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National Pg 3 Experts to contain invasive species



National Pg 4 Govt out to improve business environment



National Pg 6 Traders urged to pay tax to avoid penalties



President Samia Suluhu Hassan pictured in Arusha yesterday being briefed on the functions of Tanzania's Drug Control and Enforcement Authority. It was on the eve of the commemoration of the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking - or World Drug Day - which is being marked at national level in the northern city. Photo: State House

Samia: Illicit drug imports sliding, local weeds surging

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

DATA from United Nations agencies show that imported illicit drugs are no longer a problem in Tanzania but locally grown weeds are becoming notorious, President Samia Suluhu Hassan has declared. Officiating at the Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium here at the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking yesterday, she said that Tanzania has managed to cut down the infiltration of narcotic drugs into the country by over 90 percent. The report by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) implies that the country now has to work hard in combating locally grown plant-based products such as cannabis and khat, whose usage is on the rise, she stated. "And I have just realized that when it comes to cases of drug users in Tanzania the gender ratio in 50 to 50, that is there are as many women drug addicts as they are men," she

affirmed. Aretas Lyimo, the Drug Control and Enforcement Authority (DCEA) commissioner general, said over 615 tons of marijuana consignments were confiscated and destroyed in the past three months. "This confirms increased use of locally produced drugs," he said, underlining that this situation is propelled by scarcity of imported varieties such as cocaine and heroin. DCEA is working on setting up a national drug addicts' rehabilitation centre, expected to be built in Dodoma at a cost of 2bn/-, housing a vocational training centre for self-employment upon exiting treatment, he said. Scientists are working on biological agency to destroy cannabis (marijuana) weeds right from germination, which would eradicating the problem in a sustainable manner, he stated. Many countries were expecting to deploy

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Winding up of Budget: Ministers promise to address key concerns

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

THE government has promised to work on various issues that members of Parliament have raised including reducing levies in mobile phone transactions and value added tax (VAT) in locally produced agro-products. A number of cabinet ministers made this affirmation when winding up debate on the state of the nation's economy and annual development plan, as well as budget estimates for the fiscal year 2023/24 in the

House late on Friday. Taking note of what MPs proposed, they promised to collaboratively work to address the challenges. Key issues raised by MPs include vast shortage of teachers, timely supply of medical tools, equipment and medicines, improvement of roads and agriculture systems and checking wildlife invasions in farms and settlements. Reducing VAT on various products such

TURN TO PAGE 2

Horticulture firm unveils key export terminals plan

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

TAHA-Fresh Handling Ltd, a logistics firm, is pursuing plans for fresh produce terminal around the country. The firm, operated by the Tanzania Horticultural Association (TAHA), said over the weekend that fresh produce terminals will be built in key airports and ports to cater for export of perishables from within the country and neighbouring states. Dr Jacqueline Mkindi (pictured), the TAHA board chairperson, said over the weekend that venturing into fresh produce terminals complements efforts by President Samia Suluhu Hassan to position Tanzania within globally effective logistic services.

With a cargo freighter and large passenger aircrafts along with improvement of ports, the government is putting together a robust infrastructure for efficient logistics services, she said. "Therefore it is up to the private sector to complement these efforts with the hardware and soft skills required to make these projects a success," she affirmed, noting that cutting-edge facilities are strategic consolidation centers for perishable cargo. "Commercial interest aside, our venture into fresh produce terminal business is to position the country as a real regional gateway to Africa and global markets," she declared. The agri-business specialist said that demand for perishable commodities was surging globally, demanding customized, competitive logistics services to deliver perishable goods to retailers' shelves swiftly, she stated.



"In fact, fresh produce typically spends up to half of its shelf life in transit between supplier and retailer, so the clock is ticking from the moment it begins its journey to retailers' shelves," she elaborated. Amani Temu, the general manager, said at an international Africa Avocado Congress in Nairobi, that as a farmers owned company, it seeks long term initiatives for inclusive growth of farm businesses of all sizes. A deficit of fresh produce terminals to prolong the freshness of produce and deliver to consumers in the best possible condition, is denying Tanzania the chance to exploit its geographical advantage as the East African Community (EAC) zone and the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) as a trade gateway and logistical hub, he stated. TAHA Fresh Handling Ltd has won several local and regional awards like the East Africa Maritime Awards (EAMA) best logistics firm for facilitating multi-million-

This implies that TAHA Fresh Ltd is currently part of the 6,473 freight forwarders who are present in over 190 countries worldwide...

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Z'bar delegation on WCF learning visit

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR information and publicity officers have visited the offices of the Workers Compensation Fund (WCF) in Dar es Salaam

for detailed briefing on the activities carried out by the fund. Hassan Khatib Hassan, the Zanzibar Information Services director, led a delegation received by Dr John Mduma, the WCF director general, who said that the visit was part of a tradition of mutual contact and exchange of views. He said that at a certain point Zanzibar was making arrangements to introduce a similar scheme and WCF received a delegation of the Zanzibar legislature relevant committee, the Labour ministry and the Zanzibar Social Security Fund (ZSSF). WCF would open its doors to the visitors to acquire thorough knowledge from their

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Horticulture firm unveils key export terminals plan

FROM PAGE 1

dollar horticultural exports, he said. The competition involved companies from shipping, port services, along with engineering and leisure marine industries with operations in all the seven EAC member states.

The logistic firm has a critical role in absorbing costly and time-consuming cross-border non-tariff barriers to export horticulture produce overseas as it offers services in airfreight, clearing and forwarding, refrigerated trucking, perishable handling and sea freight from Dar es Salaam and Mombasa ports.

"Indeed, TAHA Fresh Ltd is slowly, but surely becoming a leading horticulture logistics

specialist, which understands and designs solutions for the country's nearly \$800million worth nascent industry.

"As it stands now, TAHA Fresh Ltd is an official member of the World Cargo Alliance (WCA) network. The WCA is the world's most powerful grouping of independent freight forwarders with more than 6,473 members in 789 cities and ports worldwide.

"This implies that TAHA Fresh Ltd is currently part of the 6,473 freight forwarders who are present in over 190 countries worldwide, plus membership of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and the International Federation of Freight Forwarders Association (FIATA)."

Winding up of Budget: Ministers promise to address key concerns

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as wheat and edible oil produced in the country was also raised, with many legislators bearing the burden of mobile phone money transfer levy, demanding that the government removes it.

Funding irrigation schemes to stimulate the mass production of staples and export crops were similarly vital issues, where Agriculture minister Hussein Bashe said the Treasury has been engaged to put in place robust strategies on the issue.

The government will ensure that funds are allocated for the supply of quality seedlings in sufficient amounts, plus farm technology where machinery will be ordered for the use of farmers around the country.

Drilling water wells and building dams for small-scale farmers to engage in irrigation farming would help to improve productivity, he said.

Z'bar delegation on WCF learning visit

FROM PAGE 1

counterparts, he said, with Dr Abdulsalam Omar, the WCF director of evaluation services, saying the fund has a vision of being exemplary in the provision of compensation to injured employees in Africa.

Delegation from various countries in Africa have been at WCF to find out how the agency was swiftly providing adequate and equitable compensation, he said.

Compensation targets employees who suffer occupational injuries or contract occupational diseases arising out of and in the course of their employment, or in case of death, it is paid to their dependents, he said.

Countries that sent study delegations to WCF include Kenya, Zambia, South Africa, Botswana, Ethiopia and Eswatini, he said while

director Hassan appreciated the reception extended to them and details grasped on activities carried out by WCF.

The visit was more successful than expected, and is likely help ZSSF improve its services, he affirmed.

WCF was established under the Workers' Compensation Act No 20 of 2008, where companies register and pay employee contributions, applicable in the public sector and private firms.

WCF provides various types of compensation including medical treatment for injured workers along with upkeep requirements and counseling for those with permanent disabilities.

The fund also pays significant sums to persons taking care of an injured worker upon approval by a hospital, the director noted.

People fleeing conflict in Sudan struggle for survival

KHARTOUM

Thousands of people who escaped the conflict in Sudan by crossing into South Sudan are now struggling for survival at transit centres in Upper Nile and Northern Bahr El Ghazal states, says MSF. Most are South Sudanese nationals who were living in Sudan when the conflict broke out in April, and many are women and children.

Returnees sheltering in and around the transit camps along the border have limited shelter, food and drinking water, and inadequate sanitation. MSF calls on the medical and humanitarian community to launch a coordinated response to address the mounting needs of the people here.

"Upper Nile and Northern Bahr El Ghazal states, in particular, are facing a heavy influx of returnees,

and the present humanitarian response is overstretched," says Jocelyn Yapi, MSF head of mission in South Sudan.

"The displaced people, who are already traumatised, have very limited access to food, shelter, sanitation and other essentials," says Yapi

"There is an urgent need for the authorities and others to accelerate the process of transferring them to other parts of the country in a dignified way, but to also ensure the provision of basic services for their survival and settlement in South Sudan."

Poor living conditions in the transit camps are already having a negative impact on people's health and, with the onset of the rainy season, the situation could become catastrophic.

AGENCIES



CCM Secretary General Daniel Chongolo pictured yesterday lending a hand in the connection of a pipe for the 4.08bn/- water project at Nzuguni in Dodoma Region that is expected to serve 75,000 people. Photo: Correspondent Adam Mzee

Samia: Illicit drug imports sliding, local weeds surging

FROM PAGE 1

a special weed killer to destroy marijuana plants, but global health agencies cautioned on likely environmental hazards, he said.

"We are therefore working to come up with a much safer biological agent that attacks only cannabis weeds without adverse effects on other vegetation or the

soil," he stated.

The rally also heard that most new HIV and Aids infections affected mostly drug abusing young men and women.

Dr Redempta Mbatia, the Tanzania Health Promotion Support director, said the NGO, assisting drug users to recover from effects of narcotics, has noticed that caregiving entails prescription of HIV-Aids drugs.

THPS has carried out HIV counselling and testing on 1,121 clients whereby 54 (5 percent) were diagnosed with HIV.

They were enrolled in care and treatment services at Tumbi Regional Referral Hospital and Bagamoyo District Hospital MAT clinics, she said, with 887 clients receiving the COVID-19 vaccine at the two centres.

Support from the United States

President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), the Centers for Disease Control (CDCs) and the Global Fund enabled the NGO to reach out and test 1296 people for HIV, who inject drugs (PWID).

About 1541 people injecting drugs were put to social behaviour change communication (SBCC) sessions and 20 PWID referred to Mount Meru MAT Clinic in Arusha from January to March, she added.



Ridhiwani Kikwete (R), Deputy Minister of State in the President's Office (Public Service Management and Good Governance), moves to respond to a question by a visitor at the Tanzania Railways Corporation booth during the African Public Service Week exhibition held at Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Somalia appeals for lifting of arms embargo

MOGADISHU

SOMALIAN President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud has urged the U.N. Security Council to lift an arms embargo on the nation, saying it no longer serves its purpose.

Some analysts, however, say Somalia is still struggling to ensure arms meant to provide security don't end up in the hands of terrorists.

Mohamud told the Security Council on Thursday that his government had put in place sufficient measures to counter the illicit flow of arms. He said the government had established legislation to control the possession, manufacture, storage and use of firearms.

"I implore you distinguished delegates to support our call for the complete lifting of the arms embargo in Somalia," he said. "By doing so, you will empower us to assert our sovereignty, effectively combat terrorism and build a

peaceful and prosperous future for our nation."

He noted the situation in Somalia had improved significantly, adding the Somalia of 2023 is not that of 1992, when the Security Council imposed the arms embargo.

Mohamed El-Amine Souef, chief of the African Union Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS), echoed calls to lift the embargo. He noted there was a need for concerted international efforts to protect gains made over the years and ensure sustained pressure against al-Shabab.

"We must support SSF [Somalia Security Force] leadership, hold liberated areas and take over FOBs [forward operating bases]," he said. "These forces require resources to fight al-Shabab and stabilize newly liberated areas. This calls for the lifting of the arms embargo on Somalia."

Somalia is in the middle of a military operation against al-Shabab. The federal government

has said it is on course to launch the second phase of the offensive dubbed Operation Black Lion. Unlike the first phase, which involved the Somali army and clan militia, the second phase will enlist the support of additional troops from Ethiopia, Kenya and Djibouti following an agreement among the countries in January.

Matt Bryden, chairman of Sahan, a policy and security research organization on the Horn of Africa, said that while the lifting of the embargo would be a positive step for Somalia as it tries to affirm its sovereignty, there is no concrete evidence it will change the security dynamics in the country.

"It's not clear that lifting the arms embargo would actually change the situation or allow the government to improve its military position," he said. "There are already exemptions to the government to receive military assistance, and there are only a few remaining restrictions on the types of weapons that it can

procure."

Bryden said the Somali government couldn't afford high-caliber weapons, even if the embargo was lifted. He added that despite the expression of opposition to the embargo by countries such as Kenya and Ethiopia, they remain apprehensive that weapons could still fall into the wrong hands. He noted that even at the Security Council, where Africa is represented by three countries, the position of the African Union is still against the removal of the embargo.

"I think the concerns of regional countries, the neighbors, Somalia's neighbors, about lifting the arms embargo are principally that the federal government doesn't control either the land borders or the maritime borders of Somalia," he said. "And so, there is a concern that weapons would continue to enter Somalia freely, as they do even under the terms of the arms embargo."

AGENCIES



Orxy Tanzania project manager Joseph Soka pictured at the company's premises in Dar es Salaam at the weekend pointing at a pipeline which, when fully installed, will receive gas from ten countries and lead to an increase in the availability of gas for wholesale and retail sale. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Tanzania to host Africa meeting on liver diseases

By Henry Mwangonde

TANZANIA is expected to host the Conference on Liver Disease in Africa (COLDA) in September this year, a platform which aims to facilitate collaboration and networking among experts and stakeholders involved in liver disease research, diagnosis, and treatment.

Speaking at a press conference on the event, Head of Medical Services at the Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) Dr John Rwegasha said the meeting which is co-organised by the Society for Liver Diseases in Africa (SOLDA) and Tanzania Liver Cancer Group aims to bring together healthcare professionals, researchers, policymakers, industry representatives, and other stakeholders.

"The Conference serves as a platform to empower participants with the latest knowledge and advancements in diagnosing, preventing, treating, and curing liver diseases, with a particular focus on addressing the unique challenges faced by African populations," he said.

Dr Rwegasha said the platform provides a forum for sharing experiences, best practices, and cutting-edge research findings to improve liver health outcomes in Africa.

He said the conference actively supports global efforts towards hepatitis elimination by highlighting successful interventions, exploring innovative approaches, and promoting the dissemination of evidence-based practices in

the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of viral hepatitis.

"It aims to bridge the gap between scientific advancements and clinical practice by providing a highly scientific and educational program, through lectures, oral and poster presentations, and roundtable discussions.

Among the areas of focus include, Epidemiology and Burden of Liver Diseases in Africa, Viral Hepatitis: Prevention, Diagnosis, and Treatment, Liver Cancer: Early Detection, Treatment, and Palliative Care, Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease (NAFLD) and Non-Alcoholic Steatohepatitis (NASH) and Liver Transplantation and Surgical Interventions.

Others are innovations in Diagnostics and Imaging Techniques

for Liver Diseases, Liver Disease Management in Resource-Limited Settings and Public Health Strategies for Liver Disease Prevention and Control.

The most common liver disease in Tanzania is Hepatitis B with data showing 60 percent of liver complications were related to Hepatitis B.

According to data availed by MNH, at least 60 percent of liver cancer patients are diagnosed to have hepatitis B complications.

MNH launched a screening in 2017 under a programme jointly financed by the Center for Diseases Control and Prevention (CDC) in the US with Tanzania becoming the second country to offer the treatment among East Africa after Rwanda.

Experts underline the need to control invasive species

By Felister Peter

INVASIVE species are said to cause harm to environment, economy, and human health, hence the need for concerted efforts to combat them to prevent biodiversity loss.

According to experts, invasive species as non-native plants, animals, or other organisms that have been introduced to an ecosystem and become established, are causing harm to the environment, economy or human health.

Speaking at a Biodiversity Conservation Breakfast debate that was organized by the Journalist Environmental Association of Tanzania (JET), Joseph Olila, Natural Resources Management (NRM) Policy Manager - USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili project said the government has been working with the stakeholders to control the species including formulation of action plans.

The debate themed "The Role of Conservation Stakeholders and the Government in Combating Human-Wildlife Conflict in Tanzania" brought together journalists, environmental stakeholders and officers from the Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA) under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism.

Olila said: "There are a number of initiatives to address the species including the on-going pest control and management initiatives using 'Prevention, Eradication and Containment' and establishment of a National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan (2019-2029) through the Vice-President's Office.

He said the various strategies are meant to prevent introduction and spread of new invasive species and to reduce the negative impacts of existing priority invasive species, enhance national capacity to manage and research on invasive species, and mainstream invasive species management into regulatory tools.

According to him, the species results in several environmental challenges which include loss of biodiversity because they can displace native species thus destroying the ecosystem, as each species plays a role in the food chain and the overall balance of the system.

The non-native plants can spread diseases to native plants and animals, and can damage infrastructure, such as dams and levees.

