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TANZANIA

FRIDAY 13 OCTOBER, 2023

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## SAGCOT's agri-business clusters increase tenfold

By Guardian Correspondent, Njombe

THE number of small holder farmers joining agro-business clusters initiated by the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT) increased eight fold from 100,000 to 847,385 in the past decade.

Maria Ijumba, the SAGCOT head of clusters and relations made this affirmation yesterday, at a two-day meeting on measures to increase crop production in Njombe, Iringa and Ruvuma regions.

She said that improved agricultural and

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# Samia initiates Foreign Service fellowships to revamp ministry

By Getrude Mbago



Dar es Salaam regional commissioner Albert Chalamila (C, in reflective jacket), who had just travelled by rapid transit bus in the city yesterday, has a word with a student who had been on the same bus. The RC was on a fact-finding mission coming only hours after The Guardian and its sister Kiswahili daily newspaper, Nipashe, ran a front-page photo on the ordeals people out to travel by the Dar es Salaam Rapid Transit (DART) buses now commonly experience. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

PRESIDENTIAL fellowships for mastering services linked with foreign countries will soon be launched to groom Tanzanian youth for international relations and economic diplomacy.

President Samia Suluhu Hassan unveiled this intention in Dar es Salaam yesterday, explaining that the programme to be set within the President's Office, will take up talented and qualified youths from various spheres.

They will be trained for two years and attached to various units once they graduate, basically to revamp operations in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation.

There is need for new input to make the ministry work efficiently in serving different spheres in the international community and excel in attracting investments, she said.

She made the remarks at the State House after receiving a report from a committee formed six months ago to review the ministry's performance, affirming that reviewing the National Foreign Policy of 2001 was in the final stages.

The purpose of the review is to help stimulate initiatives in strengthening economic diplomacy, attract investments and utilise opportunities overseas, she stated.

Improving the structure of the ministry would facilitate proper implementation of duties like marketing the country's opportunities overseas plus strengthening public and economic diplomacy.

This includes making major invest-

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# Mloganzila carries out four kidney transplants

By Correspondent James Kandoya

MUHIMBILI National Hospital (MNH) Mloganzila branch has conducted kidney transplants to four patients using hand assisted laparoscopic nephrectomy technology, saying it is the first in East Africa.

Prof Mohamed Janabi, the MNH director general, made this observation at a ceremony to discharge the four patients who went through

the transplant operations six weeks ago, on October 2.

The new technology enables patients to spend shorter times in hospital before being

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Former Tanganyika Law Society president Dr Rugemeleza Nshala (C) pictured yesterday leaving Police sub-headquarters in Dar es Salaam, where he reported after being summoned by the Director of Criminal Investigations. Left is his lawyer, Nyaronyo Mwita Kicheere. Photo: Correspondent Imani Nathaniel

## Chalinze power cooling station is 84.3pc ready

By Henry Mwangonde

CONSTRUCTION of the 400-KV Chalinze power cooling station has reached 84.3 percent, an affirmation delivered during an inspection tour by Dr Doto Biteko, the deputy prime minister and Energy minister yesterday.

In his remarks, the senior minister said that completion of the power station will reduce uncertainty in electricity supply, having inspected the work progress project yesterday expressing satisfaction with the construction progress.

Project managers assured the deputy premier that works will be completed by the end of the year, with Coast Region and nearby areas benefiting from the cooling station.

The station is poised to receive 2,115MW from the Julius Nyerere hydropower station from which the power is directed to

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# Samia initiates Foreign Service fellowships to revamp ministry

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ment in information and communication technology (ICT) systems to ease operations, she said, pointing at a number of complaints from various stakeholders on the poor coordination and operations at the ministry.

"This pushed me to form this committee to look into the challenges, so today the committee has presented its recommendations to help clear the gaps," the president underlined.

Many recommendations issued by the committee will be incorporated in the National Foreign Policy so as to achieve intended goals, she said, acknowledging that it is important to form essential units in the ministry to oversee issues that are key for promoting international relations and marketing Tanzania overseas.

She said bringing people from outside and making Tanzania proud is contributing to building the economy, putting up a conducive investment and trade environment, plus strengthening peace and security are essential this effort.

The government is working to ensure that embassies get quality premises instead of working from old buildings, where the government is seeking to work with commercial banks and other sources of financing she stated.

Ambassador Yahya Simba, the committee chairman, had earlier said they spotted a number of challenges in the ministry, partly due to the poor utilisation of ICT systems.

The committee urged that the government allows procurement procedures of the respective countries to be used to get contractors, supervisors and designers of various buildings in the foreign countries instead of using Tanzania's laws.

This orientation will ease smooth project implementation, he said, also recommending setting up an independent unit within the ministry to coordinate public diplomacy, strategic communication, national branding and media monitoring.

A nation-wide committee is needed to coordinate the promotion of opportunities that will incorporate experts from public institutions and the private sector as it is the case in countries like South Africa, Malaysia and India, he said.

The Diaspora still faces a number of challenges like the absence of robust policies directed at members of the Diaspora, thus the need for a Diaspora unit in the ministry.

As members of the Diaspora contribute to the country's development, there is need to speed up the special status formula in place of dual citizenship, to scale up opportunities for Tanzanians living abroad.

The government needs to come up with guidelines for teaching Kiswahili overseas including curriculums, along with investing in online systems to widen the number of people joining such course, he added.



**This pushed me to form this committee to look into the challenges, so today the committee has presented its recommendations to help clear the gaps**

## RC Chalamila issues 14-day ultimatum to DART to improve transport services in Dar

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

DAR ES SALAAM regional commissioner, Albert Chalamila has issued a 14 days ultimatum to the Dar es Salaam Rapid Transit (DART) to renovate all the 70 buses to ease transport services in the city.

He gave the ultimatum yesterday in Dar es Salaam when he visited DART to see efficiency of the transportation services for residents of Dar es Salaam. His visit followed complaints from people about congestion in its stations.

Chalamila said the service provider has been paid money to run the project, hence the need to ensure better services. He said it is wrong for the agency to have a big number of buses that are not working. "After two weeks, I want to see all the 70 buses operating; we need to reduce congestion at our stations and this can only be possible

by increasing the number of buses in each route," said Chalamila.

The RC noted that he is not ready to see the efforts and good intentions of President Samia Suluhu Hassan of ensuring smooth transport services to the people being hindered due to negligence of some servants who fail to fulfil their responsibilities.

He said President Samia has invested a lot of energy on improving the road infrastructure, especially BRT in the city of Dar es Salaam, with an intention of bringing development to the people.

He said improved transportation services make it easier for people to do business. He also promised to do a follow up for one week to check how the buses operate.

Chalamila also boarded the buses from Jangwani-Kimara-Mbezi to Mloganzila. He listened to people's complaints at each of the stations.

## Chalinze power cooling station is 84.3pc ready

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transmission lines to Morogoro, Dar es Salaam and Coast regions, they said.

Addressing workers at the worksite, he appealed for transparency and patriotism in project implementation, with Newton Mwakifwamba, the station manager, hailing the government for timely facilitation of the project.

He said the project was initially following the Covid-19 outbreak which delayed machine procurement, after kicking off, as building the Chalinze 400/220/33 kV power station started in 2021, with a view to be completed in 2022.

He said the step-in voltage of the project is 400kV and the step-out voltage is 33kV while upon completion, the substation will have a 250 megavolt amperes (MVA) capacity.

The power supply company, TANESCO says Tanzania faces a 400 megawatts supply shortage arising from pe-

riodic repairs of plants and increased energy demand, with power rationing being pursued until March next year.

The government has started working on the shortages with intent to reduce the shortfall by half within late September to early October.

Tanzania produces about 1,900 MW through hydro-power and natural gas for 64.04 percent, while solar, fuel and other means account for 3.69-percent of total generation.

The government similarly wants to direct its efforts, and new investments, into renewable energy sources to reduce dependence on hydropower, increasingly unreliable due to climate change.

Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa said during the recent 5th Tanzania Energy Congress that the government is focused on diversifying energy sources by venturing into solar and wind energy generation using available natural resources.



Zanzibar's Community Development, Gender, Women and Children minister, Riziki Pembe, pictured in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday delivering closing speech at the second meeting of African Union member states on ways to end female genital mutilation. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Mloganzila carries out four kidney transplants

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discharged, he said, affirming that this brings to seven patients undergoing that operation.

Prof Janabi said MNH-Mloganzila performed the surgery in collaboration with Korean top specialist Prof Park Kwan Tae with backing from the Korea Foundation for International Health Care (KOFIHC) and the Africa Future Foundation.

"We are currently building internal capacity for our local staff to perform the surgeries under the mentorship of Prof Park," he said, expressing the hope that kidney transplant surgeries

will be done entirely by local in the near future.

He cited data from the World Health Organisation (WHO) that upwards of 10 percent of the global population has chronic kidney failure at any particular moment.

At Mloganzila doctors attend to 20 or even 30 patients in clinics conducted twice a week, while 90 patients are put to dialysis services at the Mloganzila facility every day and 150 attend clinics at Muhimbili, he stated.

Major contributors of kidney failure include hypertension, diabetes, infectious diseases and excessive use of painkillers, with statistics raising alarm

on the rapid increase of non-communicable diseases (NCDs).

Dr Kim Sun Pyo, the Korean ambassador, said it was a historic occasion for the facility with the successful kidney transplantation, hailing the success as a symbol of Tanzania-Korea relations.

"Our bilateral cooperation will continue to grow in different areas including the health sector," he declared.

Dr Antony Gyunda, nephrologist at the facility, said that patients with kidney failure benefit by transplant as it saves time compared to attending dialysis sessions.

The public needs to cultivate the value of donating a kidney for close

relatives in need instead of relying on dialysis as it an expensive process, he said.

Kidney transplant helps families to resume gainful activities given that the patient recovers and returns to work, he said, noting that patients operated upon with the new technology stay a shorter period in hospital.

Regina Minja, as kidney recipient, expressed gratitude to the specialist surgeons and her relatives for donating a kidney.

Elimringi Tarimo, the kidney donor, sought to motivate other people to volunteer supporting others who need transplant services.



Defence and National Service minister Dr Stagomena Tax (C), Egypt's Ambassador to Tanzania, Sherif Abdelhamid Ismail (L), and the Defence Attache at the Egyptian Embassy in Tanzania, Col Mohamed Abdelsadek Farg, move to cut a cake in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday at an event to mark the 50th anniversary of Egypt's October Victory. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## SAGCOT agri-business clusters increase tenfold

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livestock keeping activities are instrumental in poverty alleviation in the areas that farmers groups are linked with agri-business supply firms and service providers.

An evaluation of SAGCOT activities for 2022o focused on the clusters constituted as geographic concentrations of small owners, supply companies and other service providers, a SAGCOT write up says.

Agribusiness-focused clusters are areas of high concentration of actors (in specific locations of the country) active in production, processing, marketing, supply of inputs and services as well as supporting institutions.

They connect investments to benefit smallholders, medium to large scale farmers on the basis of economies of scale, where small farmers, mecha-

nized producers and service providers work through value chains and strategies to unlock the potential of each aspect of the strategic partnerships, it says.

At the time of the write up, there were six agribusiness-focused clusters in Rufiji, Kilombero, Ithemi, Mbarali, Ludewa and Sumbawanga areas in the SAGCOT zone.

Ithemi cluster was the first to be established, followed by the Mbarali and Kilombero clusters, with projections of being developed in a phased approach for impact and delivery of lessons rolled out to the newer clusters, it said.

Njombe regional commissioner Antony Mtaka said at the occasion that massive food crop surpluses in the Southern Highlands regions would raise grain exports to nearby African countries.

This would enhance prospects of realizing the target espoused by President Samia Hassan of Tanzania being a continental food basket by 2030, he stated.

A sharp increase in food and cash crops production in those regions is likely if stakeholders cooperate in the clusters system that SAGCOT initiated.

This will help small farmers to adopt proper crop husbandry as SAGCOT has vast experience and ability to pull small farmers into conventional agricultural activities, he asserted.

The meeting was attended by agro-sector public institutions and private firms in the three regions, reviewing progress in implementing resolutions adopted last year and adopting new resolutions.

The RC emphasized that Tanzania can play a big role in helping to solve Africa's grain shortages as this is now

substantive agenda of the government. He described SAGCOT as an experienced and delivering agricultural stakeholder, capable of understanding the president's agenda.

It entails raising the production of food and cash crops and registering food crop surpluses for export, he said, pointing out that President Samia was keen on increased crop production. That is why subsidised fertilizers are being distributed to farmers, he declared.

The SAGCOT executive said that current political will to increase agricultural production is supported and defended by the president herself. "She wants to see 68,000 bore holes drilled countrywide and dams created in appropriate places. This is a grand vision of the head of state," she stated, affirming that SAGCOT understand this goal and is working to realise the vision.



Dr Saada Mkuya Salum (L), Minister of State in the Zanzibar President's Office (Finance and Planning), pictured on Wednesday speaking during talks with Victoria Kwakwa, the World Bank Regional Vice President for Eastern and Southern Africa. This was on the sidelines of the twin annual World Bank/International Monetary Fund meetings in progress in Marrakesh, Morocco. Photo courtesy of Finance ministry

## 90pct of 1,900 wards connected with communication services, says UCSAF

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE Universal Communications Service Access Fund (UCSAF) has said 90 per cent of the 1,900 wards countrywide have been connected with communication services.

UCSAF Chief Executive Officer Justina Mashiba gave the statistics when explaining how the fund has been implementing its duties to ensure people have reliable access to communication.

Mashiba said the project to connect communication to 1,900 wards is progressing well, saying the remaining 10 per cent of construction of the communication towers will be done soon.

"On the access to communication,

especially in rural areas, we signed a contract for the construction of communication towers in 1,900 wards countrywide, so far the task has been undertaken by almost 90 per cent and the remaining ten per cent will be completed within a short period," she said.

When the project is completed, UCSAF will have facilitated access to communication to more than 15-million Tanzanians who did not have the facility.

On provision of reliable communication services to residents of Msomera village in Handeni District, Tanga Region, who have relocated from Ngorongoro Conservation Area (NCA), Ms Mashiba said everything was on track to connect the village.

She said UCSAF is in close cooperation with TTCL Corporation who are implementing three projects of tower construction in Msomera village.

Mashiba said the construction of a TTCL tower at Msomera will offer access to other mobile phone companies to connect, thus increasing the scope of communication access to the villagers.

Moreover, UCSAF in collaboration with TTCL are in the final stages of the construction of a communication tower in Mkababu village where more than 5,000 houses are being constructed for the next phase of people who will relocate from Ngorongoro to the village.

"We are pleased because we are

in the final stages of completion of the construction of a TTCL tower in Mkababu village before residents of Ngorongoro shift to the areas," said the UCSAF CEO.

"I thank all communication service providers for their support to UCSAF, you have been a clear example of the cooperation between public and private sector for improved access to communication, let us keep up the team work, for universal access communication to all Tanzanians" said Mashiba.

The CEO said the fund has supported Samia Suluhu Hassan Primary School with ICT equipment, including computer, projector and printer since they have been connected with the national fibre optic cable being part of the UCSAF implementation of a project to equip public schools with information and communication technologies gadgets.

## Focus studies on climate change mitigation, Jafo urges scientists

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIAN environment experts have been challenged to focus their new studies on how to help the country mitigate the impact of climate which is already ravaging vulnerable communities.

Dr Selemani Jafo, Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment), threw the challenge in Dar es Salaam yesterday while launching a research programme on climate change at the Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH).

A statement released by the Vice President's Office said Tanzania has received more than 9bn/- from the government of Norway for research in the programme.

Minister Jafo said that the economy is being affected due to environmental challenges when productivity of communities decreases sharply due to extreme and unpredictable weather events, hence a need for more research on mitigation measures.

He said that in response to the challenge, researchers are expected to provide answers about which sector can help in dealing with the effects of climate change.

"In these areas, we have a big task to find out which studies, for example, which type of agriculture or crops can be planted in areas facing the effects of climate change, you researchers have a big responsibility to help us in this," he said.

He thanked all stakeholders who support the efforts of the President Samia Suluhu Hassan who is the number one environmentalist and among the panel of important people chosen to manage the world's environment.

He said that in September 2023 the Tanzanian government of Tanzania signed an agreement with the Government of Norway to strengthen development activities in the country and joint cooperation in dealing with the effects of climate change.

The minister expressed congratulatory remarks to both

governments—Norway and Sweden for promoting cooperation in the area of research to deal with the effects of climate change.

"I would like to congratulate COSTECH and the Norwegian government for collaborating with Tanzania in terms of research because we have major challenges with the effects of climate change," he pointed out.

Added to that, Tanzania set goals to reduce hazardous gases in the atmosphere by 30 percent to 35 percent until the year 2030 to combat the challenge of the effects of climate change.

He has congratulated the Government of Norway for agreeing to inject more than nine billion shillings for the purpose of funding the Research together with the Government of Sweden for agreeing to increase the amount of money similar to that provided by the Government of Norway.



**In these areas, we have a big task to find out which studies, for example, which type of agriculture or crops can be planted in areas facing the effects of climate change, you researchers have a big responsibility to help us in this**

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CARE INTERNATIONAL TANZANIA

### TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR CONTRACT TO SUPPORT INTEGRATION OF GENDER RESPONSE EBA SOLUTIONS

#### New Approaches to Upscale Resilience and Ecosystem-based adaptation

**Background of the project:** CARE International in Tanzania in collaboration with CARE Nederland secured fund from Global Ecosystem Adaptation to implement the New Approaches to Upscale Resilience and Ecosystem-Based Adaptation (NATURE) project in Same, Mufindi, Simanjiro, Kiteto and Chemba districts. The project has the component to support policy influencing at the District and National level. This project is aiming at increased resilience of communities through improving ecosystem services in drought prone areas and therefore the project is focusing to address social vulnerabilities such as food insecurity, access to resources, water use conflict, human wildlife conflict, pastoralist migration and land-use conflicts to support restoration of ecosystem services.

**Objective and Rationale for this consultancy:** The overall objective of the assignment is to support integration of Gender response Ecosystems Based (Eba) Solution into District short term and long-term development plans and budgets for Kiteto, Same, Mufindi, Simanjiro Chemba and provide input in the integration of Eba into national policies and national development frameworks. In these District the most significant climate change risks includes floods, droughts, heat waves, windstorms, and shifts in agro-ecological systems. Also, there are existing non-climatic drivers such as deforestation, forest encroachment and overstocking which over the years has exacerbated land degradation and consequently altering ecosystem functions and agro-ecological systems. Communities especially women and girls who are most involved in agriculture and livestock activities more vulnerable to climate change whereby persistent droughts and floods affect crops and livestock husbandry resulting in extreme poverty and consequently, their capacity to adapt is being reduced.

**Consultancy deliverables:** The consultant will share an inception report that describes the brief of assignment, methodology include sampling frame, working framework and list of stakeholders for consultation for feedback and approval. Will generate Intermediate report on gaps and recommendations for integration of ecosystem-based climate changes adaptations and gender into existing legal frameworks such as environmental act, wildlife act, agriculture act, forest act, water act and disaster management act identified. Intermediate report on the impacts of Climate Change on ecosystem in the project operation areas for policy advocacy and draft restoration plan. Intermediate Inputs on the integration of Eba into District and national policies and development frameworks, Training modules and training report on Ecosystem Based adaptations for District and National Natural resources professionals.

**Qualification and experience of the individual consultant.** The consultant should have a minimum of a master's degree in Natural resources management, Climate change and development, Rural development, Environment, land use planning, Agriculture, Forest, Conservation ecology and management, Environment Engineering, or any related fields. Minimum of five (5) years of experience working in natural resources management and implementing Ecosystem based adaptation. Experience of conducting climate vulnerability assessment and skills to conduct environment impact assessment particularly in the conservation field. Experience in reviewing/ developing/refining policies, strategies, regulatory frameworks, and plans. Knowledge on tools for climate and environment degradation assessment and Knowledge of designing and establishing ecosystem-based adaptations actions and plans or similar activities with good experience in project management.

