competitive environments in African football. Their experience and desire to secure early points will be key to advancing past the group stage.

# Hopeful Taifa Stars out to upset DR Congo in 2025 AFCON qualifiers



Taifa Stars players pictured yesterday arriving in Kinshasa ready for their AFCON qualifiers campaign against DR Congo. Photo: Courtesy of TFF

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

TANZANIA resumes their 2025 Africa Cup of Nations qualifiers campaign when they go head-to-head against DR Congo at the Stade des Martyrs in Kinshasa this evening, kick off scheduled at 7PM.

With two matches in the books, Tanzania are second in Group H with four points following a disappointing goalless draw with Ethiopia and a 2-1 victory over Guinea.

Led by interim head coach, Hemed 'Morocco' Suleiman, Taifa Stars would be hoping to continue on their recent good away record form having beaten Zambia in June and Guinea last month to pick crucial wins on the road.

History offers encouragement for Tanzania to pick another positive result on the road. In seven previous encounters against DR Congo, Taifa Stars have enjoyed two wins, held to three draws, and suffered two defeats.

The two sides last faced off in the Africa Cup of Nations group stage game in January and settled for a goalless draw.

When you look at the bigger picture, Morocco's men have now gone five consecutive games without defeat across all competitions, picking up two draws and three wins.

Taifa Stars squad is bolstered by the return of captain Mbwana Samatta. Samatta, who plies his trade with PAOK in the Greek top flight and has been re-

called to the team after seven months in limbo.

As for DR Congo, they come into this encounter top of the table in Group H, two more than their visitors. This was after they won their two opening games.

They opened their qualifying campaign with a hard-fought 1-0 victory over Guinea in Kinshasa on September 3 when Watford midfielder Edo Kayembe netted the only goal of the game in the 27th minute to hand Congo DR a dream start to their race for a

place in Morocco.

They then maintained their perfect start to the 2025 Africa Cup of Nations qualifiers on September 9 when they picked up a comfortable 2-0 victory over Ethiopia at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium.

Since their heartbreaking penalty-shootout loss against South Africa in the 2023 AFCON third-place playoff clash on January 10, Sebastien Desabre's men have now gone three consecutive games without defeat across all competitions, claiming three wins

and one draw while scoring six goals and conceding twice.

The home side also boast a run of five back-to-back competitive home victories, stretching back to a 1-0 defeat against Gabon in the AFCON qualifiers back in June 2022.

As the two teams prepare to clash, this evening's encounter could prove pivotal in determining the top two spots in Group H, with both DR Congo and Tanzania pushing for qualification to the AFCON finals in Morocco next year.

## Coach Morocco: Taifa Stars ready for DR Congo challenge in AFCON campaign

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIA national football team (Taifa Stars) head coach Hemed 'Morocco' Suleiman is optimistic his team can maintain their winning momentum as they face the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in their third match of the 2025 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) qualifiers in Kinshasa this evening.

The Taifa Stars face a tough challenge against Group H leaders DR Congo, who have won both of their qualifiers so far, defeating Guinea 1-0 and Ethiopia 2-0. Tanzania, meanwhile, began their campaign with a 1-1 draw against Ethiopia be-

fore securing a vital 2-1 away win over Guinea.

Tanzania and DR Congo are familiar foes, having shared a group in the last AFCON finals earlier this year. The two sides are also set to meet again in Dar es Salaam on October 15 for the return leg, and they will face each other in the upcoming 2026 World Cup qualifiers, adding further significance to these encounters.

Tanzania, under coach Morocco, are seeking to qualify for back-to-back AFCON finals for the first time in their history, after making their last appearance in Ivory Coast. The 2025 AFCON will be hosted in Mo-

rocco, with matches scheduled in six cities, including Casablanca, Rabat, and Marrakech.

Speaking ahead of this evening's match, Morocco expressed confidence in his team's ability to secure a positive result.

"We've completed our preparations for the DR Congo match and are confident in our team's ability to perform. Our players have valuable experience in these kinds of games and are well-equipped to handle the challenges," said Morocco.

He added: "Our team is steadily improving, and we're determined to showcase our progress against DR Congo. All our players are in top

form, both physically and mentally, and we're optimistic about securing a positive outcome."

Currently, DR Congo leads Group H with six points from their two victories, while Tanzania sits in second place with four points from one win and one draw. Ethiopia is in third with one point, following a goalless draw against Tanzania, and Guinea is at the bottom, winless and without a point.

Tanzania will look to capitalize on their three remaining home matches at the iconic Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam, which will be crucial in their bid for a fourth AFCON qualification.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

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