The experts noted that the species can also cause social challenges that include disruption of traditional cultures and livelihoods, pose a threat to human health by spreading diseases or causing allergic reactions as well as damage property, such as crops and livestock.

Economically, he added, the non-native organism can cost businesses and governments millions of dollars in control and management costs, may reduce agricultural productivity, leading to higher food prices.

He said the invasive species can damage infrastructure, such as roads, bridges, and power lines, leading to costly repairs and disruptions to services.

Some priority invasive species are prosopis juliflora, also known as mesquite, a tree that was introduced in the country in 1950s for erosion control and has now become invasive, spreading rapidly and displacing native vegetation.

Another species is lantana camara, which is a shrub that was introduced to Tanzania as an ornamental plant, but is currently forming dense thickets that crowd out native plants and make it difficult to walk through.

He said the invasive species can damage infrastructure, such as roads, bridges, and power lines, leading to costly repairs and disruptions to services.



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Ref: MST-TZ-20230623

Daqing Oilfield Construction Group Co., Ltd. (hereinafter as DOCG), as a CONTRACTOR for Storage Facilities and Terminal Construction of EACOP Project, invites experienced and reputable contractors that have demonstrable capability, willingness, ability and availability to perform following works to express their interest.

The EACOP Project development involves the engineering, construction, operation and maintenance of a crude oil export pipeline crossing Uganda and Tanzania and an onshore Marine Terminal in Chongoleani, near Tanga Port in Tanzania.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE SERVICES:

Ref: MST-TZ-20220623-001

Engineering, Procurement and Construction of 33kV Overhead Transmission Line for Campsite Power Supply and Tie-in with National Grid

- Engineering, Procurement and Construction of one 33kV OHTL between National Grid near Chongoleani and DOCG Campsite near EACOP Terminal Work Site.
- Tie-in work between new built OHTL and the National Grid.
- Obtain all necessary permits for the project.

Ref: MST-TZ-20220623-002

Provision of Legal Services

- Provide legal advice on daily legal issues.
- Providing legal advice on the compliance of our legal actions or business activities
- Guide, draft and review Contracts and Legal documents
- Share the latest laws, regulations, rules, and relevant oil & gas industrial case reports
- Provide legal advice on judicial matters such as litigation, arbitration, mediation, etc. that DOCG may be involved in
- Provide notarization and certifying service

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR EOI SUBMISSION:

- Company profile, registration certificate, business license and any other company qualifications
- Registration Certificates with the Tanzania Tax Revenue Authority
- Proof of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate
- Proof of experience in providing similar services in the last 3 year
- Valid TANESCO pre-qualification letter for such works (Required for Package 001 only)
- Proof of sector registration (for Package 001 means CRB, ERB) and other Relevant qualifications
- Adequate financial capacity to undertake the eventual contract
- Full-service Law firm with experience in working with international clients(Required for Package 002 only)

Participant must comply with the **Petroleum (Local Content) Regulations, 2017** and **Local Company** definition for Tanzania.

Proof of registration/application to **Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP)** database at the time of submission of the response to this Expression of Interest is **strongly recommended**.

Interested companies with the capacity to provide the services listed above should express their interest in **English** language by sending the above documents to **pq@docgi.cn** (not exceeding 20 MBs) on or before **17:00** hours East African Time (EAT), on **09/Jul/2023**. Subject of the email should be **MST-TZ-20230623-XXX EOI - [COMPANY NAME]**.

Companies satisfactorily meeting the above minimum requirements will receive, subject to the signature of a Non - Disclosure Agreement (NDA), a detailed pre-qualification questionnaire for further evaluation by Company. **DOCG reserves the right not to consider companies that submit an incomplete dossier.**

Note: Only pre qualified companies will receive invitation to submit bids in furtherance of the call for tender process.



WWF for a living planet®

Supply of Materials for Rehabilitation/Conservation of Water Sources (Boreholes/Water Points) for Mara River Catchment

Introduction

World Wide Funds for nature Tanzania Country Office (WWF TCO) is an international non-governmental organization which is working to ensure that humans live in harmony with nature. In Tanzania, WWF performs various projects and programs in the priority landscapes i.e., SOKNOT, Water Tower, Ruvuma, and RUMAKI Land/Seascape. In programs and projects execution WWF is working with various stakeholders i.e., governments at different tiers which includes local, regional and central, communities, private sectors, media and civil society organizations.

WWF TCO has received funding from USAID/Tanzania to implement the project titled Mara River Catchment (MRC) in Tanzania, for three years from April 2022 to April 2025. This project, will work with communities across six districts (Serengeti, Butiama, Tarime, Rorya, Musoma and Bunda) in the Mara Region and benefits the people through water resource conservation, improved water supply schemes, and enables more sustainable livelihoods practices.

WWF Tanzania invites eligible Tanzanian Suppliers/Contractors registered by relevant Authorities/Bodies to bid for the lot/lots as indicated below given that each lot is a separate tender;

Project Number	Description
WWF/TCO/MRC/JUNE/2023/LOT 1	Supply and Installation of Solar Power Equipment for Rehabilitation of Five Boreholes.
WWF/TCO/MRC/JUNE/2023/LOT 2	Supply of Materials for Protecting/Conserving Ten Water Sources.
WWF/TCO/MRC/JUNE/2023/LOT 3	Supply of Industrial Materials for Rehabilitation of Five Boreholes.

Application Procedure & Submission of Applications

WWF TCO invites applications from competent, qualified and experienced bidder(s) through the following address:

Secretary, Procurement Committee
WWF Tanzania
Kiko Street, Off Mwai Kibaki Road Plot 252, Mikocheni
P. O. Box 63117, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
Tel: +255 22 277 5346/277 2455/270 0077

All applicants should direct their electronic copy to the procurement e-mail at **procurement@wwftz.org**
 Interested applicants may access the Tender Document through the following websites:
https://www.wwf.or.tz/jobs_and_opportunities/consultancies_and_tenders/

All applications should reach us by or before **5:00pm** Tanzania local time on **Monday, 10th July 2023**

WWF has a principle of zero-tolerance to fraud and corruption, if you encounter such incident, report by sending an email to **fcci@wwftz.org**

Government assures investors of friendly investment climate

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE government has assured investors of continued efforts in improving business and investment urging them to continue investing in the country's various economic sectors.

Speaking in Iringa Region yesterday, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment, Dr Hashil Abdallah said the government continues to create an enabling environment through the program to improve the business environment in the country—MKUMBI.

The PS visited Mufindi District where he met with stakeholders in the forestry industry for purposes of listening to their challenges.

He said the ministry collaborates with the regional government and the Tanzania Forest Services (TFS) in finding solutions to the challenges they face.

Iringa Acting Administrative Secretary, Asifiwe Mwakibete called on investors to continue investing in forest products industries due to availability of raw materials.

He encouraged residents to plant more timber and wood trees

as there are huge markets for the products.

Director, Mafinga Town Council, Ayoub Kambi promised to collaborate with regional authorities to find solutions to the raised challenges specially those on Vinia wood products.

Vinia is one of the engineered forest products used to manufacture wood products, make plywood, marine boards, furniture, sports equipment, boxes for transporting products and construction of various buildings and infrastructure.

Mufindi District has 27 factories dealing with the production of Vinia wood products whereas six among them can produce finished products.



He encouraged residents to plant more timber and wood trees as there are huge markets for the products



National Assembly Speaker Dr Tulia Ackson (L) has an audience in her Dodoma city office on Friday with Bank of Africa Tanzania managing director and CEO Adam Mihayo (2nd-R) head of finance Derick Lugemala. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame,

Arusha

TANZANIA is still researching about special biological agent which can totally destroy the cannabis (marijuana) weeds right from the roots, thus eradicating the notorious problem of the drug in the country.

Commissioner General of Drug Control and Enforcement Authority (DCEA) Aretas Lyimo said at the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.

The Commissioner General pointed out that previously many countries were envisaging to deploy special weed killer to destroy the marijuana plants but the

Tanzania develops biological agents to annihilate cannabis

international communities warned against its environmental hazards.

"We are therefore working to come up with a much safer biological agent that can only kill the cannabis weeds without causing adverse effects to other vegetation and the soil," Commissioner Lyimo added.

It was also observed during the International Day against Drug Abuse, that most of the new HIV

and Aids infections, affected mostly drug abusing young men and women.

The Director of the Tanzania Health Promotion Support Dr Redempta Mbatia said the THPS, have been trying to assist drug users to recover from the narcotic effects, but the mission also entails prescription of HIV-Aids drugs.

She revealed that the THPS has carried out HIV counselling and

testing to 1,121 clients whereby 54 (5 percent) were diagnosed with HIV.

They were enrolled in care and treatment services at Tumbi Regional Referral Hospital and Bagamoyo District Hospital MAT clinics.

Furthermore 887 clients received COVID-19 vaccine at both MAT clinics.

On the other hand, through the support from the United States

President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the Global Fund, the THPS has reached and tested for HIV, 1296 people who inject drugs (PWID).

About 1541 people who inject have been provided with social behaviour change communication (SBCC) sessions and 20 PWID have been referred to Mount Meru MAT clinic in Arusha in the quarter of

January to March 2023.

One of the former drug abusers, Erick Bernard speaking on behalf of others said the racket has been driving many of them into serious crimes including theft and robbery.

Among them there, 211 (16 percent) were identified with HIV, and 207 (98 percent) were initiated on antiretroviral therapy.

The 2023 International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking being observed at National Levels in Arusha runs under the theme of 'People First: stop stigma and discrimination, strengthen prevention.

By May 2023, among 1121 cumulatively enrolled clients in MAT clinic, 821 (73.2percent) are currently attending regularly.




ADVERTISEMENT

REQUEST FOR QUOTATION

BUL-RFQ-23-06-02 – PURCHASE OF MONITOU FORKLIFT MT-X 733

Bulyanhulu Gold Mine ("the Company"), a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation, which is ultimately owned by Barrick Gold Corporation and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania requests the submission of Quotes from reputable, experienced, certified, and qualified parties to provide the following:

Forklift type and specifications:

- 1 X MT-X 733 Mining Manitou with a quick hitch and forks. Engine power rating 70.84kw with a lifting capacity of 3.3 tons and a boom that can reach up to 6.90 m, turning radius 3.72 m and a high ground clearance (45cm). SAHR safety brakes, daily brake test system, emergency steering, protection grids, external emergency stop, pack of 3 cameras, reinforced wiring harness and fuse box, direction lights and reflective strips. Sandvik AFFF, lockable battery isolator, 2external e stops and 1 in the cab, 2 dry powder fire extinguishers 9 kg, reverse alarm and reverse lights that activate automatically, Operator cabin to have emergency exit, LED rotating beacon, turbo to have heat shielding and all flammable liquid hoses are to be separated from all electrical wiring.

Key documents:

- Clear and detailed Quotation
- Company registration documents i.e., Certificate of incorporation, business license, TIN, VRN, Tax Clearance Certificate etc.
- Brela detailed search certificate i.e statement indicating Tanzanian ownership percentage, Tanzanian management and below management employment percentage to determine classification as an Indigenous Tanzanian Company as per the Local Content Regulation, 2018.
- Applicable certification, accreditation, affiliated registrations, and letter of dealership as required.
- Approved Local Content Plan or acknowledgement of submission from the Mining Commissioner



Submission of Quotes:
Please submit your quotes via email to bulytender@barrick.com. The reference "BUL-RFQ-23-06-02 – PURCHASE OF MONITOU FORKLIFT MT-X 733" must be quoted in the subject line of the email.

NB: The Company reserves the right to invite any other supplier(s) who did not submit a quote through this advertisement

Key Dates

- Last date to submit quotes: **03rd July 2023**

Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Limited

ADVERTISEMENT

BULYANHULU GOLD MINE LIMITED

Requests the submission of Expressions of Interest from qualifying parties wanting to participate in the below goods/service package at Bulyanhulu Gold Mine

Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Limited (BGML) is a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation. Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Site is located 45km south of Lake Victoria, in the Kahama District of Shinyanga Region, northern Tanzania. There are road accesses to the mine from Mwanza, 127km to the northeast and from the town of Kahama, 84km to the south.

BGML, therefore, invites "Expressions of Interest" from reputable, experienced and certified companies interested in pre-qualifying for inclusion in a tender process for the provision of the below goods/service packages.

No.	Reference no.	Description of services to be procured	Pre-Qualification Criteria
1	BUL-23-06-06	Supply and Install New 36m ³ /Hour Batching Plant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Contractor specialised in batching plant manufacturing and must have proven experience from engineering, manufacturing, and commissioning, submit Mechanical CRB certificate class 1. ii. Experience of manufacturing batching plant with the same capacity over the last 3 years. iii. Competence manufacturing and commissioning of batch plants with the risks and control measures of working in Mining industry iv. Team with multi discipline members (Mainly - Supervisors / Safety officer / QA&QC officer / Multi skilled) should have sound Knowledge of Mine Health & Safety acts.

The above Services/goods are intended to be awarded through a competitive tendering process in which a restricted number of suitable pre-qualified and experienced contractors shall be invited to receive the tender documents. Please submit an "Expression of Interest" on your company's letterhead If your company qualify as per the pre-qualification criteria together with the following additional information and/or documentation:

- Full company profile;
- Company registration documents i.e. Certificate of incorporation, Tax Clearance Certificate etc.
- Applicable certification, accreditation and affiliated registration
- Required equipment availability to perform the specific work
- Time frame to complete the project. (including site mobilization stage)
- Approved Local Content Plan or acknowledgment of submission from the Mining Commissioner
- BRELA detailed search certificate i.e statement indicating Tanzanian ownership percentage, Tanzanian management and below management employment percentage to determine classification as an Indigenous Tanzanian Company as per the Local Content Regulation, 2018.

Kindly send your response by email to bulytender@barrick.com by latest 1800hrs on the **03rd July 2023**. Any responses received after this date shall not be considered.

Please quote the above Reference number and description on your Expression of interest submission.

If you do not hear from us in 21 days after the deadline date, please consider your EOI unsuccessful.

Pre-qualification of any company submitting an "Expression of Interest" shall be at the sole discretion of BGML.

For and on behalf of BULYANHULU GOLD MINE LIMITED



Police Inspector Blandina Ndunguru of the Gender and Children Desk at Chang'ombe Police Station in Dar es Salaam conducts sensitisation training at a youth camp at the weekend. The thrust of the event, which was organised by local CSO Mulika Tanzania in collaboration with the US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), was on ways to arrest HIV infections. Photo: Correspondent Christina Mwakangale

Extension officers urged to visit farmers

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

The government in Mbeya Region has called upon farm experts at all levels to visit farmers to educate them on better practices in order to increase production of crops.

Rodrick Mpogoro, Mbeya Regional administrative secretary issued the directives at the weekend in Mbarali District when he addressed farmers of Uturo irrigation scheme, among

schemes undergoing government refurbishment.

Mpogoro called on the agriculture experts to apply their expertise to make sure farmers increase their profit from farming activities for their own livelihood and the country's food security.

In addition, he called on them to educate farmers on the need to preserve the environment to ensure the farming they engage in becomes sustainable.

"You have learnt all about agriculture and employed by the government, but you are glued in your office chairs at all times.

"Beginning today all experts in the farming sector should go to the farms to help farmers," he said.

He said farming is a traditional occupation for Tanzanians in the Southern Highlands regions as they make great efforts of their own to farm, hence agriculture officer should implement their

responsibilities.

He added that as for now the government has embarked on a procedure to subsidize the fertiliser and other farm inputs to farmers, hence Mpogoro called on them to assist farmers.

He said the government has favoured farming experts in the country by providing them with motorcycles, hence they should use them to visit farmers in their areas.

Eamcef 'is proud' to contribute 90 pct of Tanzania hydropower

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

THE Eastern Arc Mountains Conservation Endowment Fund (Eamcef) is proud for contributing 90 per cent of all hydro-electric power in the country from Kidatu, Mtera, Kihansi, Hale, Pangani, Nyumba ya Mungu and the new Julius Nyerere Hydro Power Project (JNHPP).

The power contribution comes from the conservation of its forests in the eastern arc mountains that protects the biodiversity and water sources that are depended upon by the people of Dar es Salaam, Morogoro and Coast regions via various projects including those sponsored by EAMCEF.

Francis Sabuni, EAMCEF managing director named the projects as including those for transforming the habits of communities to stop invading forest areas, environmental preservation and research on the maintains located in 15 districts in five regions in the country.

Sabuni said the projects that spent more than 15bn/- has enabled the transformation of the habits of the communities who depend on forests for human activities including firewood, charcoal, game hunting in the areas.

He said the funds have been used from 2006 to 2023 and have enabled in the restoration of the biodiversity and rare living things threatened by extinction.

He said the mountains include East and West Usambara Mountains, Nguru, Uluguru, Ukaguru, Udzungwa, Malundwe, Mahenge and Rubeho Mountains and North and South Pare Mountains

He said the mountain ranges are recognised internationally as among 34 land areas rich in diversity and other forest life threaten to extinction from human activities.

He said when the started the projects they began with a 400m/- budget, that rose to 600m/- to

800m/- and now it is 1.8bn/-, which they have been seeking by their own as well as from sponsors.