**To Apply:** A technical and cost proposal based on this Terms of Reference (ToR) is requested from the consultant (more details on the TOR can be obtained through the <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ekci0qa8Lp6iBwOCLunRshpTmq6Ep2ax/view?usp=sharing> or by inquiry through [TZA.Procurement@care.org](mailto:TZA.Procurement@care.org). The Technical and costed proposal maximum 12 pages with your recent CV shall be submitted by email to CARE procurement Department through [TZA.Procurement@care.org](mailto:TZA.Procurement@care.org) within 14 days from the first appearance of this advertisement not later than 26/10/2023 at 17:00 hours.

# Mineral dealer is held over smuggling of 562m/- gold

By Guardian Correspondent, Kahama

THE Director of Nadoyo Mineral Trading Ltd, Devraj Kerai in connection with the has been arrested by the police for smuggling out of the country of 4.3 kgs of gold valued at 562m/-.

The smuggling incident happened on October 10 this year at 1:00 pm and had he succeeded to get the gold out and sell it, he could have denied the government more than 50m/- revenue.

Kahama Minerals Officer, Jeremia Hango told the visiting Minerals Minister Anthony Mavunde during his one-day visit in Kahama that the mineral dealers have had such habit for a long time in various areas of the country.

Hango said the 50m/-s of government revenue include loyalty, inspection levy, service charges and VAT and that the issue was still under investigation, to know the extent of the smuggling network in order to break it

up.

He also appealed to the Minister to revoke the dealer's licence and take legal steps to act as a lesson to others with similar activities.

Chairman of the Mineral Market in Kahama District, Emmanuel Kidenya said some of the dealers have been unfaithful and have been smuggling minerals through unauthorized routes, despite the government putting in place friendly systems for buying and selling the minerals for them, and added that all those with such practices should have their licences revoked.

Kahama District Commissioner, Mboni Mhita said gold smuggling in the district was now rampant compared to neighbouring districts and added that recently at the Mwime Mineral Market in Zongomela Ward four dealers were nabbed as they were smuggling minerals, and that the war against mineral smuggling will

continue relentlessly.

Minister for Minerals, Anthony Mavunde instructed the executive secretary of the Commission of Mining to revoke Nadoyo Mineral Trading Ltd.'s licence and that its owner, Devraj Kerai should be referred to court.

He said during his leadership at the Ministry he will not tolerate ant dealers involving himself in smuggling of minerals, reaping money illegally thereby denying the government of its much-needed revenue.

Mavunde further said one task he was given to do is to oversee and plug all mineral smuggling loopholes and pledged that this dealer will be a lesson to others harbouring similar intentions.

Meanwhile the Minister expressed his pleasure in seeing many Tanzania youth grabbing opportunities in mining for earning income rather than depending on the government to provide them with employment.



Entrepreneur Esther Shebe, who has completed training provided by the Skills Development Fund, briefs people visiting her pavilion at the Adult Education Week exhibition at Kibaha in Coast Region yesterday on her products. The fund is managed by the Tanzania Education Authority. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

## Tanzania Peace Committee applauds President Samia for India PhD award

By Correspondent Christina Mwakangale

TANZANIA Peace Committee has commended President Samia Suluhu Hassan for being bestowed with Honorary PhD degree by India's Jawaharlal University, saying she deserves it due to her accomplishments.

The Committee's Chairman, Sheikh Alhad Musa Salum made the remarks yesterday in Dar es Salaam as he addressed reporters in regard to the award as well as on the International Peace Conference in South Korea.

"We should commend her, encourage her to perform courageously,

she is calm, ready listeners, kind and performing diligently and professionally," he said.

He added that Tanzanians should continue supporting their President and that the Committee will continue working with her government, including making sure peace is maintained in the country.

"Tanzania should be thankful for the existing peace because both Christians and Muslims work together, as this committee incorporates leaders from all religious denominations, including those holding traditional beliefs," Sheikh Musa added.

Committee Executive secretary,

Bishop Dr Israel Maasa praised Sheikh Salum who attended the International Peace Conference in South Korea that involved religious leaders and other stakeholders that has built global relations with Heavenly Culture World Peace Restoration of Light (HWPL) institution.

"The Conference has enabled the signing of working in collaboration with HWPL and also leaders met and held discussions with various peace stakeholders aimed at expanding a network of people working together on issues of peace," said Bishop Maasa.

He further said the Tanzania Peace Committee had the opportunity to visit the Korean War Memorial, the war that caused the deaths of more than four million people in the 1950-53 Korean War.



Adolescent girls and young women operating under Tunaweza Group of Kolandoto in Shinyanga Urban District demonstrate to visiting members of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health and HIV/AIDS yesterday the making of reinforced clay-based pots. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## 'WVT provided lunch to 57,000 students in three regions' schools in 2022'

By Guardian Correspondent, Babati

MORE than 57,000 from 92 schools in Manyara, Arusha and Tanga regions were provided with meals at school last year by World Vision Tanzania (WVT) to enable them attend lessons and clamp down truancy.

This was disclosed Wednesday by WVT Disaster unit, Victor Katambala in a special interview with this paper. Katambala said they decided to provide meals to the students following a spate of hunger that prevented them from attending classes regularly.

"After being provided with meals, the students were able to listen to what they were being taught and the studies went well," he added.

He also said after food were being provided, the students were insisting on the parents for them to attend school, different to what was in the past.

Katambala said that teachers have reported that during afternoon classes, the students were good listeners to what they were being taught.

He added that the government had issued guidelines in regard to provision of meals at schools, saying that the food should contain starch, protein and fat and that they are mobilising students to grow vegetables to boost their nutrition intake.

For his part, Manyara Region Nutrition Officer, January Dalushi, told this paper that the Ministry of education launched guidelines on food and nutrition in schools.

Dalushi said the guidelines targeted all students, with many of them being those in elementary classes as most of these are under five years of age, hence they need food to help in their growth.

According to Dalushi, the guidelines should come from the community, should be of high quality and touch on the five food groupings.

Karen Christopher, Babati resident said meals at schools is important sine many students don't dot get evening meals in sufficiency.

## Angry hippo kills two people in Mpanda DC

By Guardian Correspondent, Mpanda

TWO people have died after being attacked by a hippopotamus as they were hunting for food at Milala Dam in Katavi Region.

The incident happened on the night of October 10 at the dam in Mpanda municipality.

Eye witnesses said they went to the dam in the morning and found a dead hippo, but those responsible were not to be found with the exception of shoes beside the carcass.

Later people came and saw a canoe and shoes and the fire brigade appealed for cooperation from the people to look for the deceased's bodies, but it was the following day when one body was found and informed the Village Chairman.

"Yesterday two people were hunting for the hippos and one of them was wounded and got angry and tipped the boat which capsized and failed to save themselves, no down they were drowned, but we have recovered one body," said Juma Shabani, resident from the area.

According to the Shanwe Street Chairman, Mustapha Kimasa, he received a call by one of his officials regarding the killing of the beast and the death of two people.

"When I arrived at the dam, one person I found told me that during the night he heard gun shots in the water.

"He hears people's screams calling for help but we did not respond to the screams but later he saw a hippo floating in the dam and then reported the issue," said Kimasa.

Shanwe Ward Councillor, Masumbuko Fadhil said the number of hippos has risen in the area and have been destroying farmers' crops and added that game officials called to shoot them some of the bullets ended up in people's homes, and added that this happened in more than three incidents.

Mpanda District Commissioner, Jamila Yusuf gave seven days to the Police in Mpanda to make sure they interrogate authorities overseeing the Milala Dam, including TAWA to know the legality of activities carried out there, some of which cause panic among the residents.

She also instructed the Fire Brigade and rescue Services to camp in the area to make sure all the bodies are recovered and also told the people not to blame the government due to people not carrying out their responsibilities as required.

**Maulid Celebrations of Prophet Mohammed SAW and 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration of His Holiness Dr. Syedna Ali Qadr Mufaddal Saifuddin TUS**

### PUBLIC NOTICE - ROAD CLOSURE

The General Public is hereby informed that on Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> October 2023, A procession to celebrate Maulid of Prophet Mohammed SAW and 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday of their Spiritual leader, organized by The Dawoodi Bohra Community in Dar es Salaam will start from Kaluta/Zanaki Streets up to Elia Complex, cross at Junction of Bibi Titi Street, turning left to Olympio Street till Alykhan Road, Upanga from 11 AM to 1PM.

**All are welcomed to witness the event.**

Permit NO. CA.318/372/02/75-TARURA GB.891/1172/01/321 - JESHI LA POLISI

REG. NO. 108521

### TMF SERVICES TANZANIA LIMITED NOTICE OF FINAL GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT a Final General Meeting of the above-named Company will be held on the 6th day of November 2023 at 14:00-14:50 Hours at the registered office of the company Plot No.1088, Girl Guides Building, Kibasila- Ilala, P.O Box 7323 Dar es Salaam. Members or their proxies who wish to attend virtually will be provided with a Zoom link, passcode, and proxy template through their respective emails.

#### Agenda

1. To receive the winding-up report from the liquidator;
2. To lay down accounts of the Winding up of the Company;
3. Any Other Business.

By Order of the Company liquidator

Florian Mutagwaba

Liquidator

Dated at Dar es Salaam this 12<sup>th</sup> day of October 2023

Circulation:

To all members



### JOB OPPORTUNITY

Chemonics International Inc, a U.S. based international development consulting firm, seeks a **Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL)/Collaborating, Learning, and Adapting (CLA) Director** for the USAID Tanzania Lishe Mtambuka Activity, also known as the Regional Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Activity. The five-year project aims to strengthen health and food market systems that promote the adoption of optimal nutrition-related behaviors across a range of stakeholders in targeted regions in Tanzania. We are seeking individuals who have a passion for making a difference in the lives of people around the world. This position will be based in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

#### Responsibilities include:

- Finalizing and overseeing the Lishe Mtambuka Activity's knowledge and learning plan and Activity Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning Plan (AMELP), and designing and operating the activity's MEL system.
- Integrating CLA principles throughout implementation to promote learning and build the MEL and CLA capacity of our consortium and stakeholders through training and knowledge transfer.
- Collaborating with Lishe Mtambuka technical staff to develop and manage tools for data collection, storage, and analysis.
- Performing data analyses, generating reports of findings, and creating data visualizations to contribute to Lishe Mtambuka's reporting requirements and communications products.
- Collecting and disseminating lessons learned and sharing successes during project implementation. In conjunction with activity leadership, helping Lishe Mtambuka's team learn from its data.

#### Qualifications:

- Master's degree in statistics, quantitative/qualitative data analysis or management, program management, anthropology/social sciences, or related field.
- Minimum of 12 years of experience in utilizing tools for data collection, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting of donor-funded projects.
- Prior work experience on USAID-funded projects working with results frameworks, indicators, and targets required.
- Demonstrated knowledge of integrating CLA into project interventions to inform decision-making and incorporating CLA into capacity building for program monitoring requirements.
- Demonstrated experience with quantitative and qualitative research methods, including developing surveys and holding focus groups and capacity building for CLA.
- Excellent interpersonal and communications skills, with demonstrated diplomacy and the ability to communicate effectively in a cross-cultural environment.
- Demonstrated leadership, versatility, and integrity
- Excellent written and verbal communications skills in English.

#### Application Instructions

To apply, please submit your CV and application through this link

(<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/8bbd42e5ecdc49c3955a19f61a0d6b36>). Applications must be submitted by **Tuesday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023**, however, please submit your application as soon as possible, as candidates will be contacted on a rolling basis. No telephone inquiries, please. Finalists will be contacted.

Chemonics is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate in its selection and employment practices on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, disability, genetic information, age, membership in an employee organization, or other non-merit factors.



Hawa Rashid, a Form III student at Dar es Salaam's Mzimuni Magomeni Secondary School, airs her views yesterday during discussions on sexual corruption organised by CSO Women in Developmental Efforts (WAJIKI) in marking the UN-designated International Day of the Girl Child. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

# SDF beneficiaries want govt to beef up the fund

THE Skills Development Fund (SDF) beneficiaries have advised the government to beef up the fund so that it benefits many youths, thus overcoming unemployment challenges.

The SDF fund is managed by the Tanzania Education Authority (TEA) and since its inception in 2017 it has benefited 49,000 youth.

They gave the advice yesterday during the Adult Education Week exhibition, going on at Kibaha town, Coast Region.

One of the beneficiaries, Esther Shebe, who is an entrepreneur, said she was educated on mushroom cultivation and processing whereas she can now produce different products.

She said the fund sponsored her training at the Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO). Shebe got the 2022 'Malikia wa Nguvu' award in the field of agribusiness.

"I thank SDF and TEA for the

training; it has made me self-reliant. The government should beef up the fund so that more youth can be trained," she said.

Juma Munyi said through the fund he has received training at SIDO in Iringa Region whereas she is producing food spices. He said due to the training, his business has grown to the point where he has hired two university graduates and 15 others on a part-time basis.

"I graduated from the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM) in 2019, I opted to be an entrepreneur after a long-time struggle to secure employment. I was trained by SIDO and I am now earning enough through my business," said Munyi.

TEA Information and Communication Officer, Eliafile Sola said SDF has been providing skills

training grants to youth for purposes of enabling them to employ themselves.

She said some of the exhibitors who are SDF beneficiaries were trained between 2018 and 2023. She said the skills training is offered in six priority areas namely—energy, information technology and communication, agriculture, transport, construction, tourism and hospitality services.

She said one of the beneficiaries opted to add value to vegetable and spice products where he has been buying them from farmers.

"These beneficiaries are university graduates, some of them were employed. We have one who worked as a nurse at a government hospital, but she decided to quit and become an entrepreneur," said the officers.

# Govt to enhance the protection of girls from FGM and other abuses

By Getrude Mbago

THE government has vowed to continue investing in initiatives meant to heighten protection of girls from various forms violence.

Dr Dorothy Gwajima, Minister for Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups, made the statement in Dar es Salaam yesterday during the Climax of International Day of the Girl Child as well as to celebrate the Girls Takeover Programme under Plan International.

Statistics show that a good number of girls in the country have been going through various challenges including sexual violence, such as rape, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and child marriage.

"The government will invest in liberating all children but more focus is on the female child as statistics show that girl children are the biggest victim of violence," she said.

She gave an example of findings from the Tanzania Police Force on sexual violence which shows that a total number of 12,163 incidents of violence against children occurred last year whereby 2,201 were boys and 9,962 being girls.

She urged various education stakeholders to embark on initiatives to support girls to achieve their dreams which include taking over various leadership positions.

"The government has also put such an initiative by allowing girls to go back to school and continue with their studies whereby a total number of 17,532 returned to school in 2022," she said.

According to her, between January and September this year, a total number of 11,248 have returned to school whereby 5,057 are primary students and 6,191 are secondary students.

Plan International Tanzania, Interim Country Director Hilda Kibonde urged institutions to provide opportunities, mentorship and support to ensure that girls can unleash their full potential, adding that young leaders are an inspiration to us all. They embody the spirit of change, sharing your power.

"As we celebrate the International Day of the Girl Child, let us remember that girls are not just the leaders of tomorrow, they are the leaders of today. Their success stories are living proof of the incredible potential within every girl," she said.

This year Plan International is campaigning for "Girls Activism and Resourcing" a theme that is around the global theme dubbed: "Invest in Girls' Rights: Our Leadership & Wellbeing".

"Both of the two themes resonate deeply as we advocate for accountability in girls' resources amongst key actors as well as the power of girl-led activism."

She noted that in the realm of education, girls' involvement in leadership roles has paved the way for improved access to quality education. Through their advocacy, they've reduced gender disparities in schools, ensuring that every girl's potential is unlocked.

"We must continue to provide opportunities, mentorship, and support to ensure that girls can unleash their full potential. These young leaders are an inspiration to us all," she added.

Oscar Kimaro from Marie Stopes Tanzania said apart from the recorded achievements a good number of girls are facing various challenges such as forced marriage, rape and other harmful practices.

He said investing in girls needs joint efforts from both the government and stakeholders as this has numerous benefits which include breaking intergenerational poverty.



**As we celebrate the International Day of the Girl Child, let us remember that girls are not just the leaders of tomorrow, they are the leaders of today. Their success stories are living proof of the incredible potential within every girl**

## MWANGA HAKIKA BANK LIMITED

### MINIMUM DISCLOSURE OF CHARGES AND TARIFFS

PRODUCTS/ SERVICES	BUSINESS CURRENT A/C	PREMIUM CURRENT A/C	PERSONAL SAVING A/C	SALARY A/C	MTOTO SAVING A/C	JIPANGE SAVING A/C	WEKEZA GROUP A/C	MALENGO SAVING A/C	FOREX ACCOUNT USD & EURO	JIWEKEE SAVING A/C	MHB PAMOJA A/C	MSOMI ACCOUNT
Account opening	100,000.00	50,000.00	20,000.00	0	10,000.00	10,000.00	20,000.00	100,000.00	10	0	50,000.00	10,000.00
Minimum operating Balance	100,000.00	50,000.00	10,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	0	10,000.00	100,000.00	10	10,000.00	50,000.00	5,000.00
Interest Payable	N/A	N/A	3.00%	3.00%	6.00%	2.00%	3.00%	2% < 10Mil, 4% >= 10Mil	0.50%	2.00%	2%	3.00%
Interest bearing amount	N/A	N/A	50,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	100,000.00	5,000.00	20,000.00	500,000.00	20,000.00
Monthly Maintenance fee	20,000.00	10,000.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	Free	Free	Free	Free	2	Free	Free	Free
Deposit	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
Monthly Statement	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
Adhock statement Per page	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	1	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00

#### OTHER CHARGES

SERVICES	AMOUNT ( TZS)
Certificate of Balance	30,000.00
Confirmation to the Auditors	30,000.00
Search for information above 5 years	15,000.00
Cheque book cost (Per Leaf)	600.00
Status report	30,000.00
Stop payment order	30,000.00
Dishonoured cheque for lack of funds or refer to drawer or effect not cleared	100,000.00
Dishonoured cheque due to the technical error caused by customer	60,000.00
Dormant Account Activation	Free
Account Closing on Customer Demand	10,000.00
Counter cheque per leaf [Within the Bank]	15,000.00
Salary Processing fee [ per Transaction]	1,000.00
Customer ID	10,000.00
Pre-Mature breaking of Fixed Deposit on customer request	Minimum of 50% of the accrued interest
CCTV Camera footage searching request from Customer	30,000.00
Uncollected Cheque Book/Destruction	5,000.00
Visa Card Issuance-Classic	10,000.00
Visa Card Issuance-Gold	15,000.00
Replacement Visa Card-Classic	15,000.00
Replacement Visa Card-Gold	25,000.00
Umoja Card Maintenance fee	1000 per month
Visa Card- Classic Maintenance fee	3,000 per QTR
Visa Card-Gold Maintenance fee	5,000 per QTR
Uncollected ATM Card	5,000.00
PIN reset fee	5,000.00
Withdraw fee local (Umoja ATM)	1000-99,000=1500 100,000-400,000=1700
Withdraw fee other Bank (Domestic Banks)	3,500
Withdraw fee other Bank (International)	11,000
Balance inquiry Umoja ATM	300
Balance inquiry other Domestic Banks	950
Balance inquiry other Bank (International)	2,000
Decline Domestic [Insufficient fund]	1,000
Decline International [Insufficient Balance]	1,500
QR transactions	3% of Transaction Amt
POS transactions	3% of Transaction Amt
E-commerce transactions	3% of Transaction Amt

#### Cash Withdraw Over the Counter [TZS/ USD/EURO]

TRANSACTION AMOUNT	RATES
Wekeza/Jiwekezee	2,000.00
Bellow 10 Mil	3,000.00
Above 10Mil to 50 Mil	0.10%
Above 50Mil to 100 Mil	0.090%
Above 100Mil to 300 Mil	0.089%
Above 300 Mil	0.079%

#### Cash Withdraw Over the Counter Foreign Currency [USD/EURO]

TRANSACTION AMOUNT	RATES
Below USD/EURO 4,000	2
Above USD/EURO 4000	0.1% more than USD/EURO 40

#### AGENCY BANKING CHARGES

TYPE OF SERVICES	RATES
Deposit	Free
Balance Inquiry	500
Min Statement	700
Transfer of fund within MHB	2,000
Transfer of funds to other Bank	13,000

#### AGENCY BANKING WITHDRAWAL FEE

AMOUNT	FEE
Up to 50,000	850.00
50,000 - 100,000	1,000.00
100,000 - 300,000	2,000.00
300,000 - 500,000	3,500.00
500,000 - 1,000,000	4,500.00
1,000,000 - 3,000,000	6,000.00
3,000,000 - 5,000,000	10,000.00

#### MOBILE BANKING CHARGES

WITHDRAWAL CHARGES			FUND TRANSFER CHARGES	
MINIMUM [TZS]	MAXIMUM [TZS]	RATES [TZS]		
0	10,000	800	Transfer of Funds within MHB 2,000.00	
10,001	19,999	1,800	Transfer of funds to other Banks 13,000.00	
20,000	49,999	3,500	EFT/SWIFT/TISS	
50,000	99,999	5,200	EFT within the Bank (Incoming) Free	
100,000	199,999	7,200	EFT to other Banks 1,500.00	
200,000	499,999	8,200	TISS Transfer 10,000.00	
500,000	999,999	10,500	T.T. Transfer -	
1,000,000	2,000,000	11,200	STANDING ORDER	
2,000,001	3,000,000	12,000	Instructions within MHB FREE	
3,000,001	5,000,000	15,000	Standing Order to other Bank 10,000/=	

www.mhbbank.co.tz

## Three out of ten children sustain road traffic injury in Tanga Region annually

By Guardian Correspondent, Tanga

AN average of 3 out of 10 children sustained mild to severe road traffic injuries in the past twelve months in Tanga Region, according to findings by an international road safety non-governmental organization—AMEND.