He cited one of the sponsors at the Government of Norway through the embassy in the country who began doing so in 2011 and ends this year, after which the project will operate from its own funds in case other sponsors do not come up.

For his part, The Chairman of EAMCEF Board of Trustees, John Kessi said benefits among communities in the area are now being discerned and added that those who used to depend on the mountains for their livelihoods have been provided with alternative projects through livestock and poultry keeping for food.

He said the communities that depended on the forests for firewood and charcoal now have alternative tree planting projects in their various open areas.

For her part, the Norwegian Ambassador to Tanzania, Elisabeth Jacobsen said the sponsorship her country provided to EAMCEF has helped to preserve the environment in the Eastern Arc Mountains as well as for formulating important policies to make the communities contribute towards conservation efforts



...the funds have been used from 2006 to 2023 and have enabled in the restoration of the biodiversity and rare living things threatened by extinction

TANZANIA INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM RESERVES LTD (TIPER)



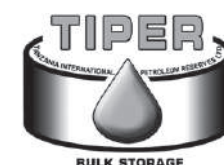
INVITATION TO TENDER NO. TP/06/2023/NCB/W/013 FOR REFURBISHMENT OF TANK S32 AND S10

26 June, 2023

- Tanzania International Petroleum Reserves Ltd (TIPER) is a hospitality storage facility for bulk fuel with its share divided equally between the Government of Tanzania and Oryx Energies SA (Based in Switzerland). The Company office is located at Kigamboni Industrial Area, Depot site-plot # 1, Dar es Salaam-Tanzania.
- TIPER hereby invites via National Competitive Bidding (NCB) experienced and reputable Class IV and above Mechanical Contractor registered with Contractor Registration Board (CRB) to bid for Refurbishment of Tank S32 and S10.
- Interested and eligible bidders may request electronic copy of tender document through the following email: tiper.procurement@tiper.co.tz by sending an application letter and copy of certificate from the Contractor Registration Board (CRB) from Monday to Friday at 08:00AM to 4:00PM between June 26, 2023 to July 06, 2023.
- Bidders MUST visit the site. Site visit will be conducted on **Friday, June 30, 2023 from 10:30hrs to 11:30hrs.**
- During site visit bidders are required to come with their own Personal Protective Equipment PPE's. The minimum PPE requirement are steel toe safety boots, worker's helmet and cotton reflector vest / cotton over coat / cotton overall. Bidders who will not come with correct PPE's will not be allowed to enter onto site.
- Bidders must only submit hardcopies of bids (one original and one copy) respectively, enclosed in a single plain envelope with proper postal seals or fire seal marked Tender No: **TP/06/2023/NCB/W/013 for Refurbishment of Tank S32 and S10 at TIPER Kigamboni depot.** Softcopies MUST be submitted in a USB flash disk imbedded inside the sealed envelope.
- No bid should be submitted via email or any other electronic means.
- All bid documents shall be addressed and delivered to Tanzania International Petroleum Reserves Ltd, P.O. Box 2608, Kigamboni, Dar es Salaam.
- The deadline for submission of Tender documents will be 1600hrs local time Monday July 10, 2023.
- Late bids, portion of bids, electronic bids will not be accepted or considered for evaluation.
- Bids opening will be conducted in the presence of the TIPER tender committee only, formed by the company. There shall be NO public opening of bids
- TIPER reserves the right to accept or reject any tender and does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any bid.

Secretary Tender Committee
Tanzania International Petroleum Reserves Ltd
P.O Box 2608, Kigamboni Depot site-1 Dar es Salaam-Tanzania

TANZANIA INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM RESERVES LTD (TIPER)



AMENDMENT OF ELIGIBILITY OF BIDDERS AND EXTENSION OF BID SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR TENDER NO. TP/05/2023/NCB/S/010 FOR THE PREQUALIFICATION OF BIDDERS FOR PROVISION OF PETROLEUM PRODUCT QUALITY ANALYSIS

26 June, 2023

- Tanzania International Petroleum Reserves Ltd (TIPER) is a bulk fuel storage facility with its shares divided equally between the Government of Tanzania and Oryx Energies SA. The Company office is located at Kigamboni Industrial Area, Depot site-plot # 1, Dar es Salaam-Tanzania.
- TIPER invited via National Competitive Bidding (NCB) through a tender advertisement on the Mwananchi and The Guardian newspapers of June 12th, 2023, technically qualified and reputable companies to submit their bids for Prequalification of Bidders for Stocktaking of Petroleum Products.
- As per previous advertisement stated in part 2 above, eligible firms were supposed to possess a valid registration certificate for provision of laboratory services from the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) and other respective government authority like Weight and Measures Agency (WMA) for provision of the respective laboratory services.
- TIPER wishes to amend part 3 above, where by for bidders to be eligible they must possess an ISO 17025:2005 certification and other relevant and validly certification. Bidders who don't meet this condition are not eligible to participate for this tender.
- As per the amendment, interested and eligible bidders may request electronic copy of tender document through the following email: tiper.procurement@tiper.co.tz by sending an application letter and attach copies of an ISO 17025:2005 certification and other certification as per part 4 above from Monday to Friday at 08:00AM to 4:00PM between 12 June 2023 to 28 June, 2023.
- Bidders MUST submit hardcopies of bids (one original and one copy) respectively, enclosed in a single plain envelope marked Tender NO: **TP/05/2023/NCB/S/010 FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION OF BIDDERS PROVISION OF PETROLEUM PRODUCT QUALITY ANALYSIS.** Softcopies MUST be submitted in a USB flash disk. Submission of bids by email shall not be accepted(considered).
- All bid documents must be addressed and delivered to Tanzania International Petroleum Reserves Ltd, P.O. Box 2608, Kigamboni, Dar es Salaam.
- Subject to this amendment the deadline for submission of Tender documents will be extended from **30 June, 2023 at 4.00 p.m. local time to 06 July, 2023 at 4.00 p.m. local time**
- Bids opening will be conducted in the presence of the TIPER tender committee only, formed by the company. There shall be NO public opening of bids.
- Late bids, portion of bids, electronic bids will not be considered for evaluation irrespective of any circumstances.
- TIPER reserves the right to accept or reject any tender and does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any bid

Secretary Tender Committee
Tanzania International Petroleum Reserves Ltd
P.O Box 2608, Kigamboni Depot site-1 Dar es Salaam-Tanzania



EXCITING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

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

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

Project Overview

ACHIEVE is a five-year, USAID-funded global cooperative agreement with the dual objectives of attaining and sustaining HIV epidemic control among at-risk and hard to reach pregnant and breastfeeding (PBF) women, infants, children, and youth, as well as to mitigate the impact of HIV/AIDS and prevent HIV transmission among these populations; and supporting the transition of prime funding and implementation to capable local partners in order to meet the PEPFAR goal of 70% of funding to local partners.

ACHIEVE is funded by USAID in Tanzania to implement a four-year activity (October 2020 to April 2024) which aims: (1) to improve national- and community-level social welfare systems in order to sustain support for orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) and families affected by HIV and (2) to strengthen the capacity of local organizations to deliver OVC services and (3) to deliver high quality OVC services and DREAMS interventions for AGYW 9-14 years.

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

Position	Senior Grants and Operations Manager, Head Office (1 position)
Contract Duration	1-year contract (Renewable)
Reporting to	Country Director, Pact Tanzania

Position Purpose:

The Senior Grants and Operations Manager is directly responsible to and supervised by the Country Director of Pact Tanzania. The Senior Grants and Operations Manager provides high-level grants and contracts management to achieve the goal of the Pact Tanzania project, working with partner organizations and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs). S/he provides overall leadership and oversight for all aspects related to the management of sub-grants and subcontracts. This requires close collaboration with Pact HQ to ensure compliance with Pact and USAID, DFID, and other donor guidelines. The Senior Grants and Operations Manager supervises all staff within the grants, IT and procurement. S/he will play a critical role as a Pact Tanzania Country Management Team (CMT) member in strategic decision-making and ensure the effective and efficient operation of these functions.

Key Responsibilities:

Sub-award Administration

- Develop subcontract and sub-grant award documents compliant with donor requirements and Pact standard templates and work closely with Pact HQ Agreement Management team to execute quality sub-awards.
- Administer the full cycle of sub-award management activities beginning from solicitation through selection, pre-award assessments, negotiation, monitoring/compliance visits, and closeout.
- Utilize Pact's sub-award management system (Promise) and accounting system (Serenic NAV) for sub-award issuance and management. Ensure that all required documentation is available and stored as per Pact regulations.
- Oversee budget management of projects' sub-award pools working with the Senior Finance Manager. Work closely with the Senior Finance Manager to ensure accurate and timely disbursement and liquidation of sub-award expenses.
- Ensure timely training of grantees and Pact Tanzania staff to understand and comply fully with donor standards. Develop training materials and carry out regular training with grantee partners.
- Ensure that office systems for grants and contracts administration are maintained and that regular reports are provided to Pact headquarters.
- Award and administer sub-contract(s) and consultant agreements necessary to support local programs and projects.
- Develop and/or update Pact Tanzania Country Office Sub-awards Manual in compliance with Pact HQ guidance.
- Support closeout of awards, including preparation of final inventories, property disposition, etc.
- Track and update all the special wards conditions in all sub-agreements and sub-contracts.

Agreements Management

- Work with Pact Project Director/Program Directors and senior managers to select grantees for award under various projects. This will include the conduct of pre-award assessments to determine the responsibility of prospective grantees using Pact's capacity assessments.
- Provide technical assistance to staff and grantees on administrative policies and procedures for Agreement management.
- Work with the Agreements Management Team at HQ to obtain prior approvals and waivers from donors required for the administration of specific grants.
- Ensure the approved branding and marking plan is implemented by all required stakeholders of the grant/contract

Contract and Consultancy Management

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

Operations Management (General Administration, Procurement, ICT, and Security)

- Oversee the review and renewal of all insurance policies that affect Pact Tanzania including facilities and liability and ensure that Pact Tanzania complies with mandatory standards.
- Oversee Pact Tanzania property management to ensure all inventory, maintenance, repairs, and disposition are performed according to the organization's regulations.
- Complies with federal, state, and local legal requirements by studying existing and new legislation; enforcing adherence to requirements; advising management on needed actions.
- Ensuring compliance with financial aspects of contract requirements including liability, property, and other insurance matters, and audit requirements
- Provide Support to Pact and CSO to comply with Cost share policy by ensuring the policy is adhered to, and reporting is done to Pact and the donor.
- Supports Compliance to Pact Tanzania by providing information and support required to develop and implement policies, processes, and procedures necessary to achieve strategic objectives
- Reviews analyzes and drafts contract language to ensure they comply with all applicable donor, Pact, and host government regulations
- Work with/train CSOs to ensure they comply with all required rules set by the Pact, Donor, and the government.
- Responsible for communicating all compliance messages to Pact staff and CSOs.
- Ensure proper submission of taxes and process tax exemptions where required by the donor agreement.
- Advise and ensure compliance on cost charging to various projects as per the pact and donor policies.
- Ensure Tax reporting to Pact from CSOs and to the donor as stipulated in the prime Awards
- Ensure compliance with Asset reporting to HQ as well as to the donor as per the donor's requirements.
- Coordinate with other Program and Grants & Contracts Department for training/mentoring of sub-grantees where necessary to administer the program's sub-agreements with partners.
- Mentoring and training staff to ensure they have the appropriate skill levels for their positions and develop their full potential.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Minimum requirement is a Bachelor's degree but preferred is a MA/MSc/Masters in Business Administration degree or equivalent relevant qualification
- At least 7 years of relevant experience in the NGO sector within Tanzania in managing the award and administration of sub-grants funded by Global Fund, USAID, or international donors.
- Experience managing sub-award design and administration
- Experience in donor funds administration
- Understanding of local contract and procurement law
- Excellent communication skills both verbal and written Kiswahili and English
- Knowledge of 2 CFR 200
- Strong knowledge of donor auditing requirements and demonstrated ability to exercise financial oversight of programs.
- Demonstrated solid knowledge of USAID and other donor regulations applicable to agreements administration.

Additional Qualifications:

- A Certified Public Accountant - CPA(T), a Professional Accounting Certification registered and endorsed by the Tanzanian National Board of Accountants and Auditors (NBAA).
- Experience managing USAID contracts and/or cooperative agreements.
- Experience in leading USAID project close-out activities.

Preference for:

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

Instructions on How to Apply:

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

The closing date for applications is on July 10th, 2023

Qualified candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.

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

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

New TFS-farmers conflict simmering over Kawetere tree farm boundary

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

NEW conflict is simmering in Mbeya Region between people living around Kawetere tree farm and the Tanzania forests services agency (TFS) following claims that the agency has invaded people's farms.

It is claimed that TFS officers have erected new boundary beacons in people's farms without involving them saying TFS was all out to grab their land areas.

Wards affected by the new conflict include Nsalaga in Mbeya city and Ruiwa in Mbarali District and the new boundaries threaten farms belonging to more than 300 residents.

Speaking to this paper at the weekend, the residents said the land area is theirs and have been using it for farming for very many

years.

Kennedy Mwelamla, one of the farmers, resident of Nsalaga Ward said the area on which TFS has erected new beacons is essential for their economic livelihood.

He said apart from the new beacons erected, they also received letters requiring them to vacate from the land saying the it is part of TFS tree farm.

"We have been here for a long time, and now we are told to move out ... but the letter did not say we move to where," he added.

Moses Kimbese, another farmer in the area said they have been told by TFS to harvest their crops quickly and should not cultivate the land again.

He said the reports requiring them to vacate the land was all sudden, as they were not given any time to prepare for their

moving out.

He said he has children schooling at various levels of education including universities and that the main source of assistance to them is from the crops they cultivate.

For his part, Nsalaga Ward Councillor, Fr David Ngogo called on the people not to use force in demanding their rights and instead they should abide by the laws.

Kawetere Farm Chief Conservator, Arnold Shoo said the forest is essential for the present and future generations especially in environmental conservation and the national economy.

He added that the farmers were given time to move out, but used the time to cultivate crops, hence they should remove the crops and should not cultivate again.

Traders in Bahi urged to paying income tax to avoid penalties

By Guardian Correspondent, Bahi

TRADERS in Bahi District, Dodoma Region, have been asked to voluntarily pay the second phase of income tax to avoid penalties.

Joel Frael, Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) Tax Administration Officer made the statement over the weekend when speaking during a one-day seminar to traders in Bahi District.

The official advised traders and customers to cultivate habits of giving and demanding for the Electronic Fiscal Devices (EFDs) whenever they buy or sell products.

Philipo Eliamini, TRA Tax Administration Officer congratulated the businessmen for their participation in the seminar, welcoming Bahi business community to TRA offices opened in the district.

"I would like to invite businesspeople and the public to our offices in Bahi for various tax services. TRA has improved its services to traders by bringing services closer to the people," he said.

Meanwhile, traders praised TRA for educating them on tax matters, promising voluntary pay taxes.

Emmanuel Kafulya, a trader in the district said: "Educating us on the various types of taxes, especially Value Added Tax (VAT) must be given to all traders. We need to have a good understanding of the tax systems before we start paying taxes."

TRA has been providing tax education in various ways including special seminars to businessmen.



American citizen Dan McBennet (R) plants a tree at the offices of the Mongola Environmental Organisation at Mjengo in Moshi municipality at the weekend as a part of the series of activities carried out in marking the 33rd year of the work done by Maries Frances - the founder of the Mount Kilimanjaro Run - in 1991. The anniversary also includes supporting vulnerable children and a fun run meant to promote Tanzanian tourism. Photo: Correspondent James Lanka

NGO, PEPFAR organise youth camp on HIV prevention and economic welfare

By Guardian Correspondent

MULIKA Tanzania in collaboration with the US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) organized a four-day youth camp to empower young individuals and enhance their socioeconomic well-being with a primary focus on HIV prevention.

Hussein Melele, Mulika Tanzania chief executive director said the 'JIKWAMUE' youth camp is a significant component of the JIKWAMUE project.

He said the camp's main objective was to increase HIV testing rates and promote the adoption of prevention options such as Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP), and condom usage.

He said Mulika Tanzania worked closely with adolescent girls and young women and local authorities in the respective wards to create a conducive platform for constructive dialogues with healthcare workers.

The camp also addressed essential topics such as Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) services, Gender-Based Violence (GBV), financial skills and entrepreneurship skills. The recently concluded JIKWAMUE youth camp was crucial in achieving these goals, he added.

Melele said over 60 young individuals aged between 15 and 25 from Kigamboni and Kinondoni districts in Dar-es-Salaam participated in the camp that provided an opportunity for youth to share evidence, tools and experiences related to SRH, stimulating discussions on the challenges and opportunities within the sector.

He said by connecting adolescent girls and young women and youth with their peers, researchers, local and central authorities, officers from the Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO) and development partners, valuable insights were gained into HIV infection rates and SRHR.

The fight against HIV necessitates

a dedicated focus on prevention, particularly among adolescent girls and adolescent boys and young men.

The vulnerable groups are at a high risk of infection, making the JIKWAMUE youth camp a vital platform for raising awareness and preventing new HIV infections.

The camp is part of Mulika Tanzania and PEPFAR's broader efforts to promote sexual and reproductive health education among young people, ensuring a brighter and healthier future for all.

Mulika Tanzania is a leading non-profit organization dedicated to empowering young individuals and promoting their socioeconomic well-being in Tanzania.

Through various initiatives, Mulika Tanzania strives to improve the lives of young people and address critical health challenges, such as HIV/Aids.

By collaborating with local and international partners, Mulika Tanzania aims to create a positive impact and foster a healthier future for the people of Tanzania.

Over 700 people undergo cardiac screening at special medical camp

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

OVER 700 people have received cardiac screening and treatment services in a special medical camp held at the Abdulla Mzee referral hospital located in Kisiwani Pemba Regional District.

The five-day camp was conducted by experts from the Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute (JKCI) in collaboration with their colleagues from the Abdulla Mzee Referral Hospital of Pemba.

Speaking yesterday during the closure of the camp, Dr. Tulizo Shemu who represented the Executive Director of JKCI, Dr. Peter Kisenge said that among the people who tested there were 622 adults and 86 children.

Dr Shemu said that in the camp they conducted tests to check how the heart works for 424 people and the electrical system of the heart for 297 people where 61 per cent of the people who were examined were found to have various heart problems.

He said among 65 patients, 44 adults and 21 children have been referred to be treated at the Jakaya Kikwete Heart Institute in Upanga, Dar es Salaam.

"The patients we treated had problems with high blood pressure, dilatation of the heart muscle, blockage of the blood vessels of the heart and in children we found them with congenital heart diseases which are holes and blood vessels not staying in their order," said Dr Shem.

Dr Shemu, who is an expert cardiologist, said in the test that they have encountered the challenge of obtaining high-quality drugs to treat high blood pressure and asked the Government to ensure that these drugs are available in the hospital because the hospital is a referral hospital and it is required have those drugs.

"In this hospital there are heart medicines but these medicines are not at a high level to treat heart diseases including high blood pressure, we have written for our colleagues here a kind of medicines that are of a high level and we use them in our Institute. We are asking the Government to make it possible to help so that these medicines are available here".

"We request that the patients we found with heart problems that require specialist treatment be given an emergency referral to come and be treated at JKCI because we have found some with problems that need

immediate treatment, but if their referral goes through the Mnazi Mmoja Referral Hospital in Zanzibar, they may be delayed in receiving care and suffer serious consequences including death", said Dr. Shem.

Speaking about the cardiologists at the hospital, Dr. Shemu said there are few native professionals but if there are enough native professionals it will help to exchange work skills when various medical camps are held and in the next few years the professionals will be able to work on their own.

Deputy Minister of Health Zanzibar Hassan Khamis Hafidh thanked JKCI Institute for providing its experts and going to provide expert services of heart testing and treatment to the people of Pemba Island.

He said the treatment received by the people is of high quality as they have been treated by cardiologists and instructed the leaders of the hospital to ensure that the names of the 65 patients who were referred to be treated at JKCI reach him before Tuesday so that people can receive treatment on time.

"The work of health care is a calling and dedication. I ask the people who have studied these jobs to do it humbly and to dedicate themselves without boasting while providing quality services to patients by doing so you will prevent many deaths due to negligence and the citizens will enjoy the fruits of the investment made by the Government their," he said

"We thank our senior leaders for having a sincere desire to strengthen health services in the country, we are going to change the entire system of health services including infrastructure. It is possible to save unnecessary deaths in our Hospitals, diseases that cannot be treated should be referred quickly before the problem becomes big and everyone should take responsibility in their position", said Hassan.

The Head of the Department of Medicine in Pemba Massoud Suleiman Abdulla, said that the presence of the camp has made it easier to access specialist heart treatment services for the people of the island and asked the people when there are opportunities to test for various diseases to take advantage of them.

Massoud said that people who are diagnosed with problems that require specialist treatment are not able to pay for such treatment due to their poor quality of life and lack of health insurance.



Lameck Buberwa, manager of Dar es Salaam's Kigamboni branch of the Tanzania Commercial Bank, pictured at the weekend presenting sanitary equipment and supplies to Mary Mkwavi (R), a health officer with the city's Ferry fish market, in a Public Service Week commemoration gesture. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

'Varsity programme increases examination pass marks'

By Correspondent Christina Mwakangale

THE Maths and Science Teaching Programme (MSSTSP) coordinated by the College of Natural and Applied Sciences (CoNAS) of the University of Dar es Salaam in four Dar es Salaam schools has enabled the increase of students' passes in examinations.

This was revealed at different times by teachers of the four Dar es Salaam secondary schools - Manzese, Mugabe Salma Kikwete and Yusuph Makamba secondary schools at the MSSTP closing event at the weekend whereby 16 teachers were given certificates.

Zubeda Kindamba, Assistant Headmistress of Manzese Secondary School said through the programme, they have managed to increase passes in examinations in Maths and Science subjects as compared in the past.

(MSSTSP has motivated students to take up science subjects, as in the past we

used to have one stream, but now we have three.

"But also, these youths have enhanced the knowledge, this programme must be sustained," he said.

Zubeda appealed to UDSM, through CoNAS to see the possibility to increase the number of teachers, since her school has more than 1,6000 students.

For his part, the Vice Headmaster of Salma Kikwete Secondary School, Ndevu Abasi said MSSTSP has enabled eight students to receive Grade 'A' in Biology, and three 'As' in Chemistry.

"The teachers you brought at this school have created great transformation in the science subjects, we appeal to bring to us more teachers," Abasi said.

Rahabu Nko, Vice Head of Professions at Yusuph Makamba secondary School said the programme has been their saviours as in the past they had no physics teachers, while in Maths and Chemistry had only one, and added that as for now the

number of students taking up the subjects has gone up.

For his part, Deputy Head of Research at UDSM, Prof Nelson Boniface said the University pledges to extend the important programme as it implements the goals for the establishment of the high learning institution.

"The main UDSM responsibilities is to teach, provide knowledge, make research and publish results thereof as well as providing advice and services to the society," he said.

CoNAS Principal, Prof Flora Magige said MSSTSP has enhanced the quality in teaching and also attracted students to take up science subjects that are essential for the country's development.

The Programmes. Coordinator, Dr Ally Mahadhy said within the period of two years, they provided 12 teachers to the four secondary schools, but their goal is to reach 25 schools in various regions countrywide.



DAR ES SALAAM STOCK EXCHANGE PLC

DECLARATION OF DIVIDEND FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2022

The Board of Directors of Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange PLC (DSE) announce that the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of shareholders held on 23rd June, 2023, approved the Audited Financial Statements and Declaration of Dividend of TZS 116 per issued and fully paid up shares in line with the DSE's Dividend Policy. The total dividend declared is TZS 2.76 billion, which is 62 percent of the net profit generated in year 2022.

Pursuant to the Dividend Payment Declaration, the timetable for dividend payment shall be as follows:

Announcement of Dividend Payment:	23 rd June, 2023
Trading of Shares cum Dividend:	23 rd June – 14th July 2023
Trading of Shares Ex-Dividend:	15 th July, 2023 onwards
Closure of the Members Register:	19 th July, 2023
Dividend Payment Date on/or about:	31 st July 2023

Dividend will be paid directly to shareholders bank accounts or mobile wallet, for those who have provided banking information or telephone numbers. Shareholders are requested to communicate their bank account/mobile wallet information to the Registrar:

CSD & Registry Company Limited (CSDR),
2nd Floor, Kambarage House, 6 Ufukoni Street,
P.O. Box 70081,
DAR ES SALAAM

Telephone: 0746160516 / 0677070414
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Sharp export controls will scale back maize farming next season

WHILE the debate on the port operation agreement was abating, a less captivating debate is in the air, also of considerable interest to broad sections of the population. It is the sharp downturn in the price of maize as most foreign sales have been curtailed, bringing farmers to a nightmarish situation having been assured that maize was their property and not public property. One sells to the higher priced buyer, but traditionally we look at maize not as commodity but as food, mentally nationalizing the crop, setting its price at urban convenience.

During the fifth phase there was an uproar when maize exports were permitted to encourage larger acreages than for domestic needs. The country's leader retorted that if anyone thinks that maize price is too high, let him farm maize of his own and sell at low prices. The president refused a consumer diktat on local maize as it discourages farming and leads to abandoning the crop for other crops where the markets works undisturbed, and then there are vast shortages.

For some reason that rationale looks like it was being put aside, and there are vast clusters of public opinion that are entirely at ease with curtailing exports more or less entirely, while the Ministry of Agriculture says it has so far permitted exports for 32,000 tonnes. There is a mixture of sentiments and thus inconsistency of where the ministry stands on the matter, as the minister says there is no prohibition of exports, but formalization of the business. Still this is what would demand only an operational licence, and hopefully obtained online.

Greater production of nutritious potatoes will see farmers safer from climate stress

SWEET potatoes are grown throughout Tanzania. Nationally, it is the third most important root and tuber crop after cassava and round potato.

The crop plays an important role in household food security and is produced mainly for home consumption. The crop is most important in the lake and eastern zones, moderately important in southern highlands and northern zones, and less important in the southern and central zones.

Sweet potato production and consumption are impacting millions of lives in Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA), and contributing to the recovery and resilience of local food systems to climate shocks and droughts.

African countries, particularly in the ESA region (Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Mozambique, Madagascar, Malawi) have faced drought, flood challenges and conflicts, especially in the last two years. These experiences have forced farmers to transition into more climate-resilient farming systems to adapt to their environment.

Sweet potato is an important climate-resilient food and nutrition security crop because it's a nutritious staple food accessible to rural communities. Moreover, it is early maturing, drought tolerant, and high-yielding.

"The sweet potato programme at the International Potato Centre has worked with partners in Africa to enable over six million households to access nutritious sweet potato varieties. Over the years, we have fine-tuned our agriculture-nutrition marketing approaches and strengthened supply chains. And with the help of our partners, we have made a demonstrable difference in the lives of households in over 12 countries in Africa, including Eastern Africa countries - Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda and Tanzania," says Paul Demo, the Director, Africa, of International Potato Centre (CIP).

CIP has been working with partners at national and sub-national levels

The complicating aspect in what the minister says is the whole issue of a permit as in that context the government estimates at some leisure how much maize tonnage is needed until the next harvest, how much there is and who can export it. One can see that there is plenty of room for shenanigans of various sorts, by first limiting the quantity and then selecting exporters. Expecting traders to be fairly treated or equally as any other trader becomes difficult, so bribes will rule.

With traders hindered from purchasing and exporting maize, prices fell from 90,000/- per bag of 100kilos to 40,000/- and then scaled back to 50,000/-, a big swipe upon farmers' income expectations. There will be an impact next season due to deep mistrust of assurances given by the government that markets will be allowed to work. Without restrictions being rapidly ended a blowback is certain.

Excessive concern with maize flour price and the idea that we are 'feeding' other countries as if we give the maize for free is an aspect of collective self-interest against farmers. If maize flour is expensive there is cassava or potatoes and tubers or cereals to choose from, but a big section of the public just wants cheap maize, while other crops are sold at free market prices.

At the session, the Speaker concluded by demanding a two-sided view on allowing the free export of the produce without controls, noting that when the country faces shortage MPs will come again and start complaining on shortages. That is the thinking in the government, whereas only assurance that farmers will sell on unfettered markets provides the motivation to cultivate more maize.

to reach farmers and consumers from fragile environments through humanitarian programmes.

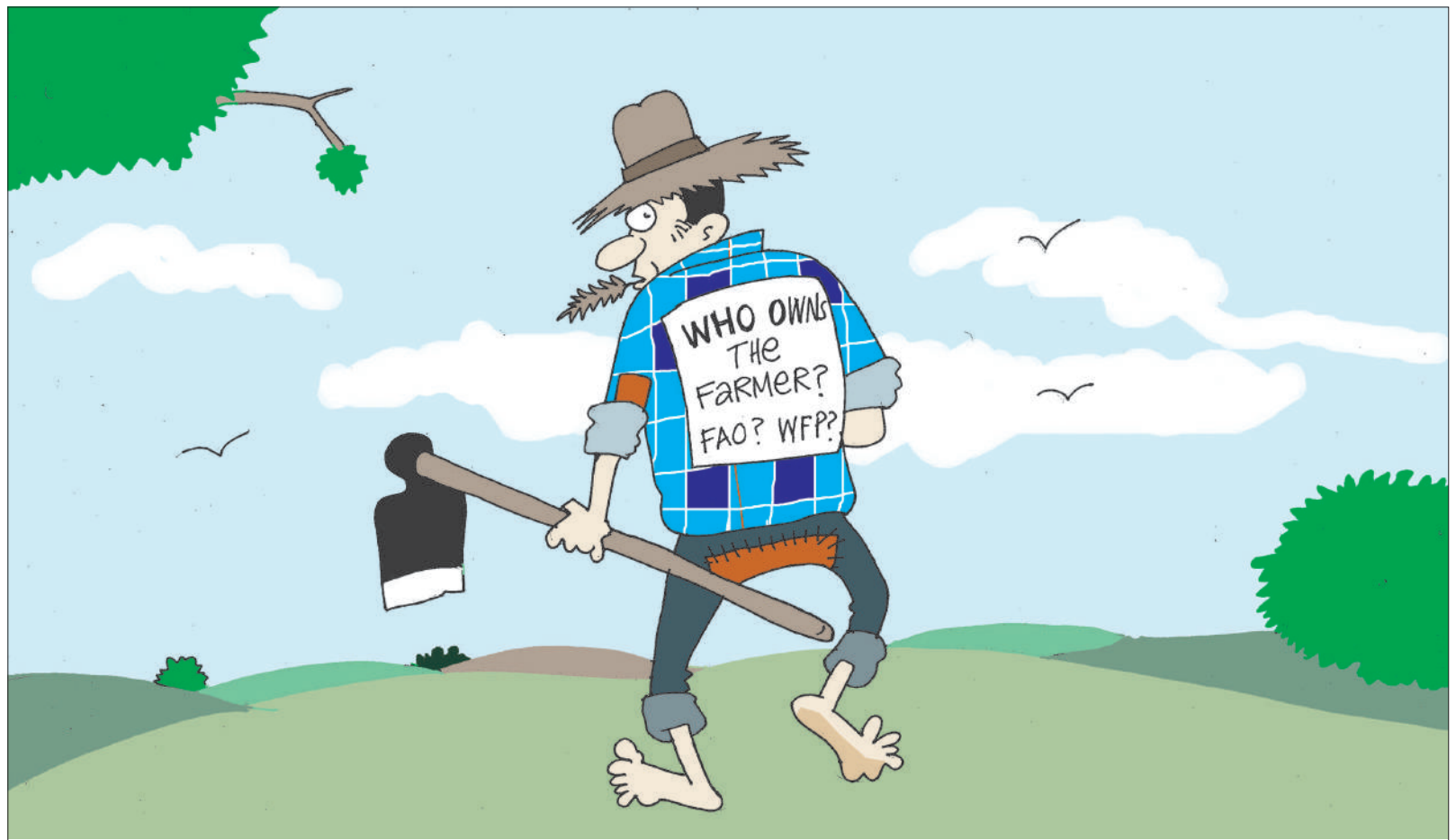
Strategic partnerships with World Food Programme (WFP) and other humanitarian agencies have helped increase sustainable production and supplies of orange-fleshed sweet potato (OFSP) as a nutritious staple food for displaced and refugee populations and their neighbouring communities. These include drought-prone Arid and Semi-Arid (ASAL) counties of Northern and Eastern Kenya, regions affected by ongoing conflicts such as Karamoja, Acholi and West Nile communities in Uganda, as well as Tigray and NSSPR regions of Ethiopia.

The innovative model of sweet potato delivery in fragile and humanitarian contexts has so far reached more than two million people through household production and humanitarian markets, especially during crises.

Sweet potato provides farmers with options for diversification of the dominant cereal-based cropping systems that are currently experiencing challenges relating to prolonged droughts. Farmers can now access sweet potato varieties that are well adapted to the regional climate stresses, including drought, floods, and heat. These varieties have been developed through collaborative research and innovation, and scaled up throughout Africa and globally.

Today, orange-fleshed sweet potato varieties are well-rooted in the local farming systems and diets in many parts African countries. The benefits of the nutritious orange-fleshed sweet potato, which is rich in vitamin A and other micronutrients, have reached vulnerable households and communities through smallholder production, nutrition education and awareness creation, local markets and supply chains for fresh roots and products, commercial partnerships with private sector players and linkages with humanitarian agencies that reach millions of vulnerable families.

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By Special Correspondent

THE consequences of the conflict that erupted in Sudan on April 15, between the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) under the command of Lt Gen Abdelfattah El Burhan, and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) commanded by Lt Gen Mohamed 'Hemedti' Dagalo, were immediately felt in eastern Chad. The countries share a 1,403 km (872 m) border and continuation of the fighting could destabilise the Chad further. Tens of thousands of refugees are threatened by the imminent rainy season.

"Many Chadians want an end to the Zaghawa rule, which has lasted for more than 30 years. In case Hemedti (the RSF) wins, Chadian Arab forces could be a real threat to (Chadian President Mahamat) Déby, as they can feel encouraged to try to take power in the country," political scientist Helga Dickow wrote on Thursday.

"In case of his defeat however, Dagalo would not give up his stronghold. The gold of Darfur is the reason for his wealth and military strength."