Addressing delegates during the annual road safety stakeholder workshop and closure of the road safety project that lasted for four years (2019-2023) in Tanga yesterday, AMEND Country Manager, Simon Kalolo said in Tanzania, 80 to 90 percent of children walk to school, usually unaccompanied by an adult, thus becoming vulnerable to road accidents.

“Our research has consistently shown that at high-risk primary schools in urban Tanzania over 1 percent of children suffer road traffic injuries every year,” said Kalolo.

Road traffic injuries kill over 1.35 million people around the world each year and are the leading cause of death globally for children, adolescents and young adults aged between 5 and 29 years. Africa has a higher RTI death rate than the global average: 26.6 per 100,000 people.

Kalolo said through their collaboration with the government in Tanga Region, they have successfully implemented the project—safe and healthy journeys to school for children and adolescents’ whereas they have improved infrastructures at schools including footpaths, a pedestrian footbridge, road signs, speed humps, rumble strips and zebra crossings.

He said they also provided road safety education to over 12,000 primary school children, facilitated training for traffic police and conducted road safety awareness campaigns through community development officers and messages through local politicians.

Tanga City Mayor, Abdulrahman Shiloo commended AMEND for implementing the road safety project saying it has helped to reduce accidents as well as broadening the understanding of people on road safety issues.

The project apart from imparting road safety education to students and residents, also improved infrastructures at primary schools, he

added.

“The project has been successful implemented with establishment of kids’ court at five primary schools—Usagara, Mwanzange, Martin Shamba, Mwenge and Mwakizaro,” he said adding the kid’s court project was purposely introduced to punish reckless drivers violating traffic rules when driving at school areas.

He said road safety education was also given to 900 motorcycle and motor vehicle drivers.

Shiloo noted that before the project there was a low level of action, coordination and commitment to tackle road safety.

“Each agency was just doing their day-to-day work. In the context of this project, it was the first time that different stakeholders and agencies were brought together sharing their views on road safety for the first time,” he remarked.

AMEND works with governments, communities, development banks, foundations, private-sector companies and others to deliver safe and healthy journeys in developing countries.

It runs projects in more than fifteen countries, and with offices in Ghana, Mozambique, and Tanzania, our focus is on sub-Saharan Africa.

Its work involves everything from scientific research to the provision of safe infrastructure, engineering, education, training, advocacy, consulting and beyond. Amend has been active in Tanzania since 2009.



**Our research has consistently shown that at high-risk primary schools in urban Tanzania over 1 percent of children suffer road traffic injuries every year**



Tanga deputy mayor Rehema Kasimu (2nd-L) pictured yesterday presenting a certificate of appreciation to Faraja Mwajike, a teacher at the city's Usagara Primary School, in recognition of the latter's contribution to road safety awareness efforts. Left is Simon Kalolo, manager of Amend Tanzania. Amend is an NGO working to develop, implement and evaluate evidence-based interventions to reduce the incidence of road traffic injury among the most vulnerable road users in Africa. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## BMH to introduce cardiovascular services, as it enters eighth anniversary of existence

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE Benjamin Mkapa Hospital (BMH) has said it will soon introduce cardiovascular services, as the hospital celebrates its eight years of existence tomorrow.

BMH Executive Director, Dr Alphonse Chandika, told journalists in Dodoma on Tuesday that the Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute (JKCI)-like super specialised heart surgical services will now be available in the Central Zone, thus easing the burden of some patients who are forced to travel long distances to access the services at JKCI in Dar es Salaam.

“In offering the cardiovascular services we are planning to work with several medical stakeholders, including experts from JKCI,” he noted.

Dr Chandika made the revelation when outlining the key achievements that have so far been attained by his hospital that tomorrow will mark its eight-year anniversary. The BMH Executive Director paid tribute to the government under President Samia Suluhu Hassan for continuing to support his institute in terms of infrastructure, human resources, finance, medicines and medical equipment.

According to him, within only eight years, the hospital has already introduced several specialists and super specialised services that have helped the country to save billions of shillings in reducing referrals outside the country. “Also, many patients who were being forced to travel long kilometres to Dar es Salaam’s

Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) are now accessing almost all medical services at BMH,” said Dr Chandika.

At the similar event, Dr Chandika handed over an award to Dr Stella Malangahe who was recognised as the overall winner of the ‘Doctor of the Year Award’. Dr Malangahe was awarded at the 10th Anniversary of Tanzania Health Summit on October 4th, 2023.

Dr Malangahe is an Assistant Director in the Department of Haematology and Oncology at BMH. She holds a Degree of Medicine from the Catholic University of Healthy and Allied Sciences, formerly known as Weill BUHS, and a Master of Medicine in Haematology and Blood Transfusion from the Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS).

This year at BMH, Dr Malangahe led a team that performed the first Bone Marrow Transplant in three patients with Sickle cell disease.

This makes Tanzania the first country in East and Central Africa and the sixth in Africa to excel in such a rare and needy curative type of medical intervention worldwide. All transplanted patients are no longer sickle cell disease patients - they are sickle cell disease-free.

Speaking yesterday, Dr Malangahe said she will continue bringing an endless smile to her patients by expanding curative services that require bone marrow transplant treatment. “This award is not for me alone but it is for the BMH team and I request my fellow staff to maintain this team work spirit,” she said.

## Tech firm in new partnership to scale up digital transformation

By Guardian Reporter

LIQUID Intelligent Technologies (Liquid), a business of cassava technologies has partnered with Wingu Africa a pioneer provider of carrier-neutral data centre services in Tanzania, and the foremost specialist carrier-neutral data centre group in East Africa to introduce the second Azure Hyperconverged Infrastructure (HCI) stack.

The investment from liquid Tanzania will provide a more conducive environment for local businesses to accelerate their digital transformation journeys.

“In 2021, we were the first to bring Azure Stack to Tanzanian businesses, helping them gain access to cloud solutions that met the local data regulatory requirements and efficiently run latency-sensitive business applications. This is yet another milestone we achieved as we continue to work towards empowering our customers to adopt cloud and contribute to making Tanzania a digital economy,” said Manish Govindji, acting CEO of Liquid Intelligent Technologies Tanzania.

The innovative solution offered by Azure Stack HCI ensures that businesses meet the local compliance standards by letting customers run applications designed for virtualised infrastructure.

Additionally, with the carrier-neutral offering from the Wingu group, companies have a further advantage of choosing the connectivity service provider.

The Wingu group is thrilled to collaborate with Liquid Intelligent Technologies in introducing Tanzania’s second Azure Stack, a pivotal step in accelerating the nation’s digital transformation.

“By offering local businesses access to cutting-edge cloud solutions, we aim to empower them to thrive in the digital age. Our carrier-neutral data center complements this initiative, allowing companies to choose their preferred connectivity service provider. Together with liquid, we are contributing to Tanzania’s digital economy, fostering economic ties, and leveling the technology playing field for local businesses. This partnership signifies a significant milestone in expanding technology access and affordability in Tanzania. We look forward to a future of increased connectivity, innovation, and growth for the region,” said Nicholas Lodge, co-founder and chief strategist at Wingu Africa.

Liquid’s continuous investment towards extending its fibre backbone and improving access to affordable digital solutions is critical to enhancing digital transformation in Tanzania and the rest of the continent. Ensuring local businesses have access to high-speed connectivity and digital services fosters economic and technological ties across countries. Also, it levels the technology playing field for businesses as they push themselves to a global stage to compete against their counterparts in more developed economies.

“With the availability of the second Azure Stack in the region, Liquid is yet again ensuring that it is a one-stop shop for all technology requirements. Especially since one of the greatest deterrents to cloud adoption in Tanzania is the high cost of accessing cloud solutions locally. Liquid has deployed Azure Stacks in multiple African countries, and we have the in-house expertise required by our customers to ensure that their IT needs are catered to by us end-to-end while they focus on their core business,” said Govindji.



Neema Kweka (C), manager of Absa Bank's Arusha Branch, joined by colleagues (all, like her, in red T-shirts) in Arusha city on Tuesday in guiding primary school students on using zebra crossings drawn by the bank's staff as part of a drive meant to enhance the safety of schoolchildren on roads. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## New partnership to boost insurance services launched in Dar es Salaam

By Guardian Reporter

A NEW partnership has been launched in Dar es Salaam with the aim to improve insurance services in the country’s commercial hub, thanks to the efforts made by the National Commercial Bank (NBC) and Jubilee Allianz Insurance Company.

The campaign dubbed: “Bima Mazima” offers vehicle owners in Dar es Salaam various insurance services through some of TotalEnergies fuel stations.

This collaborative effort seeks to revolutionize the way vehicle owners in Dar es Salaam access insurance services by offering easy access at Total Energies stations, which will be recognized as NBC Bancassurance Agency.

Elibariki Masuke, NBC’s Director of

Retail Banking, said the collaboration aims to provide protection against losses and damage caused by accidents, including fire, collision, and overturning of such vehicles.

“We believe that through this partnership between NBC, Total Energies, and Jubilee Allianz, we will provide affordable insurance services and bring relief to vehicle owners against various disasters,” he said.

Masuke added that NBC, through its Insurance Premium Financing product (NBC Insurance Loan), will also work with Total and Jubilee Allianz to ensure that customers receive insurance even when they do not have the full amount to pay for it at once.

“This product allows vehicle owners to obtain insurance and pay it in four to ten instalments while receiving adequate insurance protection against

disasters. Additionally, during this campaign, customers will receive free car inspections, and those who have insurance of 400,000/- or more through Jubilee Allianz will receive free roadside assistance (towing) and jump start when faced with the challenges,” he said.

Dipankar Charya, Jubilee Allianz Insurance Company’s managing director said the collaboration also includes accident insurance, which provides financial benefits in cases of injury, harm, or death resulting from accidents involving various modes of transportation, including buses, trains, planes, motorcycles, and tuk-tuks.

He mentioned the types of insurance offered through the programme includes “Comprehensive Insurance,” which is provided for 3.5percent of the vehicle’s value and a third-party

insurance amounting to 118,000/-.

“For customers with a GPS tracking system for their vehicles, they will receive a 5percent discount on insurance costs,” he added.

Gertrude Mpangile, TotalEnergies’ director of legal and corporate affairs said the three-month campaign will involve Total Energies stations in Oysterbay, Morocco, Mlimani City, Kariakoo, and Samora.

“At Total Energies, our mission is always to make it easier for our customers to access services. It is through this mission that we constantly strive to add various social and business services at our stations so that our customers not only buy fuel but also get their cars lubricated, serviced, washed, and other financial services, supermarkets, and now insurance,” she said.



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## Ultimatum by Lands minister Silaa will only work if he plays hardball

JUST the other day, Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development minister Jerry Slaa was quoted as having given the authorities concerned one week to come up with a lasting end to the longstanding challenges facing efforts to formalise unplanned settlements in Dar es Salaam.

The ultimatum was prompted by the fact that complaints and differences of opinion relating to land ownership, management and use have for decades stood as a common feature not only in Dar es Salaam and other urban areas in Tanzania but indeed across the country though with varying degrees of intensity and severity.

Strategies meant to rectify matters by at least mitigating the damage or forestalling recurrences of the consequences have not come to very much.

These include the likes of what is popularly known by its Kiswahili acronym MKURABITA, translating into Property and Business Formalisation Programme. It is government initiative primarily meant to facilitate and expedite the formalisation of property and business assets in the informal sector into legally held and formally operated entities in the formal sector of the economy.

In whichever way one looks at the matter, there is no denying that not only has the perceived popularity of some of these strategies faded but also some has shown precious little to go bragging about.

So, now, does one applaud the good minister for the braveness with which he is fighting to do the impossible or rather pity him for engaging in a sure exercise in futility?

Time will obviously tell, but he deserves all the support he will need in turning things around for the benefit of Dar es Salaam - both the city and the region - and, by extension, the country generally.

Some 15 years ago, investigations by committees constituted by local government councils confirmed public fears that most land wrangles Tanzania had been grappling with over the years sprouted from the very offices that ought to have been forestalled or resolved them.

It was found that more than three-quarters of land surveyors and what were previously known as town planners but were then called development planners were among the very people confirmed as having routinely precipitated or fuelled the disputes.

The offences these public officials were associated with included both acts of commission and those of omission, the most common,

pronounced or serious ones linked to abuse of office generally and misuse of land administration powers in particular.

It is a near universal fact that people have a very special attachment to land, and that is why problems with land ownership, allocation and use have touched off bloody battles or even full-blown wars in various parts of the world.

The problems have not spared Tanzania, the intermittent conflicts between farmers and pastoralists and between local residents and 'foreign' investors witnessed in different parts of the country bearing witness to this fact.

It was precisely this that once made the Benjamin Mkapa presidency promise to continue supporting efforts by the previous (Ali Hassan Mwinyi) government to conclude a national land policy.

The idea was to further enrich the idea through as much public debate as conditions would allow before asking the National Assembly to endorse it.

In Mkapa's words then: "It (the policy) essentially aims at making the land user more committed to that land so that it becomes an asset in terms of investment opportunities... It will recognise the land user's attitude, perhaps not so much towards ownership, but towards land use. Make it more permanent, more recognisable, more legal and so on so that it becomes an asset in terms of borrowing conditionalities."

It must have been part of the logical extension of this argument that Tanzania began experimenting with MKURABITA as a development strategy.

Sadly, almost from the programme's very first days, some stakeholders said it would be a non-starter unless the country's marriage, land, labour and capital market laws were appropriately amended. And, all things considered, this is roughly the scenario we are still witnessing.

Analysts underscore the need for banks and other financial/lending institutions to extend greater support to small businesses, while some argue that having the President continue to own all land on behalf of the citizenry constrains the conduct of real estate business.

But while it might pay for individuals or villages to take over the land ownership role, what guarantee is there that malicious interventions by corrupt or dishonest land officers such as those the committees' reports referred to will not continue to make it easy for that right to be lost? There is need for convincing answers to questions of this nature.

## We all need to feel obliged to have persons with special needs in mind

TANZANIANS have done much to be proud of in ensuring that they lead meaningful lives. However, they still ought to do a lot more.

One of the sectors calling for very special attention in this regard is education - all levels and types of education.

HakiElimu, a highly rated Tanzanian NGO the thrust of whose advocacy work is on issues relating to education, has kept conducting research and coming up with eye-opening and demonstrably useful findings about deficiencies in the sector.

For instance, one of its studies once cited problems with infrastructure as one of the factors constraining learning by students with disabilities.

At the launch of the respective report, the agency talked of the construction of 95 per cent of school buildings in the country not caring to remember that some of the people the buildings were meant for had special needs, including physical, mental and

other disabilities.

Admittedly, there had been talk of plans to make it mandatory for buildings in urban areas to accommodate the needs of all manner of people, including those in the above-named categories.

But few had since walked that talk and most such structures effectively remained danger zones or out of bounds for massive numbers of people who could not scale staircases or cross busy streets unaided.

More judicious use of resources at the disposal of the various institutions willing to help out persons with special needs would surely improve the scenario appreciably.

Here we mean the likes of government ministries, parastatals, UN agencies and HelpAge International, and they would be readily doing so in line with the demands of things like the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The larger society would be expected to feel compelled to chip in.



Seattle/Dakar

A slate of new initiatives to support locally led innovation has just been announced in Dakar, Senegal, by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) and its partners at the Grand Challenges Annual Meeting.

The investments come with an urgent call for countries to step up funding to make the research and development (R&D) of health and development innovations easier and faster, and to make the next generation of scientific and technological breakthroughs relevant and accessible to all.

Data show that while overall health R&D funding is increasing, only about 2 per cent is directed towards diseases that affect the world's poorest people.

In 2020, the annual funding gap for product development targeting poverty-related and neglected diseases was estimated at US\$2.6 billion.

"Over the past two decades, global investments in a pipeline of innovative solutions helped reduce childhood deaths among under-fives by half," said Moussa Balde, Senegal's Higher Education, Research and Innovation minister.

He added: "But lifesaving innovations still take too long to reach those who need them and are not always designed with equity from the start."

"Grand Challenges Senegal continues to invest in the country's brightest scientists and innovators, and we are pleased to be part of this global network of Grand Challenges partners investing in locally led solutions to ensure innovations, including in health, education, and agriculture, benefit everyone equally."

Launched in 2003, Grand Challenges, the BMGF's flagship innovation programme focuses attention and funding on pressing global health and development problems that affect the world's poorest people, using open calls for proposals to crowdsource potential solutions.

In an address to the more than 1,400 scientists, policymakers and donors attending the annual meeting, BMGF co-chair Bill Gates called for the world to spend at least US\$3 billion more every year on global health and development R&D in order to close the critical gaps in funding for neglected diseases.

"New health technologies have the potential to save millions of lives, but R&D funding is going in the wrong direction," said Gates, adding: "Donors need to step up their commitments to ensure health innovations reach those who need them more quickly, so that more lives can be saved."

Gates has just announced that the foundation is investing US\$30 million to support a new artificial intelligence (AI) platform in Africa.

The platform will provide African scientists and innovators with the

## Gates Foundation fetes 'Grand Challenges' with call on R&D



technical and operational support they need to turn promising ideas into scalable health and development solutions.

It is a step towards ensuring that the benefits of AI are relevant, affordable and accessible to everyone - particularly those in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) - and that these critical tools are developed safely, ethically and equitably.

The foundation has promised to continue to work closely with government and its technical partners in further advancing the platform and identifying opportunities to jointly advance the use of AI for health and development.

The foundation has also just announced new investments aimed at expanding access to a novel mRNA vaccine manufacturing platform that gives countries, including Senegal and South Africa, the technology to develop and manufacture their own vaccines.

mRNA technology is considered a potential game-changer for a range of infectious diseases, including tuberculosis, malaria and Lassa fever, which disproportionately affect people in LMICs.

This additional local vaccine manufacturing capacity will support LMICs to develop low-cost, high-quality vaccines that address their most urgent health priorities.

"What started as a single programme funded by the Gates Foundation and its partners has grown into a family of initiatives and partnerships across national borders, fields of study and sectors that catalyse research, products and partnerships to save and improve the lives of the world's most vulnerable people," said Kedest

Tesfagiorgis, deputy director, global partnerships and Grand Challenges at the foundation.

"Our community of brilliant innovators is proof that a great idea can come from anywhere and be supported by the funders, policymakers and advocates needed to move ideas into the laboratory and, ultimately, to the people who can most benefit from them," noted Tesfagiorgis.

Grand Challenges is supported by the governments of India, Brazil, the United States and Canada as well as a growing number of countries in Africa, including Ethiopia, Rwanda, Senegal and South Africa.