Lt Gen Mohamed 'Hemedti' Dagalo, commander of the Rapid Support Forces is well connected within Chadian politics. He is of a

Sudan war posing security, humanitarian, political and economic challenges for Chad

Chadian Arab descent and has a stronghold in Darfur. His cousin Bichara Issa Djadallah, is the personal chief of staff of Mahamat Déby, president of Chad and an ethnic Zaghawa.

Economically, Chad is heavily dependent on imports of most goods. The two main ports that supply the country are Douala in Cameroon and Port Sudan.

"The closure of the borders has had an immediate impact on Chadian consumers. Prices of goods and services have risen by up to 70 per cent, according to the Observatory for Economic Complexity."

Humanitarian situation
"With the rainy season" approaching, access to refugees' camps becomes almost impossible due to poor or non-existent roads," Dickow added.

"This will make it more difficult for aid organisations to distribute relief supplies. A humanitarian disaster in eastern Chad is a possibility."

Last year, Chad experienced unprecedented floods, affecting nearly 600,000 people.

According to the latest report published on Monday by the UN Refugees agency, more than 100,000

Sudanese refugees have entered the country since the beginning of the conflict in Sudan. The number is expected to reach 200,000 in the next three months.

People who fled Sudan to neighbouring Chad told Radio Dabanga that they had to take a lot of detours and stay in hiding for days because the attackers are in control of the main roads.

Before the current influx, Chad already hosted 400,000 Sudanese refugees.

Radio Dabanga reported on May 25 that there is a possibility of heavier-than-normal rainfall in parts of Sudan.

Chadian neutrality
Not long after the outbreak of the violence on Saturday April 15, Chad closed its border with Sudan. It later announced that it had received more than 320 defecting Sudanese military soldiers who fled the violence inside its territory.

N'Djamena reported that soldiers of the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) fled to Chad on after the eruption of the clashes between the SAF and RSF. They crossed the border and surrendered to the Chadian army.

In a press conference, Chadian

Defence Minister Gen Daoud Ibrahim said that the Sudanese military "entered our lands". "They have all been disarmed and sheltered."

He added that "those who surrendered to our forces are 320 members of the Sudanese Armed Forces, from the gendarmerie, police, and army. They fled fearing they would be killed by the RSF."

"The situation in Sudan is worrying and deplorable, we have taken all the necessary measures in the face of this crisis," the minister said.

In the press statement at the time, the defence minister stressed that this war "does not concern" Chad. "It is between the Sudanese, and we must remain vigilant against all eventualities."

In January, Chadian President Mahamat Déby received both SAF Commander Lt Gen Abdelfattah El Burhan and RSF Commander Hemedti, one day after the other, in N'Djamena with the aim of 'displaying an air of neutrality'.

The rainy season in Chad is typically in July and August. In recent years, climate change has exacerbated catastrophic events.

On World Refugee Day: Let's celebrate solutions to raging energy crisis

By Nashwa Naushad and Amer Alkayed

CONNECTING displaced people with clean, affordable energy is an urgent humanitarian challenge. In refugee camps, the share of residents without electricity and safe cooking methods can be as high as 90%.

Powering up communities supports displaced people to stay safe and healthy, earn a living, learn, and stay in touch with loved ones. But there are many barriers to progress - including a lack of public and private investment, and officials' reluctance to sanction infrastructure that 'settles' displaced people.

Every day across the Global South businesses and non-profits are using mini-grids and rooftop solar to bring clean energy to more and more communities - while safer cookstoves tackle deforestation and air pollution.

But too often, barriers stop the spread of these services and products to displaced people. We risk a widening energy poverty gap, further adding to the challenges faced by some of the world's most marginalised communities.

On World Refugee Day (20 June 2023), it's time to ask - how can this gap be closed? A key step is supporting and replicating

homegrown energy initiatives, and the entrepreneurs and community organisations driving ground-up change. They know the solutions needed, and the funding and business models that can make them a reality.

Backing this work is much-needed action towards a more inclusive, participatory, sustainable humanitarian system. Whether powering clinics, streetlights, water pumps or market stalls, energy is at the centre of a strong community.

Ensuring that energy systems are locally owned - or run hand-in-hand with local people - is a foundation for resilience. And, crucially, it helps bring dignity back to communities, something many other interventions cannot manage.

Pioneering innovation shows what works

Examples of truly homegrown innovation include USAFI Green - a refugee-led enterprise in Kenya's Kakuma Refugee Camp, employing local people to manufacture cookstoves (2,000 a month) and clean-burning briquettes to fuel them. 95% of its staff are under 35, meaning a big impact tackling youth unemployment. Contracts to supply briquettes to the FAO have supported USAFI Green's growth, underlining the importance of partnerships between local and global organisations.

In East Africa, Save the Environment Ethiopia has launched twelve clean energy co-operatives in partnership with UNHCR, local authorities and funder IKEA Foundation. Local people are given training in engineering and business skills. This supports a range of livelihoods, from farming to gum and incense making.

Supporting entrepreneurship is particularly important because of the barriers to work facing refugees and displaced people. That's why Nigeria's Care for Social Welfare International is helping displaced people make the most of 350 hectares of land allocated to them in Cross River State.

At the heart of the scheme is a solar-powered borehole shared by 1,200 farmers, which irrigates fields and has allowed 50 households to take up fish pond farming. CASWI's support goes further, helping farmers process and sell their produce - a holistic approach that maximises the scheme's impact.

Meanwhile, Cameroon's Hope for a Better Future is empowering women from the internally displaced and host communities to run 'solar solution centres' in the country's Northwest Region. The NGO's start-up kits, accompanied by technical and business training, help the women supply and repair solar lamps and clean cookstoves,

and process farm goods using a solar dryer. It also promotes the women's products by organising football matches and other community events.

Foundations for success

These varied initiatives from across Africa show how communities can drive forward energy access. But international organisations have a vital role to play. Their involvement can catalyse and de-risk markets in humanitarian settings, creating an environment that allows homegrown initiatives to thrive. They can create impact as partners, funders or customers of grassroots efforts.

This includes championing the success and insights of communities, and advocating for them. Steps to fight official restrictions on the rights to work and land, and the general social marginalisation of displaced people, will support important structural change.

For millions of people, clean energy can be a foundation for a better life. But it can also be a foundation for new ways of thinking and acting in the humanitarian system, sparking progress around the world.

Nashwa Naushad is a Programme Officer at Ashden and Amer Alkayed is Co-founder and Chairperson of Global Refugee-Led Network.

World Drug Day: Be your brother's keeper, protect a sister

By Mark Mapambano

TANZANIA joins the rest of the world today to mark the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. This year's theme is 'People first: stop stigma and discrimination, strengthen prevention.'

I love prevention for one reason: It's free. Treatment is inevitable but it's costly to the patient, community and the nation. And treating a drug addict is costlier than you can imagine.

I remember watching *New Jack City*—an American action crime film back in the 1990s. The film stars Wesley Snipes as Nino Brown, a rising drug lord in New York City during the crack epidemic.

One of the lines I still remember is Snipes quipping 'Am I my brother's keeper?' Allow me to humbly submit that yes, be your brother's keeper and protect a sister. Take time to know your child's friends and acquaintances he or she hangs with.

I insist that prevention role should be played primarily at home. Institutions such as schools play secondary role and their job becomes easy if parents and or guardians do theirs properly.

I say so because the hands-off approach has failed us and benefitted drug traffickers and peddlers. It's sad that many—if not all—parents learn of their child's drug problem when it is too late. They become dumbfounded to know that they have an addict in their midst. That is a result of hands-off parenting.

Like legal businesses, folks in the illegal businesses also do marketing. In the dark, ruthless world of drugs, the best age-group to hook is not middle or old but young. Because of their adventurous nature, young people are an easy target for peddlers.

Without drug users, drug dealers would go out of business and they know this fact. To create constant demand and new customers, drug dealers don't sleep on the job of promotion and marketing. That is why I insist that parents should not sleep on their parenting job. Else, expect to see things missing in that house and the thief will shock you: your dearest son or daughter.

For starters, there is close link between drug addiction and the crime called theft. Families get shocked when their smartest boy turns out to be the thief they have been looking for. Drug users steal to fund addiction which is a chronic, relapsing brain disease that negatively affects a range of cognitive functions.

Withdrawal symptoms are intolerably painful, addicts say. That is why an addict can steal your latest flat-screen TV set or mobile phone that cost you 1m/- and sell it at throw-away price of 50,000/- . Better that way than deal with the excruciating pain that comes with anxiety, fatigue, sweating, vomiting, depression, seizures and all manners of hallucinations.

The other day I met my pal from Mwananyamala. We grew up together in that neighbourhood. Let me call him J to protect his true identity. We used to



hang out together in the 1990s. J was a chubby and charming fellow. But when I met him this time, he was an empty shell of his former self. The body is gone, voice almost gone just as the brain.

"That's my boy," he said upon seeing me. "My man," I replied. I offered to buy him lunch, so he left the bus stop where he works as a stout. We entered this roadside eatery and I ordered two plates of beef and rice.

"Hapana mwana, mie nitakula baadae," he said meaning "No, my man, I'll eat later." But I offered to buy this fel-

low lunch and he came with me to the eatery. Why the sudden change of mind? I insisted that we had not seen each other for years and we could not part ways without eating together so I paid the money for the two plates and proceeded to enjoy my meal.

I did this on purpose and the results came out exactly as I expected. The restaurateur coughed up the money for J's food. With one look with unspoken but strong message, the man counted the money and gave it to him.

Chronic drug use affects a person's nutritional status and body composition through decreased intake, nutrient absorption, and dysregulation of hormones that alter the mechanisms of satiety and food intake.

After we left the eatery, J went to a nearby shop and bought a packet of biscuits and a soda to honour my offer. He kept the change and I still don't want to imagine what he did with it. A man in his 40s, no family and no plan for it and no savings because all the money he earns ends up in the hands of a pusher.

"In recent years, Dar es Salaam has seen an increase in illicit drug use, particularly heroin, as the large port city has become a pit stop for smugglers en route from

Afghanistan to Europe and the rest of Africa. The heroin sold is poor quality but is cheaply available," wrote the World Health Organisation (WHO) on the progress of the pioneer methadone treatment at Mwananyamala Hospital.

Reporting on the same treatment programme started in 2011, the International Drug Policy Consortium wrote:

"Prior to the clinic's opening in the country's largest city, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania was struggling with a growing epidemic of people who inject drugs. Home to approximately 50,000 intravenous drug users (particularly heroin) and facing the complex issues of needle sharing and condomless sex; the prevalence rates of HIV began to increase at alarming rates."

According to UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)'s World Drug Report 2022, around 284 million people aged 15-64 used drugs worldwide in 2020, a 26 per cent increase over the previous decade. Young people use more drugs, with use levels in many countries higher than the previous generation. In Africa and Latin America, people under 35 represent the majority of people being treated for drug use disorders.

Globally, the report estimates that 11.2 million people worldwide were injecting drugs. Around half of this number were living with hepatitis C, 1.4 million were living with HIV, and 1.2 million were living with both.

The International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, or World Drug Day, is marked on 26 June every year to strengthen action and co-operation in achieving a world free of drug abuse.

The author is a commentator on current affairs based in Dar es Salaam. He can be reached on 0655 522 922.

Celebrating medical milestones since defining leprosy discovery 150 years ago

By Joyce Chimbi

THE 1873 discovery of *Mycobacterium leprae*, the causative agent of leprosy by Norwegian doctor Gerhard Armauer Hansen, remains one of the greatest paradigm shifts in medical history, a true revolution.

"Before the great discovery, even in the days when communication and transportation technologies were not as developed as today, leprosy was detested by the entire world. Leprosy was believed to be a divine punishment or a hereditary disease; once affected, patients were segregated to remote areas and islands for life," says Yohei Sasakawa, WHO's Goodwill Ambassador for Leprosy Elimination.

Sasakawa, who also serves as chairperson of The Nippon Foundation, spoke during a two-day conference in Bergen, Norway, to commemorate the 1873 discovery. In attendance were over 200 people, including medical, human rights, and historical preservation experts, researchers, NGOs, and organizations of persons affected by the disease.

The Bergen International Conference on Hansen's Disease, held on June 21 and 22, 2023, was organized by the Sasakawa Leprosy (Hansen's Disease) Initiative and the University of Bergen. It focused on medical efforts against leprosy, human rights, and dignity issues and preserving the history of leprosy for the lessons it can teach future generations. All three are pillars of the Sasakawa Leprosy (Hansen's Disease) Initiative's activities for a world free of leprosy and the discrimination it causes, in line with the UN's Resolution on Elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members.

In his speech to delegates, Sasakawa acknowledged the extraordinary advances made by medical professionals since Dr Hansen's discovery that leprosy was neither a curse nor a punishment from God but a chronic disease caused by a bacillus.

With the 1873 discovery, leprosy went from being a mythological divine disease shrouded in mystery to something one could observe and explain—although it would take more than half a century before a cure was found.

Margareth Hagen, Rector, University of Bergen, said there was a clear shift in the scientific discourse about leprosy before and after the discovery.

Sasakawa said the journey towards a cure started with a single anti-leprosy drug to more effective drug regimens and, ultimately, a recommendation from WHO's medical team that leprosy patients receive



Delegates to the Bergen International Conference on Hansen's Disease held on June 21 and 22, 2023. The conference was organized by the Sasakawa Leprosy (Hansen's Disease) Initiative and the University of Bergen. Credit: Thor Brodreskift/Sasakawa Leprosy (Hansen's Disease) Initiative

drug regimens consisting of multiple drugs.

"A single anti-leprosy drug tended to increase drug resistance. Since the development of multi-drug therapy, with early detection and treatment, leprosy has become totally curable. About 60 million patients have been cured over the last 40 years," he said.

Abbi Patrix, the great-grandson of Dr Hansen, now responsible for his great grandfather's history, spoke about the man behind the science in a session titled, 'My grandfather, my mother, the documents and me.'

Patrix, a European performance storyteller, talked about the day his mother, the only direct descendant of Dr Hansen at the time, learned that leprosy was named Hansen's disease after her grandfather.

She was moved and wondered

why? His mother was informed that Dr Hansen's discovery had put a name to a disease that had confounded scientists and society alike and that labeling it 'Hansen's disease' meant freedom for those afflicted because a cure could now be found.

The conference venue was, therefore, a recognition of his renowned great-grandfather because he was born in Bergen, and this was the site for his landmark 1873 discovery at only 32 years of age.

WHO Director-General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus told the audience: "WHO was born halfway between 1873 and today, 75 years ago. Much progress has been made since the two major milestones in the fight against leprosy. But much remains to be done toward our shared goals of zero disease, zero disability,

and zero discrimination. Cases of leprosy have decreased significantly in recent decades, but more effort is needed to recover from the health system disruptions of the COVID-19 pandemic and move further ahead."

Ghebreyesus said the WHO was committed to supporting countries in their bid to eliminate leprosy in line with the roadmap for neglected tropical disease for 2021 to 2030.

"So far, 49 countries have eliminated at least one neglected tropical disease, including Human African trypanosomiasis, rabies, and trachoma. With your support and those of our global partners, we can achieve that goal for leprosy too."

Other dignitaries who spoke at the conference include United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Türk, who said the conference celebrated medical

innovations over the last 150 years.

"But when leprosy was eliminated as a global public health problem in 2000, it did not mean that the disease disappeared. Over 250,000 people suffer from leprosy every year, 15,000 of them are children. The actual figures are likely far higher," he emphasized.

"Around three to four million people who have already been cured still bear varying degrees of impairment. The burden of leprosy is heaviest in countries with the greatest inequality, poverty, and marginalization."

Türk further said that to better the lives of people affected by leprosy, "We need to address the physical symptoms, but we also need social and behavioral measures to address stigma and discrimination. We need comprehensive strategies with access to quality care, education, and social protection," and told participants that "together we can make a real difference in ending leprosy, which causes immense preventable and unjustifiable suffering for thousands of people."

Against this backdrop, Sasakawa stressed that further action is needed to combat stigma and discrimination, pointing out that as many as 130 discriminatory laws against leprosy are still in place in more than 20 countries.

"When respect for human rights is a must, it is unacceptable to leave such a large-scale and serious human rights violation unaddressed," he said.

As the curtain fell on the Bergen conference of a remarkable journey to end leprosy over the last 150 years, Dr Takahiro Nanri, executive director of Sasakawa Health Foundation, noted that this was the third international conference that the foundation has helped to organize since launching its "Don't Forget Leprosy" campaign in 2021 to help to ensure that the disease and those affected by it are not overlooked amid the coronavirus pandemic.

"Our purpose in organizing these conferences is to make the world aware that there are still many people who have Hansen's disease and its consequences; to build momentum for collaboration toward the realization of a leprosy-free world; and to provide a setting for both formal and informal exchanges that can be a catalyst for innovative solutions that we as a foundation are ready to support," he said.

Biodigesters boost family farming, cut cost of living in Brazil

By Mario Osava

“THE biodigester really gives a huge boost to those who have the courage to do things,” said Maria das Dores Alves da Silva, based on her own experience as a 63-year-old small farmer.