Since 2003, BMGF partners have invested US\$1.6 billion to support more than 3,800 projects in 118 countries - from new strategies to improve gut health in mothers and children to reinventing the toilet for improved sanitation to reimagining drug discovery research for malaria, tuberculosis and neglected tropical diseases.

To further support scientists developing cutting-edge innovations in LMICs, the foundation and its partners also issued new calls for proposals in a raft of areas.

One is equitable AI for health in LMICs. Building on a recent Grand Challenge (GC) to develop global health and development solutions in LMICs using AI-enabled large language models (LLMs), GC partners issued a request for proposals of up to US\$5.5 million to help advance the development of robust, locally relevant, AI-empowered tools to expedite decision-making, policy pathways and implementation by frontline health workers and policymakers.

The call is led by GC Brazil, GC India,

GC Ethiopia, GC Senegal, GC South Africa and GC Africa, with support from GC Canada, the Patrick J. McGovern Foundation, the Pasteur Network and the Gates Foundation.

Second: Women's health R&D to unlock the potential of half the world's population and unleash a powerful engine for progress. The Women's Health Innovation Opportunity Map 2023 is a new report outlining 50 equitable, high-return opportunities across the R&D continuum to maximise research and innovation, investments and global action in women's health.

To encourage innovations and ideas laid out in the Opportunity Map, BMGF announced a new request for proposals that will provide up to US\$3.6 million in funding.

The list also includes innovations in global health and development across other critical areas of need. The 2023 Grand Challenges Annual Meeting in Dakar is hosted by the Global Grand Challenges network of partners and the government of Senegal, and sponsored by Grand Challenges Canada, the United States Agency for International Development, Wellcome and BMGF.

The Grand Challenges family of programmes stems from a century-old idea that crowdsourcing solutions to a defined set of unsolved problems can touch off innovation and accelerate progress.

BMGF and its Grand Challenges funding partners first used Challenges - open requests for grant proposals - in 2003 to focus attention and effort on pressing global health and development problems for those most in need.

Together, as noted, Grand Challenges partners have awarded US\$1.6 billion across 3,800 grants to a diverse pool of problem solvers in 118 countries, while at the same time fostering a global innovation ecosystem in places where it will have the most impact.

The foundation and its Grand Challenges partners will continue to launch RFPs to support innovators from around the world in tackling the hardest, most urgent Grand Challenges.

Guided by the belief that every life has equal value, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation works to help all people lead healthy, productive lives.

In developing countries, it focuses on improving people's health and giving them the chance to lift themselves out of hunger and extreme poverty.

In the United States, it seeks to ensure that all people - especially those with the fewest resources - have access to the opportunities they need to succeed in school and life.



# Applying for work and residence permits in Tanzania

**T**HE influx of investors through multinational corporations franchises, tourists and availability of international organizations in our country have necessitated the revisiting of the requirements for work and residence permits for foreigners working and living in Tanzania.

This has been done in order to ensure compliance and smooth operations of these corporations, taking into account the fact that we do not leave in isolation but with other countries in the world. This article focuses on the types of work and residence permits and their requirements for each one.

Work permits and residence permits are important requirements for non-citizen who wish to start any business or be employed in Tanzania. Work permit gives the foreigner permission to work in Tanzania while residence permit gives a foreigner the permission to live in Tanzania.

So, every foreigner who intends to work and reside in Tanzania needs to have both permits. Validity of the two permits is a period of two years with the possibility of renewal. The law which governs this area is the Non-Citizens (Employment Regulations) Act 2015 (No. 1 of 2015).

## Types of work permit

The first step for foreign investors who wish to invest in Tanzania and companies which wish to employ foreign employees in



Tanzania is to apply for their work permit. Essentially, there are three types of work permits.

The first is class A which is reserved for investors, class B which is for foreign employees in exceptional cadres like science expatriates (oil and gas engineers, science and mathematics teachers), pilots, medical doctors et cetera and class C which is reserved for expatriates in other professions.

The applicant has to ensure that he or she applies for the appropriate work permit based on the company's requirements but also the skills of the prospective employee. For example, shareholders or investors in a company need to apply for work permit class A while directors who are not shareholders need to apply for work permit class C unless they possess the exceptional qualifications which can entitle them work permit class B.

How and where to apply

Nowadays applications for work permit can be done in two ways depending on the status of the applicant. Companies which qualify as investors can make their online application through the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) while companies which do not qualify as investors fill online forms through the ministry responsible for labour's website but both applications are processed by the Labour Commissioner.

An applicant needs to fill work permit assessment form online and attach the applicant's photograph then submit the filled work permit assessment form online in order to get control number thereafter make payment and submit the work permit assessment form and other requisite documents to the ministry of labour or TIC in case the business of the applicant is recognized as investor.

One thing to note is that pro-

cedures for application of work permit at the ministry and TIC are almost similar, except for documents submitted whereby application at TIC needs a certificate of incentive.

Requisite documents to be attached when making application for work permit comprises of basic documents like justification letter narrating the need of employing non-citizens and the skills that foreigner possesses which is filled in application form TFN901.

Others are recent passport size photo, copy of valid passport, sectoral approvals (where applicable), copy of industrial or business or operating license, copy of taxpayer identification number, value added tax certificate, copy of certificate of incorporation or business name, memorandum and articles of association or extract from the registrar of companies or constitution or any legal document evidencing the status of the legal entity concerned.

Although the above documents are basic, there could be additional documents for example certificate of incentive for investor, letter of no objection from the previous employer in case the employee had previous employment, succession plan for renewals and so on.

## When to apply

Application for work permit is required to be done while the applicant is out of Tanzania. The logic here is that the Labour

Commissioner has to evaluate skills of the prospective employee and ascertain whether there are no such skills, qualifications and experience locally hence the need for a foreign employee. Section 9 (1) of the Non-citizens (Employment Regulation) Act No.1 of 2015 prohibits non-citizen to engage in any occupation for reward, profit or non-profit unless he or she has a valid work permit.

Among the accompaniments of work permit application is the contract of employment which is duly signed by the respective parties. Therefore, the employer and the prospective employee have to ensure that the contract of employment is executed but to protect the employer, one may need to put a clause that execution of such contract is subject to the grant of work and residence permit.

In practice, however, some employers sneak in prospective employees through other types of visa like tourist or business and process the requisite permits while they are in the country. This practice is not legal and most of the times such employers find themselves liable to pay fines for such misconduct.

## Requirements for work permit

Apart from the basic personal information about the prospective employee like academic qualifications, the employer need to state the post for which such employee is to be employed in and the job description which matches the qualification he or she possesses. This is crucial because once the permit is granted it normally comes with restrictive clauses which prohibit him or her to work under a different post or title.

Another thing is the area of employment where the prospective employee will operate from. The work permit has

to state the areas or regions within Tanzania where the prospective employee is required to work in.

Also important is the name of any dependents that the prospective employee is to live with while working in Tanzania but one thing to note is that recognition of dependents does not give an automatic right to work or engage in any type of employment in Tanzania.

In a recent case of Civil Appeal No 320 of 2020 between Zorica Vejapi vs Wilderness Trail-Karama Lodge (2023) TZCA 17567 (29 August 2023), the Court of Appeal emphasized the importance of compliance with work and residence permits requirements for non-citizen employees by both non-citizen employee and the prospective employer.

Therefore, all noncitizens need to be aware of the procedures and law to ensure they discharge their stay in the country without violates the law since ignorance of law is not a defence.

Note: the material and information contained in this article are for general information purposes only. They only provide either elementary or basic legal knowledge on the above subject. Anyone considering legal action should consult an experienced lawyer to understand current laws and how they may affect a case in question.

**You can send questions or comments to our email [info@legisattorneys.co.tz](mailto:info@legisattorneys.co.tz) or postal address Managing Partner, Legis Attorneys, P. O. Box 3750, DSM. You can visit our website [www.legisattorneys.co.tz](http://www.legisattorneys.co.tz)**

By Japhet Laizer

**A**GRICULTURE in Africa has the potential to satisfy not only its own domestic food but also those of the rest of the world. Agriculture remains one of the driving engine sectors for the continent, empowering most of the population and accounting for 14 percent of GDP in sub-Saharan Africa.

Agriculture is becoming more integrated into the agri-food chain and the global market. However, it is faced with a number of challenges to meet the growing demand for food with a fast-growing population, competitiveness in the global markets and quality of agricultural products to compete in overseas markets.

Agricultural extension is a vehicle for modernizing, commercializing and transforming agriculture in many sub-Saharan African countries. Extension services targeting smallholder farmers have increased in recent years, but there are gaps in many African countries. Extension systems and service provision face several challenges, including few extension officers, limited resources and lack of awareness among smallholder farmers hence affecting sector development and smallholder farmers economically and socially.

The system largely leaves women and youth behind on access to extension services. Most African countries experience significant problems with the availability and dissemination of agricultural advisory services to the majority of smallholder farmers.

In most countries, the ratio of extension agents to farmers even exceeds 1:3000 and 1:10000. For instance, in Nigeria, the current ratio of extension agents to farmers is between 1:5000 and 1:10000 with a total workforce of about 7000 public agents (TASAI, 2020). In Tanzania, the average ratio of extension workers to farmers is 1:1172 and 1:500 for crop and livestock farmers respectively (Busungu, C., et al. (2019).

These constraints prescribe the broader vision to revolutionize and commercialize the agriculture sector with the recommended lower ratio of 1:500 down to 1:250 to ensure efficient technical advice to farming communities on proper utilization of improved technologies for improved crop productivity and livelihood in general.

Agricultural inputs are key to scale innovation and productivity enhancement to accelerate adoption rate through better yield for improved nutrition and income to rural farming communities. Farmers need support beyond their purchase of seeds to adopt improved agricultural technologies to realize the potential of high-yielding

## Privatising extension services can transform food systems in Africa



crop varieties on their farms. That is why technical know-how is important for farmers to realize high crop productivity and increased income of value chains.

Therefore, the private-led extension model was engineered to curb the existing gap of a limited number of public extension agents to save marginalized farmers. Private sector actors are increasingly providing extension and advisory services to farmers as part of their service delivery. This has enabled an increase in sales turnover, expanded zone of influence, geographies of coverage, and positioned brand reputation to farmers.

With the increasing market competition for seed, fertilizer and crop protection products, most agricultural input companies are driving rural advisory services to educate, inspire and persuade farmers to buy their products. Seed and chemical companies tend to develop demonstration plots along the main roads, village centers and markets to showcase the performance of their products, especially seeds, chemical and fertilizer. Some input companies are working close-

ly with Village-based advisors (VBAs) through the development and supervision of learning sites (demonstration plots).

Such a role incentivized VBA and earned a commission to continue supporting farmers with technical know-how on sustainable farming while aggregating input demand from farming communities. This has enabled seed, fertilizer and chemical companies to market and advertise their products and thus building good relationships with farmers for future business.

AGRA Tanzania has strived to strengthen private-led extension through recruitment and training of more than 6,000 VBAs to envision sustainably growing Africa's food systems. VBAs are self-employed farmers trained in good agronomic practices and other rural income-generating activities so that they cascade the knowledge to their local communities.

The VBA is selected by farmers themselves and works closely with public extension agents to support advisory service to smallholder farmers. Training in VBA expose them to both practical

and theory session with a deeper understanding of sustainable farming practices from seed selection, planting spacing, timely planting, compost making, usage of organic and chemical fertilizer, disease and pest management, harvesting, post-harvest handling, storage, aggregation and other rural entrepreneurship.

VBAs are connected to different business avenues ranging from input companies (seed, fertilizer, crop protection), hub agro-dealers, aggregators or off-takers, traders, mechanization and processors. Similarly, others are connected to NGOs to extend education and disseminate required products and services to farming communities for improved livelihoods.

In the process with such linkages, VBAs have the opportunity to generate income through commission and even start their own agro-enterprises. These profit-driven activities promote sustainability of the VBAs which allows them to continue to offer services to farmers in their communities. The VBA model has become a game-changer for many young male and female farmers through

changing mindset on agribusiness, exploiting rural agri-entrepreneurship opportunities and inclusion in farming activities.

Most input companies established and strengthened agronomy or extension departments to extend advisory services to rural farming communities. They have expanded input supply networks to reach farmers through VBA, retail, and hub agro-dealers as preferred input distribution channels and service delivery.

Moreover, input companies are actively transforming their mindset by showcasing agri-innovation through farmer field days and agricultural exhibitions to advertise and cultivate mutual business partnerships. Also, the extension services provided by companies include technical guidance and training on crop agronomy, crop care and harvesting methods to improve crop yield.

Some companies also provide education on the safe use of pesticides, insecticides, fungicides and nematicides through meetings with smallholders, field demonstrations, field days and visual materials such as posters, brochures, leaflets, banners and

audio-visual content.

In addition, seed companies are increasingly creating awareness to farmers through provision of seed samples freely, especially for new varieties, normally for maize packed in 50 - 100 grams to test the ecological viability and performance of such particular seeds so as to attract demand for the next cropping season.

Digital technology is increasingly growing to improve value-chain efficiencies across various interventions from farm to markets. The agri-input companies utilize digital platforms to advertise and market products and services but also promote e-extension in this era of digitization. The platforms connect farmers with value chains actors from production, information and markets. The platforms ease access to information and extension, input supply, access to finance and linkages with financial institutions to aggregation, marketing and sales.

Digitization is fundamental to inspire youth through "making agriculture smart" by offering innovative solutions through addressing existing gaps to improve adoption rate of technology with rural farming communities.

Therefore, the input companies play a significant role in promoting and scaling private-led extensions not only to market their products and services but also the adoption of yield-enhancing technologies.

Correspondingly, the VBA model is supplementing access to advisory services while also helping to curb the limited number of public extension agencies since the lower the ratio the better access to farmers with technical advice and other relevant agricultural technologies.

VBAs provide information on the use of quality seeds, fertilizer, improved certified varieties, mechanization and other yield-enhancing technologies to smallholder farmers.

These ultimately sustain improved crop yield, farm nutrition and income, reduce poverty and minimize food insecurity. It's high time for public and private stakeholders to recognize, incentivize the model, scale and sustain the private-led extension model (VBA) to accelerate the adoption rate for a wider impact to transform the food system holistically.

**Japhet Laizer serves as a Programme Officer for AGRA (Sustainably Growing Africa's Food Systems) and is based in Dar es Salaam. He can be reached at [JLaizer@agra.org](mailto:JLaizer@agra.org)**

# El Niño's impact on Central America's small farmers gets more intense

By Edgardo Ayala

**T**HE effects of El Niño on agriculture in Central America are once again putting pressure on thousands of small farmer families who are feeling more vulnerable economically and in terms of food, as they lose their crops, due to climate change.

But that is not all. In addition to the obvious fact that poor harvests lead to higher food prices and food insecurity, they also generate a lack of employment in the countryside, further driving migration flows, said several experts interviewed by IPS.

The El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) weather phenomenon had not been felt in the area since 2016. But now it has reappeared with stronger impacts. Meteorologists define ENSO as having three phases, and the one whose consequences are currently being felt on the ground is the third, the strongest.

## Impact on the families

"The lack of water made us plant later, in June, when a drought hit us and ruined our corn and beans," Gustavo Panameño, 46, told IPS as he looked disconsolately at the few plants still standing in his cornfield.

The plot Gustavo leases to farm, less than one hectare in size, is located in Lomas de Apacinte, a hill in the vicinity of Santa María Ostuma, in the central Salvadoran department of La Paz. "The beans were completely lost, I expected to harvest about 300 pounds," he said.

The corn and bean harvest "was for the consumption of the family, close relatives, and from time to time to sell," said Gustavo.

Nearby is the plot leased by Héctor Panameño, who almost completely lost his corn crop and the few beans he had planted.

Corn and beans form the basis of the diet of the Salvadoran population of 6.7 million people and of the rest of the Central American countries, which have a total combined population of just



Farmer Gustavo Panameño stands in the middle of what is left of his cornfield, hit hard by drought and windstorms, near Santa María Ostuma, in central El Salvador. Many Salvadoran small farmers are feeling the impact of El Niño, as are many others in Central America and the rest of the world. CREDIT: Edgardo Ayala / IPS

over 48 million.

This subtropical region has two seasons: the wet season, from November to April, and the dry season the rest of the year. Agriculture contributes seven percent of GDP and accounts for 20 percent of employment, according to data from the Central American Integration System (SICA).

"I lost practically all the corn, and the beans too, they couldn't be used, they started to grow but were stunted," said Héctor, 66, a distant relative of Gustavo.

At this stage, the stalks of the corn plants have already been "bent", a small-farming practice that helps dry the cobs, the final stage of the process before harvesting.

And what should be a cornfield full of dried plants, lined up in furrows, now holds barely a handful here and there, sadly for Héctor.

Both farmers said that in addition to the droughts, the crops were also hit by several storms that brought with them violent gusts of wind, which ended up knocking down the corn plants.

"The plants were already big, 45 days old, about to flower, but a windstorm came and knocked them down," recalled Héctor, sadly.

"After that, there were a few plants left standing, and when the cobs were beginning to fill up with kernels another strong wind came and finished knocking down the entire crop."

A few weeks ago both Gus-

tavo and Héctor replanted corn and beans, trying to recover some of their losses. Now their hopes are on the "postrera", as the second planting cycle is called in Central America, which starts in late August and ends with the harvest in November.

The windstorms mentioned by both farmers are apparently part of the extreme climate variability brought by climate change and El Niño.

## El Niño 2.0

"It's part of the same process, the warming of the water surface generates those winds," said Pablo Sigüenza, an environmentalist with the National Network for the Defense of Food Sovereignty of Guatemala (REDSAG).

Guatemala is also experiencing what experts have noted in the rest of the region: because El Niño has arrived in the "strong phase", in which climate variability is even more pronounced, there are periods of longer droughts as well as more intense rains.

That puts the "postrera" harvest in danger, said the experts interviewed.

This means that whereas El Niño would bring drought in the first few months of the agricultural cycle, now it is hitting harder during the second period, in August, when the postrera planting is in full swing.

"For the farmers it was clear since April that it was raining less, compared to

other years," Sigüenza told IPS from Guatemala City.

"Then, in August, we had the first warnings from the highlands and the southern coast that the plants were not growing well, that they were suffering from water stress," he said.

The most affected region, he said, is the Dry Corridor, which in Guatemala includes the departments of Jalapa, Chiquimula, Zacapa, El Progreso, part of Chimaltenango and Alta Verapaz, in the central part of the country.

The Dry Corridor is a 1,600 kilometer-long strip of land that runs north-south through portions of Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Costa Rica.

It is an area highly vulnerable to extreme weather events, where long periods of drought are followed by heavy rains that have a major effect on the livelihoods and food security of local populations, as described by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

Sigüenza said that food security due to lack of basic grains is expected to affect some 4.6 million people in Guatemala, a country of 17.4 million.

Even the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) "predicted that August, September and October would be the months with the greatest presence of El Niño," said Luis Treminio, president of the Salvadoran Chamber of Small and Medium Agricultural Producers.

Treminio said that 75 percent of bean production is currently planted, and because it is less resistant to drought and rain than corn and sorghum, there is a greater possibility of losses.

"So the risk now is to the postrera, because if this scenario is fulfilled, we will have a very low postrera production," he said.

Treminio's estimate is that El Salvador will have a basic grains deficit of 6.8 million quintals, which the country will have to cover, as always, with imports.

## Nicaragua, hardest hit

Nicaragua, population 6.8 million, is the Central American country hardest hit by El Niño, Brazilian Adoniram Sanches, FAO's subregional coordinator for Mesoamerica, told IPS.

As in other countries in the region, Nicaraguan farmers suffered losses in the first planting, in May, and again in the second, the postrera, "and all of this leads to a strong imbalance in the small farmer economy," the FAO official said from Panama City.

## Job VACANCY



JobTitle: Chief Executive Officer [CEO]  
Reports To: Governing Council

### Job Purpose:

The CEO is the head of the Zanzibar law society Secretariat and is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the secretariat. The CEO is responsible for building and modelling a Great society culture, providing inspired leadership to the executive team, and establishing A great working relationship with the council. She/He is responsible for setting a course For the society's strategy, building a solid image of the society, and building a network And strategic alliances with other players to ensure the achievement and enhancement Of the society's mission.