She did not hesitate to accept the offer of Diaconia, a social organization of Protestant churches in Brazil, to acquire the equipment to produce biogas on her farm in the rural area of Afogados da Ingazeira, a municipality of 38,000 people in the state of Pernambuco in the Northeast region of Brazil.

At first she did not have the cattle whose manure she needed to produce biogas, that enables her to save on liquefied petroleum gas, which costs 95 reais (20 dollars) for a 13-kg cylinder – a significant cost for poor families.

She brought manure from a neighboring farm that gave it to her for free, in an hour-long trip with her wheelbarrow, until she was able to buy her first cow and then another with loans from the state-owned Banco do Nordeste.

“Now I have more than enough manure,” she said happily as she welcomed IPS to her four-hectare farm where she and her husband have lived alone since their two children became independent.

Das Dores, as she is known, is an example among the 163 families who have benefited from the “sertanejos biodigesters” distributed by Diaconia in the sertão of Pajeú, a semiarid micro-region of 17 municipalities and 13,350 square kilometers in the center-north of Pernambuco.

Biofertilizer

In addition to using the biogas, she sells the manure after it has been subjected to anaerobic biodegradation that extracts the gases – the so-called digestate, a biofertilizer that she packages in one-kilo plastic bags, after drying and shredding it.

Every Saturday, she sells 30 bags at the agroecological market in the town of Afogados da Ingazeira, the municipal seat. At two reais (40 cents) a bag, she earns an extra income of 60 reais (12.50 dollars), on top of her sales of the various sweet cakes she bakes at home, at a cost reduced by the biogas, and of the seedlings she also produces.

The seedlings provided her with a new business opportunity. “The customers asked me if I didn’t also have fertilizer,” she said. The biodigester produces enough fertilizer to sell at the market and to fertilize the farm’s crops of beans, corn, fruit trees, flowers and different vegetables.

This diversity is common in family farming in Brazil’s semiarid Northeast, but even more so in the agroecological techniques that have expanded in this territory of one million square kilometers in the northeastern interior of the country, which has an arid biome highly vulnerable to climate change, subject to frequent droughts, and where there are areas in the process of desertification.

The Pajeú river basin is the micro-region chosen by Diaconia as a priority for its social and environmental actions.

Energy and food security

“We seek to promote energy, food and water autonomy to maintain more resilient agroecosystems, to coexist with climate change, strengthening community self-management with a special focus on the lives of women,” Ita Porto, Diaconia’s coordinator in the Pajeú ecoregion, told IPS.

“The production of biogas on a rural family scale fulfills the needs of energy for cooking, sanitary disposal and treatment of animal waste and reduction of deforestation, in addition to increasing food productivity, with organic fertilizer, while bolstering human health,” said the 48-year-old agronomist.

More than 713 units of the “sertanejo biodigester”, a model developed by Diaconia 15 years ago, have been installed in Brazil. In addition to the 163 in the sertão do Pajeú, there are 150 in the neighboring state of Rio Grande do Norte and another 400 distributed in six other Brazilian states, financed by the Caixa Econômica Federal, a government bank focused on social questions.

“Hopefully the government will make it a public policy, as it has already done with the rainwater harvesting tanks in the semiarid Northeast,” said Porto.

More than 1.3 million rainwater harvesting tanks for drinking water have already been built, but some 350,000 are still needed to make them universal in rural areas, according to the Articulation of the Semi-Arid (Asa), a network of 3,000 social organizations that spearheaded the transformative program.

The value of manure



On Lucineide Cordeiro’s small farm, cotton, corn, sesame, sunflower, cassava and fruit trees are alternated in the fields, as recommended by agroecology, which is on the rise on family farms in Brazil’s semiarid Northeast, which is threatened by longer and more severe droughts due to the climate crisis. CREDIT: Mario Osava / IPS

“One cow is enough to produce the biogas consumed in our stove,” said Lucineide Cordeiro, on her one-hectare farm where she grows cotton, corn, sesame seeds and fruit, in an interconnected agroecological system, along with chickens, pigs and fish in a pond.

She also has two oxen and two calves, which she proudly showed to IPS during the visit to her farm.

“Pig manure produces biogas more quickly, but I don’t like the stench,” the 37-year-old farmer who is the director of Women’s Policies at the Afogados da Ingazeira Rural Workers Union told IPS.

The difference in the crops before and after fertilization by the biodigester by-product is remarkable, according to her and other farmers in the municipality.

She tends to her many crops on her own, although she is sometimes helped by friends, and has several pieces of equipment such as a brushcutter and a micro-tractor.

“But the seeder is the best invention that changed my life, it was invented by the Japanese. Planting the seeds, which used to take me two days of work, I can now do in half a day,” Cordeiro said.

The seeder is a small machine pushed by the farmer, with a wheel filled with seeds that has 12 nozzles that can be opened or closed, according to the distance needed to sow each seed.

The emergence of appropriate equipment for family farming is recent, in a sector that has favored large farmers in Brazil.

Female protagonism clashes with male chauvinist violence

For the success of local family farming, the support of the Pajeú Agroecological Association (Asap), of which Cordeiro is a member and a “multiplier”, as the women farmers who are an example to others of good practices are called, is important.

In family farming the empowerment of women stands out, which in many cases was a response to sexist violence or oppression.

“The first violence I suffered was from my father who did not let me study. I only studied up to fourth grade of primary school, in the rural school. To continue, I would have had to go to the city, which my father did not allow. I got married to escape my father’s oppression,” said Cordeiro, who also separated from her first husband because he was violent.

After living in a big city with the father of her two daughters, she separated and returned to the countryside in 2019. “I was reborn” by becoming a farmer, she said, faced with the challenge of taking on that activity against the idea, even from her family, that a woman on her own could not possibly manage the demands of agricultural production.

Organic cotton, promoted and acquired in the region by Vert, a French-Brazilian company that produces footwear and clothing with organic inputs, has once again expanded in the Brazilian Northeast, after the crop was almost extinct due to the boll weevil plague in the 1990s.

In the case of Das Dores, a small, energetic, active woman, she has a good relationship with her husband, but she runs her own business initiatives. Thanks to what she earns she was able to buy a small pickup truck, but it is driven by her husband, who has a job but helps her on the farm in his free time.

“He drives because he refuses to teach me how, so I can’t go out alone with the vehicle and drive around everywhere,” she joked.



Farmer Maria das Dores Alves da Silva stands between the manure pit and the “sertanejo” biodigester designed by Diaconia, a social organization of Protestant churches in Brazil, which has already installed 713 biogas production plants in eight of Brazil’s 26 states. CREDIT: Mario Osava / IPS

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

Nitrogen-producing bacteria slash fertiliser use on farms

By James Dinneen

NITROGEN-FIXING microbes can dramatically reduce the fertiliser-related emissions and pollution from farms.

Nitrogen fertiliser plays an essential role in industrial agriculture, but it comes at a steep environmental cost. The production and use of synthetic nitrogen is responsible for around 5 per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions. Excess fertiliser also adds to air pollution and can contaminate water.

In addition to finding greener ways to produce nitrogen fertiliser, researchers and farmers are looking for ways to use fertiliser more efficiently, without sacrificing crop yields. One approach taken by US-based company Pivot Bio is to add bacteria to crops that take nitrogen from the air and fix it in soil as nitrates plants can use.

"Microbes are freeloaders couch potatoes when nitrogen is around," says Karsten Temme, the company's CEO. If the soil has synthetic fertiliser, bacteria will use that rather than pull nitrogen from the air.

That requires farmers to use more fertiliser to have the same effect on crop yields. It also adds to nitrous oxide emissions from soil as microbes convert excess nutri-

ents from the fertiliser. Nitrous oxide is a potent greenhouse gas and emissions from soil are responsible for the majority of fertiliser-related emissions of the gas.

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Using genetic engineering, Pivot Bio developed two bacteria-based treatments that continue to produce nitrogen even when high levels of nitrogen are already present in the soil. Temme says the treatments, which can be applied as a liquid directly to the soil or as a powder to coat seeds, can replace about a quarter of the synthetic nitrogen used without affecting crop yield.

Pivot Bio says its products are now being used on more than 3 million acres (1.2 million hectares) of farmland in the US, mostly on



Bacteria could help reduce amount of fertiliser used to grow corn

corn crops, but also on wheat, sorghum, barley, millet, oats and sunflower crops.

According to initial estimates, the treatment helped avoid 32,000 tonnes of synthetic fertiliser on farms in 2022. The firm estimates that resulted in a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to 220,000 tonnes of CO₂, about the same as

burning 1200 rail cars full of coal. About a third of those avoided emissions came from not producing the synthetic fertiliser. The other two-thirds come from the avoided nitrous oxide emissions from soil.

Those estimates are based partly on self-reported fertiliser use from farmers and partly on changes in use verified by a third

party, and there are large uncertainties associated with linking fertiliser use and emissions, says Jane Franch at Pivot Bio.

A number of other companies have developed similar microbial treatments for plants. Agritech giant Bayer, for instance, has a partnership with synthetic biology company Ginkgo Bioworks to develop more efficient nitrogen-

fixing strains of bacteria.

Another is Massachusetts-based Kula Bio, which feeds naturally occurring microbes with a carbon energy source so they live for longer in soil.

Bill Brady, the company's CEO, says the treatment, which is in development, will be able to work on any crop and also reduce nitrogen use by around a quarter.

A380 was nearly extinct, now new airline says it's building a superjumbo-only fleet

By Jacopo Prisco

THE pandemic almost killed it and its production ended sooner than anticipated in 2021, but the A380 simply refuses to die.

With more and more superjumbos soaring back into the skies amid a post-pandemic resurgence in commercial aviation, the aircraft is back in the spotlight as one new airline is built around it.

Global Airlines, a British startup that aims to offer transatlantic flights starting next year, has acquired a 16-year-old A380 as the inaugural aircraft of an all-A380 fleet – at least initially – and is in the process of refurbishing the plane to its own specifications.

It's a rare used-market move for an aircraft that passengers adore but that airlines have struggled to turn profitable due to its operating and maintenance cost, as well as its huge size.

Lufthansa sold six A380s to Airbus. Then things went a little wrong

"It's a fantastic aircraft when you use it in the right way and on the right routes," says Global Airlines CEO James Asquith. "We will be looking to invest significant amounts on refurbishing the A380 we already have and the future ones that we're looking to bring into the fleet."

Asquith previously founded Holiday Swap, a home-swapping travel platform which is also Global's parent company, and he holds the Guinness world record for the youngest person to visit every country in the world.

"I've flown on about 280 different airlines and sat there seeing what's good, what doesn't work and what can be improved," he says. "We've structured this in a way that financially allows us to do a lot of the exciting things that no new airline that isn't government-funded has been able to do in the last 40 years."

The purchased A380 was among the earliest ever made and was originally delivered to Singapore Airlines in 2008. After 10 years of service, Singapore ended its lease agreement with the aircraft owner, German aircraft trading company Doric, which then leased it to Portuguese charter operation Hi Fly. It was then marketed as the only A380 in the world available for charter.

The plane then flew with a handful of airlines, including Norwegian, Madagascan Airlines and Air Senegal. In mid-2020 Hi Fly partially converted it to cargo, hoping to benefit from the peak in demand for air freight brought on by the pandemic. However, in late 2020, the Portuguese company ended the lease and returned the A380 to Doric.

Since then, the aircraft had been waiting for a buyer at two French airports, in Toulouse and Lourdes, which have specially designed areas for long-term storage.

Airbus built 251 A380s – far fewer than the 750 it originally hoped to make – and retirement has certainly started early for this model compared to what's typical for a widebody aircraft – around 20 to 25 years. The first one was scrapped in 2019, just 12 years after the first commercial flight.

Its second-hand market is almost non-existent and used A380s have always struggled to find buyers. Global Airlines is the first new airline to operate the A380 since All Nippon Airways in 2019, and the first ever to do so with a used aircraft.

Here's how to get your hands on a piece of an Airbus A380

"Not all A380s are the same," says Asquith when



asked why he picked this particular A380 among those that were up for sale. "And we're not just looking at the cabin or the interiors for that, but also the maintenance side of things, how new is the landing gear, and most importantly, the engines."

Global and Doric are not disclosing the sale price beyond the fact that it's "eight figures."

According to Rob Morris, head of consultancy at aviation analytics firm Cirium, the value of the plane is linked to its maintenance condition, and can be as little as \$10 million, if every component is fully run-out, and as much as \$40 million, if the aircraft is in perfect shape.

Either way, Global will have to spend more money to refurbish the plane, which has already been painted in its new livery, and make it fit for passenger service, meaning the final price tag could easily run in the \$50 million range, Morris argues.

That's still quite a bargain compared to the A380's list price of \$450 million, for a brand-new aircraft, in 2018.

Flying in style

Starting an airline is a challenging business proposition and doing it with an A380 fleet even more so, as the aircraft's economics have proved to be less than ideal for many of its operators.

Air France was the first airline to retire its entire fleet, in May 2020, and 17 A380s have already been scrapped (formerly with Singapore, Qantas, Emirates and Air France itself). UAE flag carrier Emirates is the only airline that has managed to make the plane flourish, and is by far the largest operator, having ordered nearly half of all the A380s ever built.

"A lot of people have written about whether the A380 has got another life, but the reality is that the only life it had in the first place was with Emirates," says Asquith. "They've known how to use the aircraft phenomenally. Big plane does not equal lots of seats. It's more what you can offer on the product."

But Global isn't taking too many cues from Emirates; for example, it won't offer a premium economy class, which the Middle Eastern carrier has recently added to over 60 of its existing A380s.

"I've never personally been an advocate of the premium economies of the world for many reasons – the economics of it work fantastically well for airlines, but not very well for passengers," Asquith says.

"As someone who is primarily a passenger before being a manager of an airline, I want a better product across the Atlantic and that's why we're doing what we're doing."

Instead, Global will focus on a three-class cabin with regular economy, business and first class. Gone are the plans for a "gamer class" – seats equipped with Xbox and PlayStation consoles – which the airline was mulling about last year, but economy is going to get special consideration, as it "really hasn't

had enough evolution in the past 30 or so years," Asquith says.

The A380's biggest supporter is asking Airbus to build a new super jumbo

The airline will be based at London's Gatwick airport – suggesting a non-business target demographic – and primarily run transatlantic routes with North America, starting with New York and Los Angeles. There's a plan to expand to other UK cities too, which Asquith says are drastically underserved, and he hopes to launch in spring 2024, with at least two A380s in operation.

The CEO is also quick to dismiss any similarities with previous, and unsuccessful, transatlantic startups such as Norwegian and Wow, and current ones like Norse, which operates a fleet of 10 Boeing 787s offering flights from European cities including Oslo and London to half a dozen US destinations, as well as Jamaica, Thailand and Barbados.

But while Norse – and competitors such as Play from Iceland and Fly Atlantic from Northern Ireland – position themselves as low-cost airlines, Global seems more inclined to offer a curated product to discerning travelers, with maybe even a touch of nostalgia for times past.

"Having a race to the bottom in terms of price isn't necessarily beneficial for the longer-term growth of the industry," Asquith says. "Price competition should also be matched with an increase in quality. We think that there's a big opportunity to create a product on board that is not as dense as some of the carriers. It is magical that you can go and fly between continents in six to eight hours, and I think we shouldn't forget how special that is."

According to analyst Rob Morris, it's not going to be easy for Global Airlines to fill the 484 seats it plans to configure its A380s with.

"The A380 is an aircraft for flag carriers with a few very dense routes and a certain cost and revenue profile," he says. "But for secondary markets, we never thought it would have much success, in the same way the 747-400 never had much success as a passenger aircraft. I'm struggling to see what Global can see that others have not seen in the past. It's a very brave move. It's going to be very costly. I wish good luck, of course, but I just find it hard to see a success scenario for the airline."

"Starting up a new, very small international airline has certainly been done before, with no examples of success," says Richard Aboulafia, an aviation analyst at AeroDynamic Advisory. "They go after a few routes, and even if they somehow get any traction, they're easily crushed by the big players. It's far easier for a successful, low-cost domestic carrier to expand into international routes, as JetBlue is doing."

Asquith is aware of these challenges, but he seems convinced that the exact combination of factors that make up Global Air-

lines, from the choice of aircraft to his personnel – he recently appointed former US Air Force and UK Civilian Aviation Authority officials to key roles – are positioning him for success.

"If you look back at four years ago, let's say, most new airlines would lease a very old aircraft and have a product that genuinely isn't a head turner at the start," he says. "But we live in a bit of a different environment now, where aviation commentary is quite viral and people have a lot of opinions."

"The very key thing that we obviously want to be doing is putting out a very strong product to start with and one that we think is the best across the Atlantic. A smaller aircraft would just not be what we are as a brand."

He adds that Global can "fill that aircraft probably 65% and still be fine," and that people really go out of their way to fly on an A380. The plane is continuing to enjoy a steady post-pandemic comeback, with 141 A380s – about 60% of the remaining global fleet – currently in service with nine airlines.

The latest to reinstate it in its schedule is Lufthansa, whose inaugural Munich to Boston A380 service was among the most tracked flights of the day on Flightradar24.

Overall, Asquith appears to be invigorated, rather than spooked, by criticism: "When I went and visited every country in the world, every single person including my parents told me it was impossible to do," he says.

"I think everybody needs to understand that we're doing this to create jobs, to create competition and a better product. Why would people not want that?"

Education Cannot Wait: Multi-year response for crises-impacted children

By Joyce Chimbi

SOUTH Sudan is experiencing one of the most severe crises in the world today, causing fragility, instability, and economic stagnation. While a peace agreement was reached in 2018, sporadic intercommunal violence and climate-induced disasters continue to spur displacement. More than 2.2 million people are internally displaced. Another 2.3 million have fled to neighboring countries as refugees.

“South Sudan ranks the lowest on the human development index. It is the poorest country in the world and will need to catch up across all sustainable development goals and especially in areas such as eliminating extreme poverty, improving the education system, and gender equality. Yet, before COVID-19, 2.8 million children, and adolescents, or 70 percent of school-aged children, were not attending school. The number is now closer to 3 million,” ECW’s Executive Director Yasmine Sherif told IPS.

Sherif was on a field mission to South Sudan, where she met the President of South Sudan, Salva Kiir Mayardit, and Awut Deng Acuil, South Sudan’s Minister of General Education and Instruction, to assist immediate solutions to the education crisis in a country where only 13 percent of children transition to secondary school. For them, education and conflict are two sides of the same coin. Their joint mission is to ensure no child is left behind, especially in hard-to-reach areas such as Pibor and Abyei.

“Years of conflict and forced displacement, compounded by climate-induced disasters, have taken a heavy toll on South Sudan’s next generation. Now is the time to turn the tide and provide the most vulnerable girls and boys with the protection and hope that only a quality education offers. By working together with the Government, donors, civil society, and across the United Nations, this is the single best investment we can make for the future of this young country and the entire region,” said Sherif when she met with Ministry officials in Lakes State.

ECW is the United Nations global fund for education in emergencies and protracted crises and has supported South Sudan with multi-year investment since 2020. To address these interconnected crises through the transformative power of education, President Kiir and Sherif announced USD 40 million in catalytic grant funding in a function attended by key stakeholders, including the governor of Lakes State, education officials, parents, and children.

From the Lakes State, the fund has launched its second and the largest ever multi-year investment amounting to USD 75 million and has secured two-thirds of that amount, which is USD 50 million. Of this, ECW contributed USD 40 million. The Global Partnership for Education provided another USD 10 million for Education. In addition to the new multi-year investment, ECW also announced a half-a-million dollar First Emergency Response grant to support the immediate education response to the arrivals of refugees and returnees fleeing Sudan.

“We appeal to government donors and the private sector to close the remaining gap of one-third, equivalent to USD 25 million, to fully fund a multi-year investment education program. We say five for five to fully fund the multi-year investment. If five strategic donor partners and private sector (partners) offered five million dollars each, we would have a fully funded multi-year resilience program in the education sector,” she says.

ECW funding in South Sudan now tops USD 72 million, up from the fund’s USD 32 million invested to date - reaching close to 140,000 children, built or rehabilitated over 160 classrooms and temporary learning spaces, and provided learning materials to 50,000 children thus far.

With the extended response multi-year response, children will continue to enjoy a quality, safe, inclusive education. Sherif says there is a special focus on children with disability, especially those with cognitive disabilities, an invisible problem that often goes unrecognized among children in developing countries.

Further stressing that the President and education ministries are fully committed to bringing girls back to school through progressive messaging to the community, policy, and law. The push to keep girls in school and out of reach of child marriages and early child pregnancies is unrelenting.

“The Government of South Sudan is fully committed to ensuring that all children are able to obtain a quality



At least 135,000 children will benefit from the ECW’s Multi-Year Resilience Programme in South Sudan. Credit: ECW/Jiménez

education. Education Cannot Wait’s top-up investment will provide life-saving educational opportunities for tens of thousands of crisis-affected girls and boys across the country,” said President Salva Kiir Mayardit.

“To advance this work, we are calling on world leaders to step up funding for ECW and its in-country partners. This is a critical investment in sustainable development, peace, and prosperity for the people of South Sudan and crisis-impacted children worldwide.”

Closer home, the current conflict in Sudan is fuelling additional needs in South Sudan. More than 100,000 people

have crossed the border in recent weeks. Cornered by unrelenting multiple challenges, options for a better future shrink with every new challenge. Unmitigated, an entire generation of children could miss out on lifelong learning and earning opportunities.

“In light of the unfolding Sudan crisis, we will allocate and make an announcement of half a million dollars to support the Government of South Sudan to provide education to arrivals and returnees fleeing the Sudan conflict. Children and adolescents who were already going to school will continue to do so uninterrupted, have

school meals, and psychosocial and mental health support,” Sherif said.

The new funding will extend ECW’s Multi-Year Resilience Programme in South Sudan for another three years. The three-year programme will be delivered by Save the Children, the Norwegian Refugee Council, and Finn Church Aid, in conjunction with the Ministry of General Education and Instruction and other partners.

It will reach at least 135,000 crisis-affected children and youth - including refugees, returnees, and host-community children - with holistic education supports that improve ac-

cess to school, ensure quality learning, enhance inclusivity for girls and children with disabilities, and build resilience to future shocks.

Importantly, the new multi-year programme will improve responsiveness and resilience through improved evidence-based decision-making, strengthen coordination and meaningful engagement with local actors, and scale-up resource mobilization.

As the United Nations global fund for education in emergencies and protracted crises, ECW collaborates closely with governments, public and private donors, UN agencies, civil

society organizations, and other humanitarian and development aid actors to increase efficiencies and end siloed responses.

ECW and its strategic partners are assessing the impacts of the civil war in Sudan on neighboring countries, including the Central African Republic, Chad, Ethiopia, and South Sudan, to provide agile and responsive investments that return crisis-impacted girls and boys to the safety and protection of quality learning environments. The fund urgently appeals to public and private sector donors for expanded support to reach more vulnerable children and youth.

IPS UN Bureau Report



ECW Executive Director Yasmine Sherif launches the Multi-Year Resilience Programme in Yiroi, South Sudan. Credit: ECW/Jiménez

RADIO One **RATIBA YA VIPINDI** **JUMATATU - JUMAPILI**

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:30 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:05 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:30 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:05 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:30 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:05 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:30 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:05 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:30 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:05 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:30 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:05 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:30 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 20:10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:05 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)

BUSINESS

Dodoma residents win big through Airtel promotion

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

DODOMA residents have been immersed in ecstasy as Airtel unveiled a king-sized promotion laden with prize under the banner 'Upige Mwingi', which has so far seen seven Dodoma residents take away an assortment of prizes.

The promotion, which rewards Airtel customers as they regularly do any transaction or access service options over Airtel Money—a favored digital money transfer service—is

a hectic three-month prize-winning spree in which cash, TVs, motorbikes, talk-time, and refrigerators are dished to customers.

Speaking in the city during a prize-giving function to residents who had won TV sets and refrigerators, Airtel Director of Communication, Beatrice Singano, said the promotion was uniquely inclusive over the Airtel service network as both customers and agents had equal chances of winning prizes.

"Both customers and agents stand the chance to win instant prizes ranging from



Airtel Tanzania Head of Sales in Dodoma Region, Salum Ngungulu (R), presents a television set to one of the winners of the company's ongoing promotion dubbed 'Upige Mwingi na Airtel' in Dodoma city at the weekend. Looking on is the firm's Communications Director, Beatrice Singano.

talk-time, motorbikes, refrigerators, and cash valued from one million up to 50m/-," said Beatrice, extolling the array of benefits of the 250m/- marketing extravaganza.

"Airtel has topped up the prizes with another reason to make our customers smile for currently all

Airtel customers can check their balances free of charge."

Speaking at the event, Head of Sales for Dodoma Region, Salum Ngungulu, said for a customer to join up the promotion and be enlisted in the draws to get prizes, they have to transact or use any Airtel service

by dialing *150*60# or using the Airtel App.

"By the end of this promotion, a total of 90 winners will have been awarded one million shillings each, some 48 winners will get twin-door refrigerators every week, the 55-inch TVs, two motorbikes will go

to two customers in monthly draws, and to cap all one of our customer will scoop the megaprize of 50 million," said Ngungulu.

"Airtel continues to soar unreachably higher up with their customers, having extended stretched its services wings all over the country, including over 3500 special Airtel Money centres, and 200 agents, while at the same time continuing to invest in rolling out the 4G network into communication towers in order to reach all Tanzanians, especially those remote rural areas."

Receiving a TV set, one of the winners, Thabiti Hemedi, thanked Airtel for the reward, saying it was a surprise, and called upon other customers to boldly jump into the promotion as the prizes-giving process was fair and reliable.

Another winner, who made away with a refrigerator, Silvano Chigawe, apart from thanking Airtel for the prize, threw a rejoinder to fellow winner Thabiti Hemedi, noting that all prizes are genuine and were issued without favouring anyone.

On the distribution of prizes among the seven winners, those who carried away TV sets are Piston Benjamin, Emmanuel Funto, and Thabiti Hemedi; while Juma Mafita, Silvano Chigawe and Hezron Masigose won refrigerators, as the one million cash prize went to Joseph Mahimba.

Project empowers youth at 'Power Hacks: Waste Management Solutions' Hackathon

By Special Correspondent

POWER Learn Project, an impact organisation dedicated to providing affordable and accessible tech training to young people across Africa, has announced the launch of the 'Power Hacks: Waste Management Solutions' Hackathon in Tanzania.

The event is meant to foster innovation, collaboration and creative problem-solving among the youth and thus address waste management challenges while crusading for conservation and sustainability.

As an advocate of conservation, Power Learn Project (PLP) recognizes the urgent need to address waste management issues in Tanzania.

Accordingly, the dynamic hackathon serves as a platform to leverage the collective efforts of stakeholders, including the government, in building a sustainable environment for future generations.

This particular hackathon is expected to bring together a diverse group of talented individuals, including tech enthusiasts, environmentalists, and aspiring

change-makers, to develop innovative solutions.

Participants will have the opportunity to unleash their creativity and technical expertise, working in teams to design practical and scalable waste management solutions.

"We are thrilled to organise the 'Power Hacks: Waste Management Solutions' Hackathon in Tanzania," said Zainab Abdallah, the project lead in the country.

"By harnessing the power of technology and the passion of Tanzania's youth, we aim to ad-

dress waste management challenges head-on while fostering a culture of conservation and sustainability," she said. She added: "We believe in complementing the ongoing efforts by the government and other stakeholders to create a cleaner and greener Tanzania."

The hackathon is in particular expected to provide participants with access to cutting-edge technology resources, mentorship from industry experts, and networking opportunities with like-minded individuals.

It is seen cultivating innova-

tive ideas and nurturing entrepreneurial spirit, thus encouraging participants to transform their concepts into tangible solutions that can make a real impact in society.

To ensure the realisation of a well-rounded experience, the hackathon will feature educational sessions, inspirational talks, and interactive workshops on waste management, sustainability, and entrepreneurship.

These activities will equip participants with valuable knowledge and empower them to become advocates of change

within their communities, noted the project lead.

She expressed appreciation and gratitude to the project's partners, sponsors and supporters "who share the vision of a sustainable future and have contributed to making the hackathon a reality".

Launched in April 2022 in Kenya, PLP is a Pan-African organisation working to drive transformative change by empowering youth through providing quality, affordable, and decentralised software development and smart technologies

training and opportunities for work after that.

It currently has a presence in over five African countries and an estimated 10,000 software developers in training, its first cohort of 1,000 having graduated in December 2022.

These developers are then provided with several pathways ranging from upskilling - that is, providing employees with additional skills in line with the needs of the changing market - to jobs and entrepreneurship opportunities.

Cross-millennium ceramics trade bears witness to China-Africa trade exchange

CHANGSHA, China

CERAMICS exports from central China's Hunan Province to Africa have regained momentum, after a COVID-19-affected slump, according to the Zhuzhou subsidiary of the customs authorities in Changsha, the capital city of Hunan.

Li Shuming, of Zhuzhou Customs, said that, affected by the pandemic, the exports of ceramics made in Liling, a county-level city administrated by Zhuzhou, which boasts a long history of porcelain production, have declined. Liling exported ceramic products worth \$1.26 million to Africa last year.

He said the customs cleared an export of 15,408 pieces of ceramic tableware produced by Liling Jingtao Ceramic Corporation Ltd. in May, which was destined for South Africa.

He expected the upcoming third China-Africa Economic and Trade Expo to be held in Changsha from June 29 to July 2 this year to help local exporters further explore the African market.

As the permanent host of the biennial event, the city of Changsha will host visitors from 53 African countries, eight international organizations, and over 1,500 centrally-ad-

ministered state-owned enterprises, business associations, and financial institutions at this year's session.

Li said ceramic exports to Africa are mainly household porcelain items such as coffee cups, which are destined for African countries, including South Africa, Tunisia, and Morocco.

Hunan's trade ties with Africa can be traced back over 1,000 years ago, when porcelain artifacts that have been found to have reached about market.

In 1998, a German salvage company discovered the shipwreck and named it "Batu Hitam." Over 67,000 pieces of treasure were found on the ship, 85 percent of which came from a kiln in Changsha.

Qu Wei, director of the Tongguan Kiln Museum in Changsha, said that the kiln was a center of a porcelain-making cluster in the Tang Dynasty, which produced artifacts that have been found to have reached about market.

Many made-in-Changsha porcelain relics carry designs and patterns that were ordered by foreign customers, such as paintings of "foreign women

figures" and tropical plants like "palm trees."

"The porcelain wares from the Changsha kiln were 'high-end customized' products from over 1,000 years ago," said the curator Qu.

Nowadays, in addition to Chinese ceramic makers' efforts to reach out, more and more African business people are seeking business opportunities through trade ties.

Karim Nyanzi runs a kitchenware store in Uganda. He said that in his shop, 10-inch plates imported from the Hunan Hualian China Industry Co., Ltd. based in Hunan are the best seller.

Nyanzi said that the size of the plate is suitable for holding meals in Uganda. The porcelain wares are good in quality and cost-effective, which makes them popular among locals in Uganda.

Nyanzi took over the business from his father. He has since expanded the import volume and types of ceramic products from Hunan, introducing more Chinese porcelain wares such as bowls and pots to Uganda.

"Chinese ceramics have a long history and a good reputation. Using Chinese porcelain wares can increase the exquisiteness of life," Nyanzi said.



A porcelain bowl inscribed with a poem is on display for the first time at the Changsha Museum in Changsha, central China's Hunan Province.

Xu Lingfang, a regional general manager of the Hunan Hualian China Industry Co., Ltd., said the company entered the African market in 2017, which benefitted from a series of pragmatic measures under the China-Africa economic and trade cooperation.

The company's products have since been exported to African countries, including South Africa, Kenya, Ugan-

da, and Morocco.

"We have kept developing designs of ceramic products to cater to African culture and living habits. Through participating in the previous sessions of the China-Africa economic and trade expo and other domestic and foreign exhibitions, our products have been recognized by more and more African customers," said Xu.

To better facilitate the China-Africa

trade, the industrial hub of Zhuzhou launched a sea-rail transport service to Africa in January last year, linking cities in Hunan and south China's Guangdong Province by rail transport before the exported goods are transferred to offshore shipping to Africa.

The cargo transport service is one of five international logistics channels in the planning and building to connect Hunan with Africa, Latin America, and

Energy firm cuts gas off-loading time from tankers at Dar port by half

By Francis Kajubi

ORYX Energies has managed to cut short gas off-loading time from gas tankers docked at the port of Dar es Salaam by 50 percent following its new investments in the expansion of infrastructure.

The leading company in importation and supply of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) for both commercial and domestic consumption has

seen it investing \$2.4million (5.77bn/-).

Addressing journalists last Friday on a special visit at the company's depot in Kigamboni district of Dar es Salaam, Eng. Steven Soka, Oryx Energies project manager said that on 17th June 2023 the company commissioned the pipeline for receiving gas from the Kigamboni Oil Jet (KOJ) to its depot.

Soka said Oryx has invested the money in construction of the gas receiving pipeline covering 2.8 kilometers with a diameter of 10 inches. According to him, the new pipeline is intended at reducing gas off-loading time and costs incurred during waiting time by tanker owners.

The company had since 2015 received LPG gas at its depot by using a pipeline with a diameter of six-inches.

"In a space of one week, we have come to realize that off-loading time has been cut short as intended from the investment. For instance, it used to take 30 hours to off-load a tanker with 2,500 metric tons of gas which has been cut short to 20 hours," said Soka.

According to him, this is the first phase of the company's infrastructure expansion that focuses on strengthening

reception capacity whereas phase two will cover storage capacity.

"From now on if there is a need of maintenance for either of the pipelines one shall be operational as compared to prior this investment when activities were forced to stop for days to give room for maintenance," said Soka.

He said at its Kurasini depot, the company has constructed a gas sphere which

stores a maximum of 3200 metric tons of LPG waiting to be filled into gas cylinders of different volumes for both domestic and industrial consumption.

Soka said the completion of the pipeline construction that started in December 2022 paves a way for the construction of a new gas storage sphere with a capacity of 4,000 metric tons.

The plan which is already

on the pipeline will see the company handling storage spheres with a capacity of 7,200 metric tons.