### Key Duties and Responsibilities:

- Oversee the day-to-day operation of the secretariat.
- Provide inspired leadership company-wide
- Make high-level decisions about policy and strategy in consultation with the council.
- Create an environment that promotes excellent performance and positive morale of the Secretariat.
- Oversee all operations and business activities to ensure they produce results consistent with the overall strategy and mission.
- Ensuring that the secretariat serves the needs and interests of the ZLS membership according to the ZLS mission statement and the society's regulations and as directed By council.
- Ensuring that the programs activities and the services of the society directly benefit The members and their professional well-being To this end, the CEO is responsible For Identifying members problems, issues and needs, developing and operating appropriate Programs and utilizing the necessary resource.
- Building networks, partnership and strategic alliances with other players to ensure the Achievement and enhancement of the organization's mission.
- Build trust relations with key partners and stakeholders and act as a point of contact for All stakeholders.
- Building a strong corporate image of the organization and maintaining a healthy and Productive relationship with all stakeholders.
- Ensure timely reporting to the council and keep them fully informed of all critical influence Factors affecting the society.
- Assit the honorary Secretary in setting the Agenda of council meetings and Recoring minutes.
- Execute all decisions of the council on time.
- Overseeing the society's fiscal activities, including budgeting, reporting and auditing Process for approval of the council.
- Preparation and submission ofv monthly, quarterly and annual financial and Narrative progress report on the activities and programs of the society to the council.
- Ensure implementation of operational policies and a strategic plan.
- Regular updating of operating manuals and other regulations to effectively manage the Society.
- Fundraising and resource Mobilization.
- Representing the society at various forums such as meetings ,workshop and conferences
- Ensure all legal and regulatory documents are filed and monitor compliance with law and Regulations.
- Anyother lawful duties that the council may assign from time to time.

### Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

- Experience in developing profitable strategies and implementing vision.
- Strong understanding of corporate finance and performance management principles.
- Familiarity with diverse organizational functions such as HR consultation law Marketing, PR finance etc.
- In-depth knowledge of corporate governance and general management best practices.
- Employee development and performance management skills.
- Ability to develop and deliver presentations.
- Demonstrated ability to fundraise and manage donors
- Demonstrated ability to manage a large corporate or centralized institutional legal office Successfully.
- Skill in budget preparation and fiscal management.
- Outstanding organizational and leadership skills.
- Excellent problem-solving skills and attention to details.
- Excellent communications and public speaking skills.
- Good analytical skills to research, analyse and interpret complex information and produce clear verbs and written reports.
- Knowledge and Experience of financial responsibility for a budget ,including knowledge accounting guidelines and of year account and external liaison with auditors.

### Qualifications:

- Zanzibari.
- A degree in law, Business Administration, Public Administration or other related fields From a reputable university.
- A master's degree will be an added advantage.
- Between 25 and 45 year's of Age.
- Computer skills: extensive knowledge of microsoft application/windows office package.
- At least [5] years of experience.
- High Integrity and good character.

### Application procedure:

All applications along with covering letter, curriculum vitae, current passport size photo, both academic certificate and transcript referees should reach the society in not later than 30<sup>th</sup> october 2023 through email address [info@zls.or.tz](mailto:info@zls.or.tz) The late application should not be considered.

**NB: Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.**

Website: [www.zls.or.tz](http://www.zls.or.tz) Email: [info@zls.or.tz](mailto:info@zls.or.tz) Tel: +255-764160875

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ASPIRES Tanzania  
Agricultural Sector Policy and Institutional Reforms Strengthening  
USAID SERA BORA PROJECT

ASPIRES Tanzania (Registration No.00NGO/08615 of 2016)

### Public Notice on NGO Activities and Financing for Fiscal Year 2022 (January – December 2022)

Pursuant to amended NGO Act number 24 and regulation 13(a) requiring NGOs to publish bi-annually funds received and their expenditure in a widely circulated newspaper, ASPIRES Tanzania is hereby presenting its January 1 – December 30, 2022 financial statement as follows:

SERA BORA is a USAID-funded project through Michigan State University (MSU) and implemented in collaboration with ASPIRES Tanzania. The 5-year project – (January 2020 – December 2024) aims to accelerate the adoption of more effective policies and programs, drive broad-based agricultural sector growth, improve household food security and nutrition, and reduce poverty in Tanzania. SERA BORA project has three components: Policy Research and Data; Policy and Regulatory Reforms; and Institutional Capacity for Policy Architecture. In the course of SERA BORA implementation, MSU will be providing a sub-grant of \$767,542 annually to ASPIRES Tanzania. The illustrative annual budget for ASPIRES Tanzania sub-grant is as follows:

SUMMARY OF EXPENSES	USD
Policy research and data	145,461
Support policy and regulatory reforms	153,276
Institutional capacity building	276,589
Project management, administration and monitoring	175,930
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>751,256</b>

Issued by: SERA BORA Project Coordinator ASPIRES Tanzania.

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South Africa by-elections: ANC loses two seats, retains two

By Wayne Sussman

SOUTH Africa ruling party the ANC has lost two seats in the latest round of by-elections - a safe seat to the EFF in the small town of Breyten in Mpumalanga, and a competitive seat to the Patriotic Alliance in Kimberley. It did, however, retain two key seats in other Northern Cape by-elections, while the DA held two seats in the town of Klerksdorp.

Northern Cape Ward 1 (Roodepan Platfontein) in Sol Plaatje, Frances Baard: PA 53% (25%) ANC 35% (32%) DA\* 7% (25%) EFF 2% (1%) BOSA 1% Ind-Martins 1% ACDP 1% (2%) The setting: Ward 1 is a vast area in Kimberley, the provincial capital of the Northern Cape. It is north of the city centre and includes the working-class community of Roodepan and Platfontein. Platfontein is home to the !Xun and the Khwe communities. The ward includes the tourist landmark, the Wildebeest Kuil Rock Art Centre, on the road to Barkly West.



Patriotic Alliance members. (Photo: Gallo Images / Fani Mahutshi) | EFF supporters. (Photo: Gallo Images / Sharon Seretilo) | Delegates at an ANC meeting. (Photo: Felix Dlangamanda / Daily Maverick) | The Electoral Commission in Pretoria on 11 May 2019. (Photo: EPA-EFE / Yeshiel Panchia)

The February 2023 by-election: The ANC prevailed in a tough four-horse race, beating the DA to second place, with the PA making major inroads to finish third. The ANC received 197 more votes than the DA and 213 more votes than the PA. A former ANC ward councillor running as an independent took votes away from the ANC in Roodepan to finish in a credible fourth place.

The PA won both Roodepan voting districts, taking two of the three districts in the ward. The PA came stuck in

Platfontein. It could not replicate its impressive returns in Roodepan. This allowed the ANC to retain the ward and also saw the DA finish second. The victory for the ANC allowed it to retain its outright majority in the municipality.

The by-election: Ferguson Moses, the ANC ward councillor, defected to the PA four months after winning the by-election. He elected to stand again for the ward councillor position. This saw the PA fielding the same candidate it did in the February by-election.

Another key development was the DA candidate standing down after nominations for candidates had closed for the by-election. The DA candidate abandoned the race and defected to the PA. It was the third DA candidate in 2023 to accept the party's nomination and then defect to the PA. In two of those three cases, the candidate defected after nominations had closed, meaning that while the party remained on the ballot, it could not replace its candidate. The PA was expected to be the major

beneficiary of the DA no longer fielding a candidate. The PA also knew that if it could improve its returns in Platfontein, it could take this ward from the ANC.

The ANC was boosted by the independent candidate who hurt the party in the February 2023 by-election, electing to not stand again. There was another independent candidate on the ballot this time round. This was also the by-election debut for Mmusi Maimane's Build One South Africa (BOSA) party.

The PA beat the ANC by 568 votes as the party won its first by-election in the Northern Cape. The PA benefited from the DA's candidate withdrawing from the race after the nomination period had closed. However, the PA also made strides in Platfontein, a part of the ward where they struggled in the by-election here earlier in the year.

The PA built on its strong showing in Roodepan in the previous by-election. At Lucretia Primary School it

more than doubled its support, climbing from 29% to 61%. The DA still won 6% of the vote here to finish third in the district, but much of the 24% it won last time went to the PA. The PA also won over voters who backed the independent in the previous by-election. The ANC held steady at 29%.

It was similar in the less-populated Roodepan voting district. At the NG Kerk, the PA surged from 29% to 57%. Its growth here was from the DA whose support fell from 21% to 9%, and the independent who was not on the ballot. The ANC made small gains in this district, growing from 24% to 26%.

While the ANC grew in Platfontein, it was not enough to make up for the shortcomings in Roodepan. The ANC went from 47% to 50%. Platfontein voters from the DA broke for the PA as the latter leapt from 9% to 37%. Despite the DA not having a candidate, it still won 8% of the vote.

BOSA finished fifth in its debut by-election, losing out to the EFF for fourth place.

The ANC has now lost its outright majority. The new Sol Plaatje (Kimberley) council composition is: ANC 32 (33) DA 14 EFF 6 PA 4 (3) Sol Plaatje Service Delivery Forum 3 VF+ 3 GOOD 2 ACDP 1. Total: 65.

The PA is now alone in the fourth place with the most council seats in Sol Plaatje.

The ANC is likely to turn to GOOD or the PA to keep control of Sol Plaatje, with GOOD starting as a slight favourite for preferred coalition partner.

Ward 3 (Kakamas) Kai !Garib in ZF Mgcawu: ANC 38% (39%) Hpcw for the Future 29% (29%) DA 22% (20%) PA 7% (<1% PR) MRM 3% EFF 1% (1%)

The setting: Kakamas is the gateway town to the Augrabies Falls National Park. Sitting on the banks of the Orange River, it is known for its historic water wheels and irrigation canals. Grapes, lucerne, sultanas and the yellow clingstone peach found in most cans, are some of the produce farmed in this sweltering part of the country. The municipality of Kai !Garib covers much of the Green Kalahari and includes Keimoes. It extends to quiver tree country as Kenhardt also falls into its border.

The ZF Mgcawu district's seat of power is in Upington. Postmasburg and Groblershoop fall in the district, which borders Namibia and Botswana.

The 2021 local government elections: There was a fascinating result in Kai !Garib in 2021. The ANC only won 44% of the vote, but won 10 of the 19 seats in the municipality to win an outright majority. How did it do this? It won all 10 wards, holding off local party Hope for the Future (HFTF) and the DA in each ward. HFTF would emerge as the official opposition in Kai !Garib with its four-seat haul. The DA fell to third with three.

Ward 3 was an example of this. The ANC won less than 40% of the vote, while there were two other parties which exceeded 20% of the vote. The ward has three voting districts. Close on 70% of the voters cast their votes in the Kakamas High School voting district, in the Langverweg part of the town. Turnout was very high here in 2021 - just under two-thirds of registered voters. The ANC beat HFTF by 10% points and the DA finished a distant third. By winning this district, the ANC carried the ward. The EFF and the

Freedom Front Plus (FF+) won one seat each.

It was between the DA and the FF+ in the Hoërskool Martin Oosthuizen voting district. Twenty-five percent of voters are in this district. The turnout was comparatively much lower here than at Kakamas High School, with only 46% of registered voters showing up. The ANC also carried the more rural Ebenaeser Boerdery voting district, beating the DA, which finished just ahead of HFTF. This district contains about 5% of the registered voters.

In the final analysis, the ANC beat HFTF by 206 votes and the DA by 396 votes.

The by-election: The reason for the by-election is that the young ward councillor died in a car accident. The ANC, HFTF and the DA were joined on the ballot by the PA, the EFF and a new formation, the Municipal Residents Movement. The FF+ came fourth here in 2021 with 7% of the vote. It did not stand in the by-election.

The ANC retained the ward with all three of the largest parties in the ward coming close to replicating their returns from 2021. More than 67% of registered voters turned out in the Langverweg part of the ward. The results in this district were indicative of the final rankings in the ward. The ANC was pushed by HFTF, with the DA a distant third and the PA fourth.

Turnout was lower in the other two districts. The DA was able to get FF+ voters to support it in the Kakamas town voting district, but the turnout there was 20% lower than in Langverweg.

The ANC won the small rural Ebenaeser Boerdery voting district by a landslide. It grew from 41% to 68%, taking support from HFTF.

The ANC retains its outright majority in this competitive municipality.

Ward 6 (Schmidtsdrift Mokala) Siyancuma in Pixley Ka Seme: ANC 50% (62%) EFF 28% (7%) Ind-Balepile 22%

The setting: Ward 6 is a large, rural ward east of Douglas, between Douglas and Kimberley. It includes the small village of Schmidtsdrift, farms, games lodges and rural settlements. Most of the voters are in Schmidtsdrift. The ward also includes the Mokala National Park. Siyancuma's seat of power is the town of Douglas. This is the confluence of the Orange and Vaal rivers. Griekwastad and Campbell are also part of Siyancuma. Siyancuma is in Pixley Ka Seme which includes De Aar, Colesberg and Prieska.

The 2021 local government elections: There was also a unique result in this municipality in 2021. The ANC won 52% of the vote but lost its outright majority. Two wards were won by independent candidates from an informal grouping called Siyancuma Independents. The candidates ran as independents. This meant that you could only vote for them on the ward ballot because the Siyancuma Independents did not run as a political party and they were not on the proportional representation (PR) ballots.

The ANC lost two seats in the municipality to fall one seat short. It won six out of 13 seats. The two independents worked with the DA, the FF+ and the EFF to oust the ANC. Well-known septuagenarian farmer Wim van Bergen was elected mayor, with the DA winning the speaker's position.

BANK OF BARODA (TANZANIA) LIMITED BANKING WITH PASSION DISCLOSURE UNDER REGULATION 11 OF BANKING & FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS (DISCLOSURES) REGULATIONS 2014 MINIMUM DISCLOSURE OF CHARGES/FEE/PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

# TANZANIA'S CONSTRUCTION MARKET TO HIT 12.8 TRILLION/- IN 2023, SAYS REPORT

By Guardian Reporter

It is estimated that the Tanzania's total market value of construction activities in 2023 will be valued at 22.8trn/- in 2023 (approx. US\$9.5 billion), the construction market report by Construct Africa, the construction intelligence website has said.

Construction activities have been driven by private projects such as residential and commercial real estate as well as public projects such as the construction of roads, energy, railways, bridges, water systems, telecommunications, and air transport networks.

According to the report, allocation to capital expenditure rose consistently at 10.8 percent from 12trn/- to 13.3trn/- in the four years from 2019 to 2022.

In the 2023 budget, the allocation to capital expenditure on construction is a 13.1 percent increase from the allocation in 2022.

Tanzania's construction sector recorded an impressive compound annual growth rate of 11.5 percent in 10 years from 2012 to 2021, according to the report

"The construction sector will continue to be driven mainly by public sector development initiatives in the housing sector, education, and civil works. Private sector activities would augment this growth through real estate, industrial and commercial development," it says.

"The government's renewed drive to develop Dodoma to a standard befitting of a capital city will also drive growth in the country's construction sector. Infrastructure construction works and, eventually, industrial construction will also follow, driven by exploratory activities in the natural gas and mining sectors."

The report notes that the construc-

tion sector in Tanzania is transparent as the public procurement process is transitioning towards the electronic platform, TANePS, which is now being replaced by locally developed NEST.

Public spending on projects is directed by Tanzania's National Five-Year Development Plans.

The flagship project under the current plan, covering the period 2021-26, is the ongoing 2,115MW Julius Nyerere hydro power plant.

The US\$2.9 billion megaproject is intended to help Tanzania achieve its goal of 100 percent electricity access by 2025.

Tackling the country's housing deficit, estimated at 3 million units, is another key area of focus along with improving transportation.

More than 1,400km of roads are currently under construction and several airports are being developed. Ports infrastructure is also being expanded.

In recent years, the government has been putting in place legislation and institutional support to enable public-private partnerships.

The role of the private sector in project delivery in Tanzania is expected to grow as a result. The authorities are working to develop a healthy pipeline of projects to bring to the market.

This month, Tanzania Roads Agency (TANROADS) launched the tender process to find contractors to build the fifth phase of its long-running Dar es Salaam Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project, which seeks to alleviate traffic congestion in the country's chief port city.

The project entails the development and expansion of bus lanes, roads, bus stations, depots and terminals, and pedestrian bridges across Dar es Salaam to improve the public transportation network.



TANROADS has invited contractors to submit bids 27 October for Package A (road works) and Package B (building works) under the fifth phase of the programme. Package A has been divided into two lots.

Lot 1 involves building 19.3km of road works, 20 conventional bus stations and two pedestrian bridges while Lot 2 involves building 9.4km of road works and 12 conventional bus stations.

The scope of work includes upgrading the existing road from two lanes to four lanes, construction of embankments, drainage structures involving bridges, box culverts, pipe culverts and pavement layers, and ancillary works.

Package B covers the construction of depots, terminals and feeder stations.

The fifth phase is being supported by the French Development Agency (AFD).

The Dar es Salaam Bus Rapid Transit

(BRT) project is being executed over six phases.

Construction of the US\$96.2 million World Bank-funded first phase, involving 20.9km of roads and 27 bus stations, began in 2011 and was completed in 2016. Austria's Strabag International was the main contractor and the consultant was Australia's SMEC.

Phase 2 nearly completion and includes the construction of 20.3km of BRT lanes.

The work was split into two lots with China's Sinohydro the contractor for Lot 1, which is still underway and China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation (CCECC), the contractor for Lot 2, which has been completed.

The local Inter-Consult was the consultant for Lot 2 and the Turkey's Botek Bosphorus Technical Consulting Corporation and the local Apex Engineering are the consultants for Lot 2.

The total cost of phase 2 has been estimated at US\$159.32m and is being jointly financed by the African Development Bank (AfDB; 61.1 percent), Africa Growing Together Fund (AGTF; 27.8 percent) and the government of Tanzania (11.1percent).

Sinohydro is also working on phase 3. Phase 3 is again divided into two lots: Lot 1 deals with road works and Lot 2 with building works.

Sinohydro is the contractor for Lot 1, which includes 23.33km of roadworks, 32 bus stations, five pedestrian bridges, a bus terminal and a bus depot. Work started in August 2022 and had reached 5% completion as of 31 March.

The supervising consultants are SMEC and the local Mhandisi Consultancy and Habconsult for the road works and the local Unitec Civil Consultants for the building works. This

phase is being funded by the World Bank.

Phase 4 is divided into both packages and lots. Package A concerns the road works and Package B the building works. The construction contracts were awarded in July this year to three Chinese firms.

China Geo-Engineering Corporation was awarded a US\$71.3 million contract for Package A Lot 1, covering 13.5km of road works and one bridge.

Shandong Luqiao Group Company was awarded a US\$79.3 million contract for Package A Lot 2 covering 15.63km of road works, four bridges and three terminals.

China Communications Construction was awarded a US\$24.9 million contract for Package B Lot 3 to build two depots and a terminal.

The contract period for each lot is 18 months. The consultants are Kunhwa Engineering & Consulting and Aggola Engineering & Management Services. The World Bank is supporting this phase.

Phase 6 will involve the construction of 33.5km of roads. The concept design has been completed and the government is currently working on getting funding in place.

In another energy infrastructure project funded by the World Bank, Tanzania's Arusha Technical College is also inviting bids without prequalification for the design, supply, installation, testing, and commissioning of a 1.65MW hydropower plant to be built at Kikuletwa Renewable Energy Training and Research Centre, Hai district, Kilimanjaro region.

A compulsory site visit and pre-bid meeting is scheduled for 24 October 2023 at 10h00 (EAT) at Kikuletwa Renewable Energy Training and Research Centre.



BEVAC project's Cluster Coordinator in Pemba, Juma Omar Abdalla pictured at the handing over of five motorcycles to district forestry officers on Pemba Island. Photo: Correspondent Valentine Oforo

## EU donates bikes to support beekeeping in Pemba Island

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo,

Pemba

THE Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, Natural Resources and Livestock in Zanzibar has handed over five motorcycles the four district forestry officers and their supervisors in Pemba.

Worth over 43mn/-, the support which has freely been donated by the European Union (EU)'s funded Beekeeping Value Chain Support (BEVAC) project targets to heighten performance of the apiculture sector in the Tanzania's famous Archipelago of Zanzibar.

The BEVAC project aims to im-

prove the beekeeping value chain through enhanced quality production, value addition of bee products and strengthened trade and access to local, regional, and international markets.

Speaking during a colorful event tailored for the official handing over of the support earlier this week, held at the Chamanangwe open grounds in Pemba district, the Director of Planning, Policy and Research at the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, Natural Resources and Livestock in Zanzibar, Mr Makame Kitwana Makame said the donated support would play pivotal role to help fast tracking beekeeping value chain initiatives

in Pemba Isle.

"We're looking forward that, through these modern motorcycles, the forest officers within the four beneficiary districts will stand a more professional side to execute their daily roles pertaining to the general improvement of the beekeeping sector," he added.

Similarly, he challenged the officers to make proper and fruitful use of the transportation facilities in order to assure the much-needed end-results are attained.

Speaking for his part, the BEVAC project's Cluster Coordinator in Pemba, Juma Omar Abdalla, apart from expressing delight for the timely support, said the motorcy-

cles will facilitate the smooth dispensation of extension services in the sector within all Pemba districts.

According to the BEVAC's Manager, Martin Mgalah, the timely initiative is being implemented in six regions of Katawi, Kigoma, Tabora, Shinyanga and Singida in Tanzania mainland as well as Pemba in the islands of Zanzibar.

The robust project, BEVAC, is being implemented by Enabel, the Belgian Development Agency under the coordination of the Ministry of Tourism and Natural Resources for Mainland and Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, Natural Resources and Livestock in Z'bar.

## Panasonic Life India participates in Dar's construction expo

By Correspondent Christina Mwakangale

Panasonic Electric Works India (PEWIN), one of the largest manufacturers of electrical construction materials (ECM) in India, is participating in the Dar Construction Expo - Tanzania's leading expo in building construction segment in East Africa.

The goal of the expo to be held this month is to expand and make available quality products from Panasonic Life Solutions India with the help of MeTL.

Over 150+ participants from 20 countries are expected to be present, displaying their products to over 10,000 visitors over the course of three days.

A hub for architects, designers, engineers, building contractors, surveyors, cost consultants, project managers, suppliers, service providers, government representatives, and investors will be introducing the audience to some of the most recent and interesting products to the Tanzanian market.

Panasonic Life Solutions India's presence will be critical in providing quality products as the brand is known for its long-lasting, robust products, and buyers will have the same experience with the electrical line.

The current range offering consists of Switch Sockets, LED Lighting,

Switchgear, Ceiling fans, Building wires and electrical conduits. By offering good quality, durable products the brand aims to enrich the lives of the people by working closely with Tanzania.

Speaking on Panasonic's participation for the event, "Yoshiyuki Kato - Deputy Managing Director, Panasonic Life Solutions India said, "Tanzania has one of the fastest growing economies in East Africa, and this is reflected in the expanding infrastructure. There is a vast potential for quality goods in Tanzania, which Panasonic hopes to bridge in order to step up the international standards."

Vishal Nangalia - Exports Business Head, Panasonic Life Solutions India said, "We understand that for Panasonic India the Tanzania market is part of a larger picture and has the potential to play a key role in entire East Africa. We have observed a gap in the retail segment which is very exciting for us to work towards as we commit to exhibit great quality products at a reasonable price. We wish to serve superior products to the Tanzanian market."

Panasonic Life Solutions India Pvt Ltd. (formerly known as Anchor Electricals Pvt Ltd) is a wholly owned subsidiary of Panasonic Holding Corporation, Japan and is the leading Electrical Construction Material company with a presence across India.

## NBC JOINS TOTAL ENERGIES, JUBILEE ALLIAZ FOR INSURANCE CAMPAIGN

By Jenifer Gilla

The National Bank of Commerce (NBC), in collaboration with Total Energies and Jubilee Alliaz General Insurance, has launched an insurance campaign which provides an opportunity for vehicle owners living in Dar es Salaam to obtain insurance services through Total Energies fuel stations.

The partnership aimed at facilitating the access to insurance services for vehicle owners, whereby they will get the service at the Total Energies centers, and for those who do not have money will get loans from NBC Bank.

Speaking at the launch of the service, on Wednesday, the bank's

Director of Retail Banking, Elibariki Masuke, said the campaign will run for three months, where there will be NBC agents at all Total Energies fuel stations throughout Tanzania to sell customers with Jubilee insurance cover.

He said their agents will be in all Total Energies gas stations to serve customers who wish to purchase insurance and provide loans for those who don't have money, which will be paid in installments from four to 10 months depending on the value of the vehicle. He said the insurance cost starts from 118,000mn/- known as third party and goes up depending on the quality of the vehicle.

For vehicles that are fitted with

GPS, there is a five percent discount, so people should be excited about the opportunity. If the insured person dies, his family will get a compensation of 3mn/-.

"We offer the customer a solution to protect himself from disasters caused by fire appliances, even if he does not have cash, we will pay him and he will pay us in installments. The service is available to bank agents nationwide," said Masuke.

Director of Legal and Relations of Total Energies, Getrude Mpangile, said that vehicle owners who take insurance starting from 400,000/- and fill up with fuel at Total Energies stations will have the opportunity to undergo

a free vehicle inspection.

She said they will also be given help anywhere and anytime when they encounter challenges, such as being damaged on the road or any other problem.

Director of Jubilee Alliaz Insurance, Dipankar Acharya, said the goal of the insurance is to keep them close to customers and help them get compensation when their cars get into an accident.

He said that the service will currently be available at Total Energies centers located in Osterbay, Mlimani City, Msimbazi, Samora and Morroco, they are improving the service to reach their customers nationwide.



Logan Wort, ATAF Executive Secretary

## Continental forum revises approaches on tax regulation

By Correspondent Rachel Mkundai

The African Tax Administration Forum (ATAF) has revised Suggested Approaches to Drafting Domestic Minimum Top-up Tax (DMTT) Legislation. The comprehensive update reflects ATAF's commitment to fostering fair and effective tax systems across the African continent.

According to its press released recently in Pretoria, South Africa, ATAF enlightened that the Suggested Approach includes extensive explanatory notes to understand better what each provision seeks to achieve as well as to anticipate African countries to enact the GloBE rules.

The revisions also aim to provide tax administrators, policymakers, and stakeholders with an enhanced framework to address contemporary challenges and ensure a fair and efficient taxation environment.

Logan Wort, the ATAF Executive Secretary, commented, "The release of this revised Suggested Approaches marks a significant milestone in our collective efforts to strengthen domestic revenue mobilization. ATAF remains committed to supporting African nations in developing and implementing tax policies that are effective and contribute to sustainable economic development."

Wort highlighted the key points of the revised suggested approaches that include:

Alignment with International Standards: The updated Suggested Approaches that align with international best practices to facilitate harmonization and coherence in tax rules.

Another area is the Inclusivity and Consultation; in which ATAF has prioritized inclusivity by engaging in extensive consultations with tax experts, government officials, and other stakeholders.

This collaborative approach ensures that the Suggested Approaches are well-grounded and practical.

Adaptability to National Contexts: Considering the diversity of tax systems across African nations, the revised guidelines provide flexibility for adapting to individual countries' unique needs and contexts.

"ATAF stands ready to support its members to draft Domestic Minimum Top-up Tax Legislation using the Suggested Approach" stated Logan Wort. "ATAF is launching an extensive programme to assist countries undergoing

impact assessments, which will determine their policy options and, where necessary, draft and introduce a Domestic Minimum Top-Up Tax", Mr. Wort continued.

The DMTT is part of the GloBE rules aimed to ensure that all the global profits of large multinational enterprises are taxed at a minimum Corporate Income Tax rate of 15 percent.

Many African countries have granted tax incentives which result in an effective tax rate of less than 15 percent for some multinationals.

Under the GloBE rules, where a tax incentive results in an effective rate of less than 15 percent, the GloBE rules will lead to another tax jurisdiction, usually the jurisdiction where the multinational is headquartered, collecting the difference between the effective tax under the tax incentive and the minimum effective rate of 15 percent (the top-up tax).

The DMTT allows the country where the low tax profits arise from the tax incentive to collect that top-up tax rather than allowing it to be collected by the headquarter jurisdiction.

Over 50 countries have announced that they will enact GloBE rules in 2024, and many will start collecting top-up tax that year.

Therefore, African countries are strongly recommended to immediately enact DMTT rules to protect themselves from giving away taxing rights to developed countries on top-up tax arising from their own tax incentives.

However, commenting on the approach by ATAF, a Tanzanian based Geita Gold Mining Limited Tax Manager, Mr Godvictor Lyimo said that over the years, Tanzania has made significant steps in enhancing a fair taxation system not only from the Multinational companies but for the entire private sector. While the DMTT is proposing a minimum of 15%, the country is way above that. Even with the incentives currently being offered our legislation requires all companies who are perpetual loss makers to pay a turnover tax to safeguard the interests of the country. There is now a need to focus more on base erosion and profit shifting as an area of concern globally.

"I believe a detailed analysis needs to be done on DMTT proposal in the Tanzania context to ascertain how best it can work in enhancing more investments and safe guarding Government Revenues", he commented.

## China property creditors facing worsening restructuring terms

HONG KONG/NEW YORK

As more Chinese property developers move towards restructuring billions of dollars of debt, their offshore creditors are expected to face another setback - the prospects of revamp terms being tightened due to a worsening outlook for the county's real estate sector.

So far, developers accounting for 40 percent of Chinese home sales have defaulted on their debt obligations since 2021, according to JPMorgan. Those defaulted companies, mostly private, have issued around \$110 billion worth of high-yield offshore bonds.

Despite a raft of Beijing's supportive policies in recent months, home sales are showing few signs of improvement. Developers, financial advisers and bondholders said that could make debt restructuring terms much worse than expected earlier.

Sunac China last week became the first property developer to complete the debt revamp process after the sector plunged into a debt and funding crisis in mid-2021, while Country Garden, China's largest private property developer, is expected to start those negotiations soon.

A few developers, including Shima Group

and CIFI Holdings have reduced offers to offshore creditors in the past few weeks, citing a worsening environment, six sources with knowledge of the matter said.

The revised restructuring offers will see offshore creditors taking haircuts of up to 70% to 80%, compared to zero in the final plans the developers had proposed to them earlier, said the sources.

"Compared to 'Sunac time', the environment is very different, hence the terms have to be very different," said a senior executive of a developer in restructuring talks, citing worsening home sales and a weaker yuan currency.

"Sunac may need to restructure again in a couple years time if bad sales continue, so we don't use Sunac as a template. It's not achievable."

An adviser to developers also said home sales in June to September were much worse than initially anticipated in the negotiations, so many firms are lowering their terms and it would take time for developers to convince creditors.

All the sources declined to be identified as they were not authorised to speak to the media. CIFI declined to comment, while Shima Group did not respond to request comment.

DEFAULTING DEVELOPERS

The property sector accounts for roughly a quarter of the world's second-largest economy. However, it is in the throes of a liquidity crisis that market participants fear could spread throughout the financial sector at home and beyond.

Country Garden on Tuesday became the latest Chinese developer to warn about its inability to meet offshore debt obligations. The company has nearly \$11 billion of offshore bonds.

If it fails to make a coupon payment by Oct. 17, at the end of the 30-day grace period, its entire offshore debt would be deemed in default. That could trigger off one of the world's biggest debt restructuring exercises.

Most of the defaulted developers have started negotiations with creditors, but only a few, including Sunac, Fantasia, Zhongliang and Aoyuan, have gained enough creditor approval on their restructuring proposals.

While the market believed Sunac's restructuring terms would serve as a template for the other defaulted peers, those expectations are now getting a reality check as the sector recovery hopes diminish.

"Sunac may have set a good example for the developers that are still struggling to restructure. However, a turnaround (in the property sector) may need more," said Chuanyi Zhou, Asia corporate analyst at Columbia Threadneedle Investments, which holds Sunac's bonds.

"It is important to restore confidence in the sector."

Sunac's move to sweeten the restructuring deal in June to gain more creditor support is in stark contrast to the planned moves by some peers.

Yuzhou Group announced in August that one of the three options it offered would have a haircut of around 70 percent, becoming one of the first developers to announce a reduction in principal, though there is also one option without any haircut.



Construction site of residential buildings by Chinese developer Country Garden in Tianjin

## Dubai apartment prices up 1.5pc in September

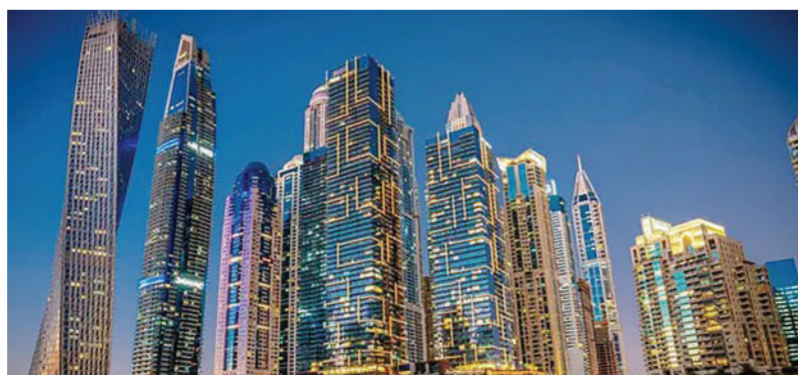
DUBAI

Dubai's real estate market maintained its unprecedented growth track in September, as investors continued to rush in, new data showed on Monday.

The apartment submarket saw capital gains of 1.6 per cent monthly in September and expanded at a new record 11 per cent annually, the highest capital growth for apartments witnessed in a decade, data from Valustrat showed.

The Valustrat Price Index or the VPI for September 2023 accelerated 2.1 per cent monthly and 15.1 per cent annually to reach 96.6 points. Apartments were at 79.7 points, and villas at 123.6 points, this is compared to 100 points set in January 2014.

The VPI is a valuation-based price index constructed to rep-



resent periodic change in capital values and rental values experienced by typical residential and commercial properties.

Villa and apartment capital gains accelerate during September across the board. In addition to prime properties, cheaper homes within the mid-affordable segment witnessed increased valuations. Off-plan transactions declined, high growth in the ready

(secondary) home market, the report showed.

The best apartment annual performance was recorded in Palm Jumeirah (20 per cent), The Greens (17.8 per cent), Discovery Gardens (17.1 per cent), Motor City (15.2 per cent), and Jumeirah Beach Residence (11.6 per cent). On average, apartments were 29.2 per cent below their mid-2014 price peaks.

Villa prices increased 2.6 per cent when compared with August, and 19.8 per cent since last year. The top annual performers were villas in Jumeirah Islands (26.3 per cent), Dubai Hills Estate (24.4 per cent), Palm Jumeirah (24.2 per cent), and Emirates Hills (21.8 per cent). Apart from Al Furjan and Jumeirah Village Triangle, all villas and townhouses monitored by the VPI have surpassed their 2014 price peaks.

However, home sales declined 29.7 per cent monthly and 10.9 per cent annually. Off-plan Oqood (contract) registrations fell 55.7 per cent monthly 37.5 per cent annually, representing a minority share of 40 per cent of overall monthly sales. Ready homes transactions increased 15.5 per cent monthly and 24.4 per cent annually.

## CONSTRUCTION

# ZANZIBAR INVITES CHINESE TOURISTS, INVESTORS

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

**Z**ANZIBAR is inviting Chinese tourists to visit in Zanzibar to experience its exceptional tourism potential, culture and other issues relating to business and investment opportunities.

Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Mwinyi said this recently while talking to new appointed ambassadors who visited him at the State House for self-introduction, to receive directives and bid farewell.

He called on ambassadors representing Tanzania abroad to pro-

mote Tanzanian tourism potentials to attract more visitors to visit in Zanzibar, Tanzania mainland and allow them to have additional source of income instead of depending on ocean economy, right now approximately 30 percent of Zanzibar economy depends on the sea.

"Let us see how we can tap china tourism market and convince Chinese to visit in Zanzibar and Tanzania mainland as well because china has largest population but majority of Chinese are unaware about our world famous tourists attractions," he said.

Zanzibar is endowed with a lot

of tourists attractions, has nice and unpolluted beaches, spices, historical sites that are not well-known for Chinese and other international visitors and right now Zanzibar is investing massively in blue economy.

So far, international tourists arrivals who visited the tourist's attractions in Zanzibar are from Europe and west Europe.

"Instead of depending on ocean economy let us see how we can tap china tourism market as well as attract investors from different countries across the world to invest in sport and conference tourism to in Zanzibar," he said.

Currently tourism sector is one of the most popular businesses in the world and it is among the highly contributing sectors to the economic advancement of many countries worldwide.

For Tanzania, tourism sector is one of the biggest employers and the number one foreign exchange contributor to the economy.

Tourism sector accounts for about 17.5 percent of the GDP and nearly 25 percent of the total exports engine.

Currently UK, Italy, USA and Germany are the primary markets while their secondary markets include

France, Canada, Australia, the Netherlands and Spain are tourists market for Tanzania.

So far Tanzania is considered to be one of Africa's safest destinations and safety is a very important factor for a tourist in choosing a destination.

"Our wildlife is abundant, easily visible and divers, we have a rich and divers culture and most of all boast of having one of the continents' most friendly people," he said.

TTB's former managing director Devota Mdachi added that more visitors are coming to Tanzania be-

cause certain things are only found in Tanzania.

"Other countries may have the beach and the safari but mountain climbing on Mt Kilimanjaro, the roof of Africa, the white sandy, unpolluted beaches of Zanzibar, the blend of cultures and the hospitality offered in Tanzania by its people, cannot be compared with anything else in the region," she said.

Also you can find everything you want as a tourist, all in one destinations, she says that is what makes Tanzania different from other destinations.

## PRETORIA

The Portfolio Committee on Water and Sanitation has raised concerns over weaknesses in finalising bulk infrastructure projects within the water and sanitation portfolio.

Following the receipt of progress reports on the implementation of the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) and its entities' annual performance targets, the committee said that the delays required urgent action, including strengthening project management and monitoring.

"The committee considers it unacceptable that 71% of total projects funded through the Regional Bulk Infrastructure Grant programme have been delayed. The direct impact of the delays is the non-delivery of quality water to the people, as well as undermining the economic potential that could be unlocked by provision of water," said Portfolio Committee on Water and Sanitation chairperson Robert Mashego.

Concern was further raised over the impact on the projected budgets of these delayed projects, which continue to increase, placing further stress on the already constrained fiscus, with the committee highlighting the Office of the Auditor-General's projections that the increase in revised budgets owing to delayed projects amounts to R9.4-billion.

"To remedy this weakness, the committee has called for improved project management, monitoring and procurement processes. Further, the committee called on the department to capacitate its project management unit to enhance oversight and monitoring," he said.

Additionally, Mashego pointed to the Water Trading Entity's (WTE's) maintenance of water infrastructure as an area of concern for the committee.

"The committee is concerned that 42 percent of the WTE bulk infrastructure assets are reported to be in poor condition, which leads to high water losses, loss of revenue and the inability to deliver water to clients."

The committee has urged stakeholders to increase investment in maintenance from the current 2.1% to 8 percent, as prescribed by the National Treasury.

However, despite these concerns, the



## Delays in water, sanitation projects anger portolio committee in S.Africa

committee highlighted commendable progress in reducing irregular expenditure within the portfolio from the reported R979-million in the 2019/20 financial year to R31-million in the 2022/23 financial year, as well as the improvement in the quality of the DWS's financial statements. "The proper management of resources is a critical pillar in ensuring quality services to the people. The committee has urged the department to continue its upward trajectory in the management of finances," Mashego said.

The committee further welcomed the progress in developing a water

services improvement plan to assist with improving service delivery in municipalities.

The plan includes important initiatives for the sector, including coordination with National Treasury, the Department of Cooperative Government and Traditional Affairs, the Municipal Infrastructure Support Agent and the South African Local Government Association to develop appropriate action plans to address the causes of water infrastructure and quality challenges and water losses.

Also noted in the statement is the improvement in the turnaround

time for the adjudication of water use licence applications.

"While the target of 90 days, as announced by the President in the 2020 and 2021 State of the Nation Addresses, has not been achieved, the committee welcomes the improvement from 300 days to the current 110 days to conclude the process," Mashego noted.

"The committee remains of the view that the improvement in turnaround times for approving water-use licences has economic consequences for applicants and can affect the food security in the country."

## Surge in expat population spurs house demands in Oman- report

## MUSCAT

Recent growth in the expatriate population in Oman, coupled with strategic investments to boost the economy, has spurred property demand and rent increases in the country, according to a Savills report.

After falling in 2017 and during the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of expatriate residents in Oman has started rising in recent times, posting a 33 percent growth from a low point of 1.63 million in September 2022 to a record-breaking 2.17 million in May 2023.

As the population expanded, the residential market has seen some positive impact, with housing rents in Muscat alone stabilising in general and growing in popular locations, Savills noted in a report released on Tuesday.

Rental values in sought-after locations like Al Mouj rose by around 10 percent to 20 percent over the last 18 months. In other areas like Qurum, rents have gone up by 5 percent to 15 percent.

"The resurgence of the expatriate population in Oman has had a positive impact on the residential rental market in Muscat," said Ihsan Kharouf, Head of Savills Oman.

"This growth has led to

increased demand for rental properties, especially in higher-quality localities."

Savills said there has been an increase in demand in central locations like Al Mouj, Qurum, Shatti Al Qurum and Madinat Al Sultan Qaboos, among others. It is anticipated that expatriate numbers will continue to grow as the Omani economy continues to recover and oil prices remain favourable.

"Over the coming 12 months, we would expect rental values for mid-to-high-end units to remain relatively stable (and even show moderate increases in some locations)," said Matthew Wright, Head of Consultancy at Savills Oman.

Low-end properties, however, will continue to face downward pressure.

The Omani government has rolled out vital projects that could support economic growth. In June, the government awarded a \$6.7 billion contract to build the world's largest green hydrogen plant in Duqm.

It is also working to expand the capacity for the proposed metro rail network and pushing ahead with a passenger and freight rail link that will connect Sohar to the UAE.

The IMF has forecast steady growth in Oman's GDP from 2024 to 2028.

## Inflation affects UK house prices

## LONDON

Inflation has masked the true extent of recent falls in UK house prices, with many regions and nations of the UK no better off in real terms housing wealth than on the eve of the 2008 financial crisis, research has found.

UK house prices have fallen by a modest 2.8 per cent in nominal terms since their peak in March 2022, but 13.4 per cent in real terms, according to analysis of the Nationwide house price index by estate agent Savills. After adjusting for inflation, average real house prices are no higher than they were in late 2015, Savills said.

"Because of high inflation, the adjustment in the average price of a UK home has been much more significant in real terms," said Lucian Cook, residential research director at Savills. The analysis suggests the average buyer will have seen a real-terms loss in the value of their home if they bought after December 2015.

Across some regions and nations of the UK, house prices have yet to recover to 2007 levels after adjusting for inflation. Prices in north-west England, Yorkshire and the Humber and West Midlands, as well as Wales, Scotland



and Northern Ireland, are substantially below their peak before the 2008-09 financial crisis, Savills found.

Real-terms prices in the north of England have fallen by 27 per cent since their peak in the third quarter of 2007. Over the same period, Yorkshire and the Humber is 21 per cent down; the East Midlands by 11 per cent; and Wales by 18 per cent.

Cook said property owners may not have felt the loss of value since the nominal value of their homes may have gone up or not fallen significantly in the past few years, but inflation had done its work of eroding underlying value, leading to the adjustment in real terms. To find the last time house

price growth exceeded inflation over any sustained period one had to go back to the period between the mid-1990s and 2007, he added.

UK consumer price inflation – excluding housing – was running above 10 per cent in the seven months from September 2022 to March 2023. It has since fallen to 6.7 per cent in the year to August, but remains elevated.

Higher inflation has led the Bank of England to raise its official rate of interest from 0.1 per cent to 5.25 per cent since December 2021 and pushed up mortgage rates, damping demand in the housing market.

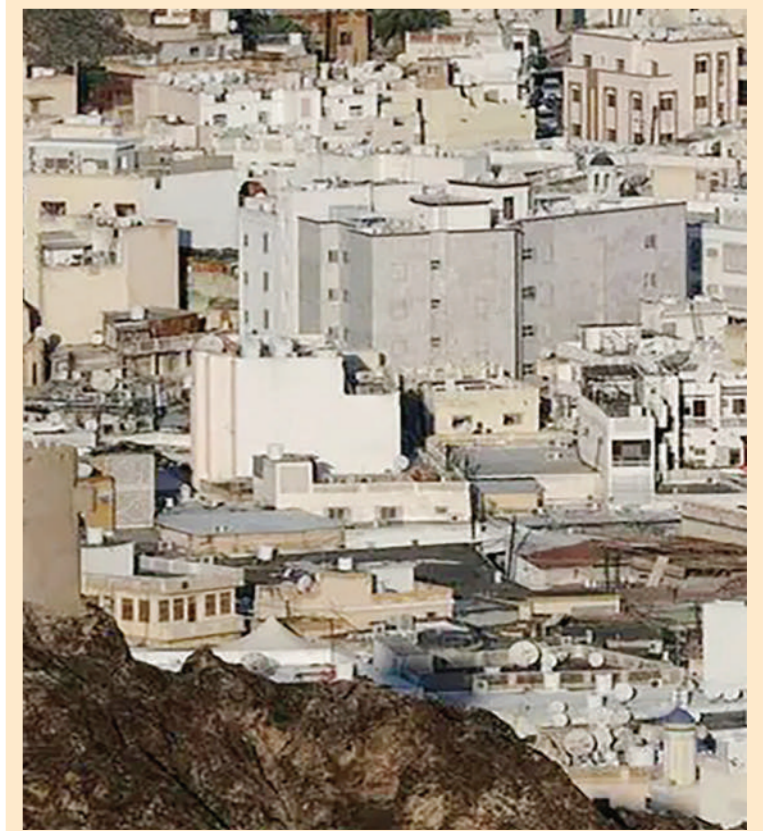
While lenders have competed more vigorously on mortgage rates in recent

weeks, prompting a decline in fixed rates, the average five-year fix is at 5.93 per cent, compared with 2.55 per cent in October 2021, according to data provider Moneyfacts.

Rachel Springall, finance expert at Moneyfacts, said the average two- and five-year fixed rates had fallen for the second month running, offering borrowers potentially cheaper deals. "These are encouraging signs for borrowers who may be looking for a new fixed-rate deal, but they still may be on the fence about locking in, hoping rates will fall further in the weeks to come."

A "gradual normalisation" of Bank of England interest rates, which Cook expected to take place from next year, would ease pressures on mortgage affordability, he said. But it remained hard to see the market emerge into a new period of "inflation-plus" house price growth.

"That raises the question of whether that golden age of asset price inflation, well above the underlying rates of inflation, has passed. When will it return? The answer will greatly depend upon what happens to interest rates from here."



## WORLD

# Israel kills senior Hamas official as death toll reaches 1,300

JERUSALEM/GAZA

THE number of fatalities in Israel since the beginning of Hamas' surprise attack has reached at least 1,300, Israel's state-owned Kan TV news reported yesterday.

Over 3,268 people were injured, and 443 of them are still in hospitals, the Israeli Health Ministry said.

Attempts to find bodies in southern towns and villages continued on Thursday, Israeli authorities said.

In Gaza, more than 1,200 individuals have been killed by Israeli airstrikes, according to the Palestinian Health Ministry in Gaza.

Meanwhile, the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) said in a statement on Thursday morning that Israel has killed a senior member of the Hamas naval force in an airstrike overnight.

The IDF killed Muhammad Abu Shamala, a senior member of the Rafah Brigade in the Hamas naval force, and destroyed his house, which was used to store weapons to be used in operations against Israel, according to the statement.

The Israeli army also struck multiple

sites belonging to the commando force of Hamas, it added.

Earlier on Wednesday, Israel formed a unity government and a war cabinet to oversee the deadly conflict triggered by Hamas' weekend surprise attack as it continued to launch airstrikes on the Palestinian enclave of the Gaza Strip.

The new war cabinet brings former defense minister and leader of the centrist-right National Unity party Benny Gantz to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's nationalist-religious coalition government. Members of the wartime cabinet also include Defense Minister Yoav Gallant.

The formation of the war cabinet comes amid increasing public criticism in Israel against Netanyahu and his government, who were blamed for failing to adequately prepare and foresee Saturday's attack, as well as amid rising speculation that Israel would launch a ground offensive in Gaza soon.

Palestinian Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) waged a surprise attack on Israel on Saturday, which included the firing of thousands of rockets and the infiltration of ground attacks on the Israeli towns border-



People carry away the body of a victim of an Israeli airstrike outside the morgue of al-Shifa hospital in Gaza City yesterday. AFP

ing Gaza.

In response, Israel launched retaliatory airstrikes on the Gaza Strip.

In addition to the retaliatory strikes, Israel has also ordered "a full siege" of Gaza, cutting the supply of electricity, food and water to the coastal enclave.

Fighting continued on Wednesday, with Israeli airstrikes continuing to demolish neighborhoods in the blockaded enclave, while militants in Gaza continued to fire rockets towards southern and northern Israel. The Israeli army also reported several infiltrations of gunmen in which at least five militants were killed.

The Palestine Red Crescent Society said on Wednesday that four of its paramedics were killed during Israeli airstrikes on Gaza. The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) reported the loss of eleven employees in the Gaza Strip since the weekend.

According to United Nations figures, some 250,000 people were displaced or lost their homes in Gaza. The Palestinian Energy Ministry said the only power plant in Gaza ran out of fuel. The Health Ministry

in Gaza said in a statement Wednesday all hospital beds in the Palestinian enclave had been occupied, and medicines were about to run out as the conflict continued.

To resolve the conflict, an Arab League (AL) extraordinary meeting at the level of foreign ministers was held in Cairo on Wednesday. Participants of the meeting called for an immediate halt to the ongoing Israel-Gaza conflict and the revival of the stalled Palestinian-Israeli peace process.

In the final communique of the meeting, the top Arab diplomats urged all parties to exercise self-restraint, warning of "the catastrophic humanitarian and security repercussions" of further escalation.

They also emphasized the necessity of lifting the Israeli siege imposed on Gaza and immediately providing humanitarian aid, food, and fuel to the people there.

Egypt said Wednesday it is in discussions with the United States and other countries to provide humanitarian aid to Gaza through a temporary ceasefire. The aid would be sent through the Rafah border crossing between Gaza and Egypt.

Xinhua

## World Food Programme: Afghan quakes a disaster on top of a disaster

KARACHI, PAKISTAN/KABUL,

THE World Food Programme on Wednesday called the recent Afghanistan earthquakes a 'disaster on top of a disaster,' urging the international community to provide humanitarian aid to the war-torn nation.

Limited aid makes relief work difficult after earthquakes and aftershocks since Saturday rattled the nation. The tremors killed at least 2,400 people and injured more than 2,000, the Taliban-run government said, making the quakes among the world's deadliest so far this year after tremors in Turkey and Syria killed an estimated 50,000 people.

"In Afghanistan, this is a disaster on top of a disaster, on top of a disaster, on top of a disaster," said Philippe Kropf, head of communications at the World Food Program (WFP) Afghanistan, in an interview.

"We have 50 million people who do not know where their next meal will come from, and the World Food Program is only able to support 3 million people due to a massive funding shortfall," Kropf said in Herat, a north-western province where the WFP has begun distributing rations.

"All the houses are completely flattened" and health centers have been turned into rubble, he added. "Livelihoods have been destroyed."

The WFP is initially providing

each family of seven with 2100 kilocalories a day for a month, and may consider other forms of aid like cash in the coming weeks, Kropf said. To battle malnutrition, it has been distributing high energy biscuits and a special peanut butter.

"Breastfeeding women are amongst the most vulnerable," along with children and pregnant women, he said. "If we can help them prevent malnutrition, that's how we do it, because preventing malnutrition is much cheaper than treating malnutrition."

Women and children make up two-thirds of the injured in Afghanistan, said Dr Alaa AbouZeid, head of the World Health Organization's emergency on Monday response in the country.

### Another quake

On Wednesday, a strong earthquake rattled Afghanistan's western province of Herat, forcing authorities to redeploy relief and rescue teams already in the field following a series of deadly quakes on Saturday.

There were no details on casualties so far, disaster management spokesman Janan Sayeeq told Reuters, but provincial officials said hundreds of homes had been destroyed.

The office of Herat's governor said some areas had suffered "huge losses", without giving details.

"Mobile medical teams and offi-



Afghan volunteers clean up rubble after an earthquake in Zenda Jan district in Herat province, western Afghanistan, Oct 11, 2023. (PHOTO/AP)

cial have been working together and have transferred several injured people to hospital," the governor's office said in a statement.

The German Research Center for Geosciences (GFZ) said the latest quake was a magnitude 6.3, and occurred at a depth of 10 km.

Hemmed in by mountains, Afghanistan has a history of strong earthquakes, many in the rugged Hindu Kush region bordering Pakistan. Herat province borders Iran, which said it would send humanitarian aid.

In the central district of Rubat Sangi, which was rattled by Saturday's quakes, at least 200 homes were partially or completely de-

stroyed, Governor Noor Ahmad Shahab said, adding that residents had suffered "huge financial losses".

There were no casualties reported so far, he said, as many villagers were already sleeping out in the open or in tents since the earlier earthquakes.

"People need urgent aid," Shahab said, adding that survivors were falling ill from the colder autumn weather.

Afghanistan's healthcare system, reliant almost entirely on foreign aid, has faced crippling cuts in the two years since the Taliban took over and much international assistance, which had

formed the backbone of the economy, was halted.

Afghans have endured decades of wars, since the fight to drive out Soviet Union military forces in 1979-1989 to US efforts to topple the Taliban government after the Sept 11, 2001 attacks, and the Taliban's victory in 2021.

The United Nations and humanitarian agencies reduced the budget for Afghanistan's 2023 aid plan to \$3.2 billion from \$4.6 billion earlier in the year, in wake of Taliban administration restrictions on female aid workers.

The WFP has already slashed rations and cash assistance from eight million Afghans this year, underscoring the severity of financial challenges aid agencies face in what the United Nations considers the world's worst humanitarian crisis.

The European Union said it would provide 2.5 million euros (\$2.65 million) to humanitarian partners working to provide relief, in addition to the 89 million euro humanitarian aid already allocated in 2023.

It also offered shelter kits, winter tents and hygiene kit, among other relief supplies.

Pakistan, Iran, Türkiye, and China have already pledged to send in food, blankets, medicines, tents and funds. The United Nations' humanitarian office has also announced \$5 million worth of assistance.

Agencies

## G20 Summit showcased India's commitment to fostering global togetherness: Ruchira Kamboj

NEW YORK

PERMANENT Representative to the United Nations, Ruchira Kamboj, on Tuesday (local time) said that the G20 Summit held in New Delhi showcased the country's commitment to "fostering a sense of global togetherness."

She highlighted various instances when India practised 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam', which means the world is a family.

In her opening remarks at the 'International Conference on Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' held at United Nations Headquarters in New York, Kamboj said, "The recent G20 summit, an event that showcased India's commitment to fostering a sense of global togetherness."

"Our leadership, marked by inclusivity and collaboration, saw the participation of 20 member states, nine invitee nations, and 14 international organizations. What is more, it witnessed the historic inclusion of the African Union as a permanent member, amplifying the voices of nations often left unheard," she added.

Notably, the theme for India's G20 Presidency was 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' or 'One Earth One Family One Future'.

The G20 Leaders Summit hosted in Delhi from September 9-10 drew the highest-ever contingent of world leaders and dignitaries in the event's history, including US President Joe Biden and the Prime Minister of the UK, Rishi Sunak.

Kamboj recalled PM Modi emphasizing the significance of women-led development at the G20 Summit. She stressed that 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' finds expression in the empowerment of women.

She also recalled PM Modi's remarks regarding India's model of financial inclusion in leveraging technology.

"At the G20 Summit, Prime Minister Narendra Modi emphasized the significance of women-led development, highlighting that nearly 45 per cent of STEM graduates in India are women. And indeed, 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' finds expression in the empowerment of women, who now play pivotal roles in India's space program, business landscape, and various fields," said.

"Again, the Indian Prime Minister also highlighted India's model of financial inclusion in leveraging technology to make development increasingly equitable. Using this model, India has transferred 360 billion dollars directly to the bank accounts of those in need over the past decade. As the World Bank has acknowledged, this model has successfully achieved a financial inclusion rate in 6 years which would have taken 47 years to achieve," she added.

Citing industry estimates, Kamboj said the costs incurred by banks for onboarding customers in India due to the use of its digital public infrastructure decreased from USD 23 to USD 0.1.

Emphasizing that yoga embodies the concept of unity, Kamboj stated that the International Day of Yoga, celebrated annually at the UN Headquarters, "brings people from diverse nationalities together in a harmonious union of body and mind, emphasizing our shared humanity."

"This year yoga day held a special significance as we were led by Prime Minister Modi himself, achieving a remarkable feat by setting a Guinness World Record for the largest number of nationalities participating in a single yoga session," she said.

Kamboj stressed that India consistently extended a helping hand in the face of global challenges, adding that the country's abiding commitment to 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' was evident even during the Covid-19 pandemic as New Delhi provided vaccines and medicines to more than 100 countries through the 'Vaccine Maitri' initiative.

Highlighting India's assistance to the international community during natural calamities, Kamboj said, "Operation Dost" saw India extending life-saving humanitarian medical assistance to countries like Turkey and Syria, reinforcing the belief that the world is indeed one family, and in times of need, we stand united."

She stated that PM Modi's launch of 'Mission LIFE' emphasises the importance of mindful and deliberate utilisation of resources to protect the environment, demonstrating India's dedication to a sustainable global family.

In her opening remarks at the 'International Conference on Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam', Kamboj spoke about India's friendship with nations of the Global South, saying that New Delhi has offered training to 200,000 individuals from more than 160 countries, considering the unique needs of its partners.

"India's friendship with the nations of the Global South is no less exceptional and inspiring. Our development partnerships have extended to encompass 78 nations across diverse regions. Within these collaborative efforts, we have initiated 600 projects, illustrating our goodwill and capacity," Kamboj said.

"At the heart of our approach is the belief that progress should be inclusive and borderless. We have also offered training to 200,000 individuals from over 160 countries, always considering the unique needs of our partners. Our journey has been guided by the Kampala principles enunciated by Prime Minister Modi in 2018, which serve as the compass steering us towards our partners' needs," she added. ANI

CHINA is not only advocating but also acting on the vision of building a global community of shared future.

Over the past decade, from promoting high-quality development of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), to proposing and implementing the Global Development Initiative (GDI), Global Security Initiative (GSI), and Global Civilization Initiative (GCI), China, with firm beliefs and solid actions, has worked with all relevant parties to consolidate greater efforts for lasting peace, create a favorable environment for common security, inject stronger confidence into common development, provide important impetus for cultural exchanges, and take more actions for ecological protection. China has continuously contributed to the building of a global community of shared future.

The BRI is a vivid example of building a global community of shared future, a

## China's action on and contribution to building global community of shared future

public good and a cooperation platform provided by China and welcomed by the international community.

By July 2023, more than three-quarters of countries in the world and over 30 international organizations had signed agreements on Belt and Road cooperation with China.

Over the past decade, China has laid the groundwork and set up the frameworks of BRI cooperation, delivering tangible results and achieving sustainable progress. Together, participants in the initiative have jointly advanced "hard connectivity" of infrastructure, "soft connectivity" of rules and standards and "people-to-people connectivity" among partner countries. This has effectively promoted the development of participating countries, constantly giv-

ing local people of BRI countries a stronger sense of fulfillment and happiness.

Flagship projects of the BRI, such as the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, the China-Laos Railway, the Jakarta-Bandung High-speed Railway and the Mombasa-Nairobi Railway, have lent strong impetus to local economic and social development. The China-Europe freight trains have made 77,000 trips in the past ten years, carrying 7.31 million twenty-foot equivalent units and becoming an important bridge for international economic and trade cooperation. Luban workshops have helped young people in more than 20 Belt and Road countries acquire vocational skills. The BRI aims to help China and the rest of the world share opportunities and seek common development.

Development serves as the material foundation for security and civilization. Through the GDI, China has made its contribution to resolving challenges to development and advancing global development.

The fundamental aim of the initiative is to accelerate the implementation of the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Its core requirement is a people-centered approach, its foremost philosophy is united, equal, balanced, and inclusive global development partnerships, and its pivotal measure entails results-oriented actions to bolster stronger, greener, and healthier global development and jointly build a global community of development.

China has hosted the High-level Dia-

logue on Global Development and presented 32 important measures to implement the initiative. So far, half of these measures have been implemented or achieved early fruits. The library of the GDI projects is expanding, with over 200 projects achieving good results.

UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina J. Mohammed noted that strengthening cooperation within the framework of the GDI is key to achieving the common objectives for people and the planet.

Security acts as the fundamental prerequisite for development and civilization. Through the GSI, China has boosted confidence for maintaining and realizing common security and universal security.

The initiative calls for adapting to profound changes in the international land-

scape through solidarity, addressing traditional and non-traditional security risks and challenges with a win-win mindset, and creating a new path to security that features dialogue over confrontation, partnership over alliance and win-win over zero-sum.

Over the past three decades and more, China has sent more than 50,000 personnel to UN peacekeeping operations in over 20 countries and region. China has been calling for the resolution of conflicts and working tirelessly to promote peace. It has facilitated the restoration of diplomatic relations between Saudi Arabia and Iran and has been actively involved in resolving international and regional hotspot issues. China is actively committed to international cooperation in various fields, including counter-terrorism, public health, digital governance, bio-security, and climate change. People's Daily





The Guardian

# SPORT

## Female golfers gear up for Uganda Ladies Open

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

**T**ANZANIA'S women's golf team was yesterday set to start competing in this season's Uganda Ladies Open tournament slated to take place at Uganda Golf Club in Kampala up to tomorrow.

Three national women's golf team members, Madina Iddi, Neema Olomi, and Vicky Elias are among eight Tanzanian golfers to have confirmed their participation in this year's Uganda Ladies Open tournament.

The annual tournament is a showdown that brings together top East African golfers to determine the annual winner through the competition.

Hawa Wanyache, the Tanzania Ladies Golf Union (TLGU) Competition Secretary, said that they have received the eight confirmations, as well as the ones from six male golfers who will compete in the Subsidiary category.

She mentioned other confirmed female golfers as Yasmin Chali and Loveness Frank from Kili Golf Club of Arusha, Chiku Elias of Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club (DGC), and Rachel Mushi from Arusha Gymkhana Club (AGC).

Anita Siwale (Morogoro Gymkhana Club), Maryanne Mugo from Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club, and the only male golfer, DGC's Dilwar Patadia, complete the list.

AGC's Madina has been in good form having triumphed in Kenya Ladies Open, Ghana Ladies Open, and Dar es Salaam Golf Open this year.

The prominent female golfer, who missed last year's edition of the Uganda Ladies Open, is



Tanzania's female golfer Madina Iddi.

heading to Uganda searching for her first title after several attempts.

"It is one of those titles that I have tried for years without success, I wonder

why it always seems difficult to conquer Uganda Ladies Open, I set my sight on the tournament to turn things around this time around," she said. Neema,

also from Arusha Gymkhana Club, will be looking for her second Uganda Ladies Open title.

She carded an aggregate of 229 (80,74,75) over three

rounds to win her first major title of the showdown that took place at the Lake Victoria Serena Resort & Spa, Uganda in 2018.

Vicky is also the Tanzania People's Defense Forces (TPDF)-owned Lugalo Golf Club golfer who secured her first major title at the Tanzania Ladies Open Championship at Kili Golf Club in Arusha last month.

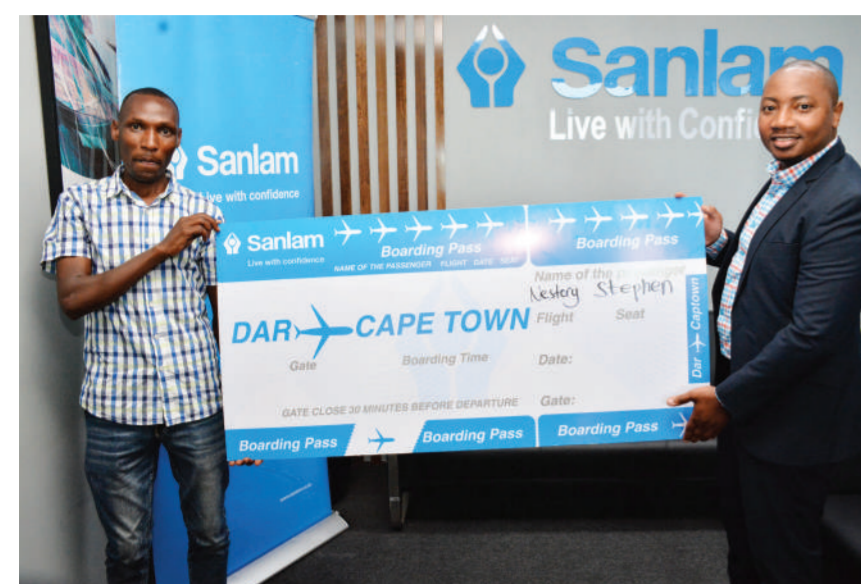
She has received her first national women's golf team call-up and will hope to continue her sparking form in Uganda.

Tanzania Ladies Golf Union (TLGU) president, Queen Siraki, expressed optimism that the country's golfers will perform well and make it proud.

"For this tournament, Tanzania's golfers will compete in three categories, Silver, Bronze, and Senior categories, and we have a strong presentation with nine players," Queen disclosed. The TLGU leader said: "I believe this cooperation and participation in the field of sports among African countries is one of the steps for building national relationships beyond political and economic matters."

She also highlighted the efforts made by TLGU and female golfers to promote golf in the country, despite limited resources.

The TLGU leader also called for support from the government and stakeholders from various fields to further the growth of the sport.



Sanlam Tanzania Company's Chief Commercial Officer, Kyenekiki Kyando (R), hands over a flight ticket to the 2023 CRDB Marathon winner, Nestory Stephen, at an occasion held in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Stephen is today jetting off to South Africa to participate in the 2023 Sanlam Cape Town Marathon that will be held on Sunday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JOSEPH MWENDAPOLE

## Dar marathoner set for 2023 Cape Town Marathon

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

**T**HE 2023 CRDB Bank Marathon winner, Nestory Stephen, is today set to travel to South Africa to compete in this season's Sanlam Cape Town Marathon slated for Sunday.

Stephen had, on Thursday, got a flight ticket from the marathon's main sponsor, Sanlam Company, to feature in the 42km race.

The occasion for handing over the ticket to the marathoner was overseen by Sanlam Tanzania company's Chief Commercial Officer, Kyenekiki Kyando, at the company's offices in Dar es Salaam.

Speaking at the event, CRDB Foundation's Head of Operations, Joycelean Makule, said Stephen received prize money from Sanlam Company and a promise to participate in the biggest race in Africa following his success in this season's CRDB Bank Marathon.

"The winner has been given a ticket, allowance, and will be provided full accommodation in South Africa

to participate in the international race, known as Sanlam Cape Town International Marathon, he is going to represent our country," Joycelean said.

She added that the 2023 CRDB Bank Marathon was held in Dar es Salaam in August and it was a race that had Stephen excelling in the 42-kilometer showdown.

"Sanlam Tanzania is our biggest partner in the marathon in the country and, in South Africa, they are also organizing a very big race, they are giving Tanzanians the opportunity to compete against other people," Joycelean noted.

Stephen said he is happy to have been presented with the opportunity and he hopes that he will do well and successfully represent Tanzania in the marathon that will be held on Sunday.

"I promise Tanzanians that I will do well because I have practiced enough, I believe that I will do well and I will not let the Tanzanians down," Stephen noted.

## Simba SC targets to extend Ntibazonkiza's contract

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

**S**IMBA SC has begun negotiations to extend its contract with Burundian midfielder Said Ntibazonkiza.

Ntibazonkiza, whose contract expires in December this year, joined Simba SC in December from Geita Gold FC during the previous season's mini-transfer window and the player has already scored seven goals in the Premier League.

The Msimbazi Street giants want to avoid competition from other teams if Ntibazonkiza becomes a free agent.

Both parties have presented their contractual demands and the negotiations between the two sides are going on well.

Reports indicate the club is willing to settle for a two-year contract with the former Yanga midfielder.

This season, Ntibazonkiza has registered two goals in this season's NBC Premier League, both netted in away venues against Tanzania Prisons and Singida Fountain Gate FC.

The midfielder netted a penalty when Simba SC came up against Tanzania Prisons in Mbeya in a clash that ended in a 3-1 win.

The footballer then notched the opener for his club in a clash against Singida Fountain Gate FC in Singida that saw Simba SC win 2-1.

Ntibazonkiza who emerged as the joint top goal scorer in the previous season's NBC Premier League, tying with the then Yanga forward Fiston Mayele on 17 goals, was also nominated for Team of the Season after his

stellar performance.

Simba SC is also set to schedule a round table talks with Ivorian winger Aubin Kramo who joined the club this season from ASEC Mimosas of Ivory Coast.

Kramo has failed to keep his fitness level healthy after battling a series of injuries since his arrival at the club.

The Ivorian ace has failed to play in any competitive fixture this season after nine fixtures honoured by the outfit.

The left-footed winger is currently in Ivory Coast undergoing recovery from the treatment he attained after sustaining a hamstring injury.

Simba SC is set to waive Kramo to give room for the club to sign a new foreign defensive midfielder to put shift with Fabrice Ngoma, Sadio Kanoute, and Mzimiru Yassin.

The Msimbazi Street side's head coach Roberto Oliveira needs a new midfielder after locals Nassoro Kapama and Abdallah Hamisi failed to impress the Brazilian tactician.

In another development, Simba SC players regrouped yesterday to step up preparations for the inaugural African Football League (AFL) match against Al Ahly at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Friday next week.

Football fraternity around the world will set its sights on Tanzania to see the big game unfolding, with FIFA president Gianni Infantino and CAF president Patrice Motsepe set to be in attendance.



National Service (JKT) traditional dance troupe's artists entertain attendees at the launch of the International Cashews Conference at the Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre (JNICC) in Dar es Salaam yesterday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

## UEFA president expresses 'profound sorrow' to Israel

NYON

UEFA president Aleksander Ceferin has expressed 'profound sorrow' about "the tragic acts of violence" in Israel.

Palestinian militant group Hamas launched a series of attacks on the country, killing hundreds and taking up to 150 people hostage.

Ceferin made his remarks on behalf of the European football community in a letter sent to the chairman of the Israel Football Association.

Israel's Euro 2024 qualifier against Kosovo on Sunday has been post-

poned.

Israeli authorities will not allow the national team to travel abroad, and a new date for the fixture will be announced in due course.

In response to the attacks by Hamas, Israel has launched air strikes on Gaza and prevented the passage of food, water, fuel and medicine into the territory.

"On behalf of UEFA and the European football community, I am writing to express our profound sorrow upon learning about the tragic acts of violence that occurred last week in Israel, resulting in the loss of innocent lives," said Ceferin in his letter.

"My heart goes out to all the victims and their families during these difficult times. It is an unimaginable tragedy, and the pain and sorrow are profound and resonate across the entire football community."

"We sincerely hope no one will ever again experience such grief."

"My friend, I pray for these deep wounds to heal and for a world where such senseless acts of violence have no place."

The UK government has written a letter encouraging governing bodies in sport to "appropriately" mark the attacks in Israel this week with shows of support for the victims.

The Football Association is unlikely to light the Wembley arch in the colours of the Israel flag because of fears of a backlash from some communities and, rather than lighting the arch, BBC Sport understands a message of peace and unity will be conveyed before England face Australia in a friendly on Friday.

A decision on how to mark the attacks is expected to be made on Thursday.

The FA, Premier League and individual clubs have not yet commented about the ongoing conflict between Israel and Hamas. BBC



SPORT

FA Cup: Why Jude Bellingham's hometown club fear for their future

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Mtibwa Sugar coach cites inexperience as reason for inconsistency in PL



Mtibwa Sugar's left-back, Yassin Mustapha (R), outfoxes Tanzania Prisons' winger, Zabona Mayombya, as the teams faced each other in a 2023/24 NBC Premier League encounter which took place in Morogoro recently. PHOTO: COURTESY OF MTIBWA SUGAR

"Sadly, we correct mistakes every day and players repeat to our disadvantage but that is due to my players' inexperience, it shows that the team does not have unity and balance in all areas," Kondo stated.

The tactician said: "Even if we score goals, it makes no sense because we are losing but I must find a solution to prevent the team from allowing too many easy goals."

He said that as a coach he will try to use his profession to psychologically build his players so that they can be able to focus and do well in the next league matches.

Kondo moreover said the league is still fresh with his side still having a chance to correct mistakes and get good results in the upcoming matches.

Mtibwa Sugar's coming fixture will witness the club confronting the equally inconsistent Kagera Sugar on October 23.

The Morogoro side will later welcome Kinondoni Municipal Council FC, with both fixtures taking place at the former's home venue.

Mtibwa Sugar will have an opportunity to give a good account of themselves and pick up three points from both games so it can have a season turnaround.

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

**M**TIBWA Sugar's head coach Habibu Kondo has disclosed inexperience among many of his players turns out to be the reason for the club's failure to pick three points in its first five ties of this season's NBC Premier League.

The Morogoro-based team has picked two points out of a possible 15 points, losing three encounters and drawing two fixtures.

The side's defense has allowed 10 goals from the five matches played with an average of conceding two goals per match.

The domestic coach noted age contributed to his players' failure to handle the competition in the league, especially after facing tough opposition in their early fixtures.

"We have signed many players who do not have experience in the Premier League, that is why we have

been having a difficult time in our matches," Kondo revealed.

"I am happy however to see that we are improving match by match, I believe we will do well in the future," the gaffer pointed out.

He disclosed: "The only problem is clean sheets at the moment we have scored in four of our five games which

is an encouraging sign going forward on how to achieve the standards we set amongst ourselves this season."

The coach noted starting the league with a loss to Simba SC contributed to the Morogoro side beginning the league badly because it led to a series of defeats that lowered the fighting spirit of his players.

TONIGHT @ 9:00

EATV MONDAY

11:00 DADAZ  
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA  
13:00 Zote Kuntu  
13:30 Kall Za Wana  
13:55 Dondoo Za Michzo  
14:00 SKONGA (r)  
14:30 Planei Bongo (r)  
15:00 Funguka  
15:30 Akili & Me  
15:55 Dondoo Za Michzo  
16:00 Zote Kuntu  
16:55 Dondoo Za Michzo  
17:00 SSELEKT  
17:55 Kurasa  
18:00 Kall Za Wana  
18:30 #HASHTAG  
19:00 EATV SAA 1  
20:00 DADAZ (r)  
21:00 SSPORTS  
22:00 Zote Kuntu  
23:00 Kurasa  
23:05 EATV SAA 1(r)

5Sports

5Sports The week's local and international sporting events as well as in-depth analysis of the biggest sporting highlights of the week are covered on 5Sports.

eastafrika RADIO

05:00 Supa Breakfast  
09:00 MAMAMIA  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planei Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
19:00 Kipenga  
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM

Zimbabwe completes 2023 COSAFA WC semi-final line-up

JOHANNESBURG

ZIMBABWE have completed the semi-final line-up at the 2023 Hollywoodbets COSAFA Women's Championship in Gauteng, South Africa following a 1-1 draw with Botswana in the Group C decider on Wednesday.

They join Malawi, who topped Group A with nine points, and Zambia and Mozambique, who finished in first and second places with seven points respectively from Group B.

Zambia and Zimbabwe will clash in a titanic battle in the first semi-final on Friday at 12h00 before Malawi and Mozambique go head-to-head at 15h30.

Both games will be played at the Lucas Moripe Stadium in Atteridgeville and the much anticipated Video Assistant Referee (VAR) technology will be used for the first time at a COSAFA tournament at this stage.

Botswana survived an early injury scare against Zimbabwe as goalkeeper Lesego Moeng needed medical attention in the first minute.

Three minutes later Zimbabwe won a corner kick and it was Priviledge Mupeti who found Ennety Chemhere, who headed home the opener in the opening five minutes to give her side the lead.

Botswana won a free-kick 25 minutes later and captain Kesegofetse Mochawe delivered it and forced Cynthia Shonga to punch away to deny them the equalizer.

Moments later Lesego Radiakanyo found Gaonyadiwe Ontlametse in the box and she missed the target.

Chemere could have extended the lead three minutes after the half-hour mark from range but her shot hit the crossbar. Zimbabwe took the narrow lead into half-time.

Botswana upped their tempo in the second stanza Balothanyi Johannes could have grabbed the equalizer early on but it was not to be as she could not find the target.

The Mares piled pressure and they won a set-piece from range and the skipper Mocahwe was unlucky not to score.

Mupeti had a chance to give her side a cushion goal from a free-kick outside the box after the hour mark but she was denied by the woodwork.

Botswana didn't give up and eventually levelled with five minutes to the final whistle through Johannes who scored her second goal of the tournament.

This is Zimbabwe's first international tournament since the country's suspension was lifted by FIFA.

They finished top of the Group with seven points and they are the side with the best defensive record in the group stage having conceded one goal.

Botswana returned to Gaborone as runners-up in the pool with five points, followed by Namibia with four points after they won 2-0 against Lesotho in the dead rubber played at the University of Johannesburg Soweto campus.

Emma Naris scored in the first half while Irene Kooper grabbed the winner in that encounter as last year's semi-finalists also bowed out of the competition.

AGENCIES

Hockey clubs set for 2023 Nyerere hockey tourney

By Guardian Correspondent

TANZANIA'S hockey players have garnered an opportunity to hone their skills, given this year's Nyerere hockey tournament is taking place in Moshi, Kilimanjaro.

Tanzania Hockey Association (THA) Chairman Kaushik Doshi said the 12th edition of the Nyerere hockey tournament gets underway today at Sikh Union Club and will conclude this weekend.

The THA boss noted that six teams have confirmed to take part in the prestigious event, which is an annual showdown seeking to improve the standard of the game in the country.

They are Tanga Stars, Arusha Twigas, Tanzania People's Defense Forces squad, Moshi Khalsa, Zanzibar Nyuki, and Kili Vijana of Kilimanjaro.

The showpiece is moreover held in memory of the Father of the Nation, Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere, who passed away on October 14, 1999.

Speaking on Wednesday, Doshi pointed out: "All preparations have been done and teams will be arriving on Thursday for the tournament."

The official said the tournament is organized by the Sikh Club of Moshi in conjunction with the THA.

Doshi moreover stated the showdown is sponsored by the Sikh Community of Moshi which has been continuously backing the event to date.

The previous edition of the

showdown was won by Dar es Salaam's Black Mambaz which registered victory over the host team, Moshi Khalsa, in an exciting final.

The official noted that however, this time, the defending champions Black Mambaz are not participating in the tournament but could not issue reasons for the club to opt out of the showdown.

Teams that are taking part in this season's Nyerere hockey tournament have been put in pools A and B.

Kili Vijana, Zanzibar Nyuki, and Arusha Twigas make Pool A, Moshi Khalsa, Tanzania People's Defense Forces squad, and Tanga Stars are the clubs forming Pool B.

Four ties were set to take place on the opening day, as

Moshi Khalsa took on Tanzania People's Defense Forces squad in the first duel, whereas Kili Vijana played against Zanzibar Nyuki in the following clash.

In the other two clashes, Moshi Khalsa were to get back to the pitch at 3 pm to face Tanga Stars, Kili Vijana wound up the day with a duel against Arusha Twigas.

The Nyerere hockey

tournament comes hot on the heels of the inaugural Master Hockey Tournament 5s that was hosted by Black Mambaz in Dar es Salaam recently.

The event, held under THA supervision, involved senior hockey players in the age category of 45 years and above, targeting to motivate the country's youths to take up hockey



Dar es Salaam's junior footballers take part in training at Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete Youth Park's venue recently. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Flexibles by David Chikoko