"Apart from spheres the company has also constructed two bullets with a storage capacity of 125 metric tons of LPG. These investments are likely to have a direct impact on final consumers by guaranteeing quick and easy access to gas in rural areas," said Soka.

How moving to the US led to an 800-cow trade

By Rhian Price

CRAWFORD Porter was 15 when he first fell in love with dairy farming in the US on a study trip with his dad. But it would take family tragedy and overcoming the challenges presented by Covid before he finally found the courage to move there permanently.

Crawford, who now milks 800 cows in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, originally hails from County Down in Northern Ireland, where he milked 80 cows on his family's 40ha (100-acre) farm.

His mother, Elma, passed away when he was 17, and after completing a joinery certification he returned home to farm with his father, Jackie, at the age of 19.

At the time, they ran 80 Angus suckler cows because their former 120-cow dairy

herd had been ravaged by TB. After his father died just two years later, Crawford worked in Australia for two years before returning home and re-establishing a 100-cow dairy herd.

However, frustration with sky-high land values and a shortage of labour left him longing to return to the US.

"It was very hard to get land and labour at home. I was putting everything I had into the farm, but I was stagnant," he recalls.

Fate struck when he bumped into old friends in Northern Ireland that had moved to the US to farm, and it reignited his hunger to uproot.

"I got in touch with Dairy Realty, which specialises in selling dairy farms in the US and they put me in contact with George Bailey [original-



ly] from Newtownards, who had relocated to the US with his wife, Joanne, 14 years ago.

"He took me under his wing and has been a fantastic mentor."

Crawford decided to sell his cows and work for George in the US, but Covid hit and he was forced to return to

Northern Ireland after just three months.

"During this time, a farm in Milwaukee came on the market and, on impulse, Crawford decided to buy it, for \$10,000/acre (£8,000/acre) and sell his family farm.

"I had never seen the farm

before I bought it, so it was a huge leap of faith, but George and other friends, Jim and Alison Thompson, viewed it, and I trusted their opinion."

The home farm sold for £17,000/acre on the same day the offer was accepted on the new Milwaukee one on 17 November 2021, but difficulty

in obtaining a visa meant it would take nine months before Crawford was able to return to the US and follow his dream.

"It was very hard trying to get a visa during Covid because everyone was working from home, and I couldn't get through [on the phone]. I

only did because I wouldn't take no for an answer," he says.

Crawford moved on 1 January 2022. He bought 300 cows and spent £243,000 upgrading the 24/24 rapid exit parlour and concreting.

He has borrowed money but says the bank has been supportive. He started milking three months later, on 1 April.

He says it is much easier to grow the business in the US than in Northern Ireland and, because he has a bigger herd, he can justify more labour. Six full-time members of staff are employed, which allows Crawford to spend more time off farm.

"The bigger you get, the easier it gets. I remember milking 80 cows in Northern Ireland and the weight of the world being on my shoulders and on my mind.

"I was doing everything all the time with absolutely no help, aside from the odd relief milker every second Sunday," he admits.

Farm setup

In the US, land availability keeps it cheap and there is no TB to drive up the cost of cows, with animals averaging \$2,000 (£1,600), he adds.

Heifers are reared at a satellite farm until six months of age for \$3.60/day (£2.90/day) and are then

BoT advises institutions, telecom operators to join payment systems

By Correspondent James Kandoya

BANK of Tanzania (BoT) has encouraged financial institutions and mobile network operators to join the instant payment systems to fast-track services.

Mutashobya Mushumbusi, BoT's manager of national payment system said this over the weekend in Dar es Salaam when speaking at a public lec-

ture organized by the central bank in collaboration with institute of Finance Management (IFM).

It was organized under the theme: "Shared System and Applications the financial sector-A case of Tanzania Instant Payment System (TIPS)", targeting various stakeholders from financial institutions, mobile network operators, payment systems providers and academic community.

Mushumbusi said that BOT's instant payment system is designed to facilitate the real-time payments between participating digital financial service providers.

He said currently, there are only 42 companies that have joined the shared payment system, calling more companies to do so. "The shared systems among the companies are crucial to increase more service by promoting cashless. On doing

so the system helps customers to enjoy instant services," he said, highlighting the need for the stakeholders to improve the system to offer good services to the customers.

He said that a shared payment system is very important since it is cheap and cost effective, stressing that shared systems offer reduced cost and faster paying settlement to customers. Dr Emmanuel Kolaseni, IFM's dean of computing and

mathematics faculty said that the institute organised the public lecture to connect markets and academics. He said also to provide graduates with a market and to know the finance and technology available in the market.

"IFM as institute its duty is to link all stakeholders in the financial matters such as academicians, money providers and financial institutions through public lecture to seek network

and knowledge," he said

TIPS is a digital payment platform operated by the Bank of Tanzania, which allows the transfer of payments between different Digital Financial Service Providers (DFSPs), both banks and non-banks such as e-money issuers. The system handles real-time payments exchanged among participating Digital Financial Service Providers (DFSPs).

Moreover, it increases financial

inclusion by improving access and usage of financial services in Tanzania through promoting the interoperability of digital financial services amongst all Payment Service Providers in the country.

It facilitates an efficient clearing and settlement platform of digital financial services transactions for all Payment Service Providers (PSPs) and increases the efficiency by moving from bilateral interoperability to multilateral interoperability.

Bangor researcher helps save crucial Nepalese rice crop

Bangor, Nepal

A type of rice that feeds five million families in South East Asia has been saved from extinction, the developer of disease-resistant varieties has said.

Jumli Marshi rice is a highly nutritious staple for people in Nepal, Pakistan and India, but the ancient variety is susceptible to disease.

Bangor University's Prof John Witcombe has helped farmers in Nepal to save it.

He called it "the culmination of 13 years' work in collaboration with Nepalese rice breeder Resham Amgai".

"A disease-resistant Jumli Marshi will be a game changer for farmers in this challenging high-altitude rice growing environment," he added.

Nepal country profile

Climate fears prompt exotic veg growing in Wales

The sweet, pinkish-coloured rice is grown at 10,000 ft above sea level in western Nepal.

It is high in fibre, proteins and minerals such as iron, calcium and

phosphorous, and is considered suitable for people living with diabetes.

But Nepalese farmers have had to switch to other crops because the variety, thought to have been first cultivated 550 years ago, was threatened by major plant disease blast fungus.

Working with indigenous farmers, plant breeding expert Prof Witcombe, was able to introduce a gene first developed in the Philippines in the 1980s to make three disease-resistant varieties of Jumli Marshi.

"The farmers of Jumla have been lobbying to preserve the local variety and this development has been welcomed," he said.



But Nepalese farmers have had to switch to other crops because the variety, thought to have been first cultivated 550 years ago, was threatened by major plant disease blast fungus



Jumli Marshi rice is a nutritious staple growing at high altitude in Nepal

USDA partners with Agromovil to help Tanzanian, Ghanaian farmers access markets for their produce

By Special Correspondent

AGROMOVIL App enables smallholder farmers in Tanzania and Ghana access market for their produce and buyers reach agro-producers

USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) has partnered with Agromovil, an innovative US-based technology company to assist smallholder farmers in East and West Africa to be visible to buyers and buyers to have an easy way to reach producers.

This has been made possible through Agromovil App which provides visibility which helps for example, farmers be more efficient and connect directly with buyers resulting in increased producer incomes.

"I am happy now I have been registered into the App. I would recommend to my fellow producers to register as long as they have the avocado trees. Also, I call upon aged farmers who are new to technology not to be

afraid. It is simple. Ask your children to help you register, even they can do it," said Frank Mbiwilo, avocado farmer from Tanzania who is a user of the app.

This new tool has also received great feedback from farmers in Ghana as with their counterparts in Tanzania being the two countries where it has been piloted.

"Sometimes when we harvest, we struggle to sell our produce. The Agromovil App helps us see buyers from dif-

ferent places and make sure our products are sold," said Bindaw Ramani Musah, a Ghanaian farmer and user of the Agromovil App.

Starting in October 2022, FAS provided funding through the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (Ghana), enabling Agromovil to launch a pilot of their app with sorghum producers.

It has also worked with Agromovil in Tanzania, where the company was

paired with the Tanzanian Horticultural Association (TAHA) to work with the onion and avocado producers and buyers. This project was funded by USAID and Tanzania.

In various regions of the countries, smallholder farmers and buyers struggled to match and get goods sold, resulting in food waste and lost opportunities for small farming communities.

However, this approach is now providing significant

benefits to the agriculture industries in Ghana and Tanzania with growth in farmer income which is poised to help spur growth in agricultural trade.

In addition, while women farmers do much of the work of African agriculture, FAS has realised that they often receive less than men for their products.

Agromovil can help serve as an equalizer, providing all users with equal access to buyers and giving women-owned

farmers a better opportunity to succeed in agribusiness.

Since the full launch of Agromovil in both countries in 2022, more than 1,600 farmers and buyers have signed up, resulting in more than \$3.5 million of agricultural sales.

More than half of the farmers who are using the app are young farmers and women farmers, strengthening diversity and establishing a stronger new generation of farmers in both African nations.

WORLD

Zimbabwean president launches campaign for 2nd term

HARARE

ZIMBABWEAN President Emmerson Mnangagwa, who is also leader of the ruling ZANU PF party, on Saturday launched his party's election campaign in preparation for the Aug 23 elections.

Mnangagwa, who came to power in 2017, is seeking a second five-year term as president.

Addressing thousands of supporters who had congregated for the ruling party's first rally in Chipinge, about 440 km from the capital Harare, following the proclamation of the election date, Mnangagwa urged his supporters to

vote for the ruling party that brought independence to the southern African nation.

He noted that his administration had managed to fulfill many of its promises. "We resolved the fuel crisis, we resolved electricity shortages," Mnangagwa told his supporters.

He noted that under his leadership, Zimbabwe has managed to address the food security issue.

"In a short period of time we have grown our agriculture from a \$3.8 billion industry to \$8 billion," he said.

Mnangagwa noted that Zimbabwe will continue the self-sufficiency path by lo-



Zimbabwe President Emmerson Mnangagwa speaks during a handover ceremony where he received medical emergency and police helicopters from Sergey Chemezov the Director General of the Russian State Corporation "Rostec" at the Robert Mugabe International Airport in Harare on May 18, 2023. AFP

cally mobilizing resources to build infrastructure such as roads.

The sanctions imposed on Zimbabwe over two decades ago by Western countries must not stop Zimbabweans from developing their country, said Mnangagwa.

He also called on Zimbabweans to observe peace as they head to the polls.

As the elections approach, Mnangagwa urged his supporters to garner support for the

ruling party in urban councils where the opposition had an edge in previous elections.

According to the Zimbabwe Election Commission, 11 presidential candidates have been cleared by the electoral body to contest in this year's elections, which will also see voters choosing members of the parliament and local council representatives.

Xinhua

PM Modi thanks President Biden for accepting proposal to add Africa as permanent G20 member

WASHINGTON

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi thanked US President Joe Biden for accepting the proposal to add 'Africa' as a permanent member of the G20.

PM Modi said, "Under our G20 presidency, we are giving strength to 'One Earth, One Family, One Future' and giving voice to the Global South. I thank President Biden for granting support to my proposal of making Africa a permanent G20 member. I firmly believe that the world's two largest democracies - India and the US will be able to fulfil the aspirations of expectations and aspirations of the whole world."

Recently, PM Modi communicated with fellow G20 leaders, urging them to grant the African Union complete membership within the organization. This request aligns with the Union's own appeal, which aims to amplify Africa's influence globally and contribute to shaping our collective future.

Prime Minister Modi demonstrates unwavering support and advocacy for the African cause, taking a proactive stance on the matter. Recognizing the significance of amplifying the voice of Global South nations, especially those in Africa, he actively champions their representation on international platforms.



India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi speaks with President Joe Biden during a State Arrival Ceremony on the South Lawn of the White House on Thursday

During India's G20 Presidency, Prime Minister Modi places considerable emphasis on integrating the priorities of African countries

into the G20 agenda, emphasizing their importance and ensuring their concerns are duly addressed.

The G20, established in 1999 following the Asian financial crisis, consists of the world's 20 largest economies. Its member nations include Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States, and the European Union.

In September, New Delhi is scheduled to host the G20 Summit, showcasing India's role as the summit's host nation. **Agencies**

Canada opens probe into fatal loss of Titan submersible

WASHINGTON

CANADIAN safety officials on Friday opened an investigation into the undersea implosion of a tourist submersible that killed all five people aboard while diving to the century-old wreck of the Titanic, raising questions about the unregulated nature of such expeditions.

A debris field from the submersible Titan was found at the bottom of the North Atlantic on Thursday by a robotic diving vehicle deployed from a Canadian search vessel, ending an intense five-day international rescue effort.

Fragments of Titan, which lost contact with its surface support ship about one hour and 45 minutes into a two-hour descent on Sunday, littered the seabed about 488 meters from the bow of the Titanic wreck, about 4 km below the surface, US Coast Guard Rear Admiral John Mauger said.

He told reporters on Thursday the debris was consistent with "a catastrophic implosion of the vehicle," meaning the 22-foot-long vessel ultimately collapsed and was crushed under the immense hydrostatic pressure at that depth.

The five who died included Stockton Rush, founder and chief executive officer of US-based OceanGate Expeditions, which operated the sub and charged

\$250,000 per person to make the Titanic trip. He was piloting the craft.

The others were British billionaire and explorer Hamish Harding, 58; Pakistani-born businessman Shahzada Dawood, 48, and his 19-year-old son, Suleman, both British citizens; and French oceanographer Paul-Henri Nargeolet, 77.

Nargeolet was a leading authority on the Titanic, the British luxury liner that struck an iceberg and sank on its first voyage in April 1912, killing more than 1,500 people aboard.

In a statement on Friday, Canada's Transportation Safety Board (TSB) said it was launching a "safety investigation regarding the circumstances" of Titan's operation because its surface support vessel, the Polar Prince, was a Canadian-flagged ship.

A TSB team was dispatched to St. John's, Newfoundland, about 643.7 km north of the accident site, to gather information and conduct interviews, the agency said.

Guillermo Sohnlein, who co-founded OceanGate with Rush in 2009, said Rush was "keenly aware" of the dangers of exploring the ocean depths.

"Stockton was one of the most astute risk managers I'd ever met," said Sohnlein, who left the company in 2013, retaining a minority stake. "He was very risk-averse."



This undated photo provided by OceanGate Expeditions in June 2021 shows the company's Titan submersible. AP

Questions about risks

But others in the close-knit community of submersible operators and experts noted that Stockton and his company opted to forgo certification of Titan's novel design from industry third parties such as the American Bureau of Shipping.

Some have questioned Stockton's choice of carbon fiber to fabricate the critical pressure hull of his craft.

"OceanGate had created its own experimental vehicle with materials avoided by others, decided to bypass the certification process designed to assure safety, and chose to ignore the warnings from many experts within the submersible community," investment manager Ray Dalio, co-founder of the OceanX sea exploration initiative, said in a LinkedIn post on Friday.

British Titanic explorer Dik Barton likewise pointed to issues raised about the design and maintenance of Titan, saying, "there were many red flags flying here."

One would-be Titan passenger, Las Vegas-based investor Jay Bloom, told Reuters he declined a last-minute chance to join the ill-fated Titan excursion with his son out of safety concerns.

Bloom, a licensed helicopter pilot, said he was particularly worried about Stockton's use of consumer-grade parts on Titan, including a video game joystick to control the vessel, and was "spooked" by the fact that the submersible would be bolted shut from the outside, preventing passengers from getting out on their own in an emergency.

Questions about Titan's safety surfaced in 2018 during a symposium of

international law has further undermined the lawful rights and interests of relevant Chinese institutions and nationals, and seriously undercut the foundation for China-US cooperation on counter-narcotics, the spokesperson added.

Things the United States has so far been doing to address its concerns over the drug problem—be it pressure tactics, coercion or some kind of illegal operations—are essentially all about scapegoating. This will not work and benefits no one,

the spokesperson said. "We urge the United States to stop shifting the blame, stop smearing and attacking China, immediately lift all sanctions on Chinese counter-narcotics law enforcement institutions, stop using fentanyl-related issues as a pretext to sanction, indict or offer awards to hunt Chinese companies or nationals, stop the arbitrary detentions, and immediately release the Chinese nationals under illegal arrest," the spokesperson said.

China will continue to do what is necessary to firmly defend the lawful rights and interests of Chinese companies and nationals, the spokesperson added.

We urge the United States to stop shifting the blame, stop smearing and attacking China,

Compromise reached between Moscow, Wagner military head Russian media

MOSCOW

MOSCOW and Yevgeny Prigozhin, head of the Wagner private military group, reached a compromise through the mediation of Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko late Saturday according to RIA Novosti news agency reports.

Prigozhin has accepted Lukashenko's proposal to stop the advance of the Wagner troops and de-escalate the situation, the reports said.

On Saturday morning, Putin (pictured) informed his Belarusian counterpart of the situation in Russia regarding the Wagner group and the heads of state agreed on joint actions.

"The president of Belarus held talks with Yevgeny Prigozhin ... They came to an agreement on the inadmissibility of unleashing a bloody massacre on Russian territory," the press service of the Belarusian president was quoted as saying.

Then the Wagner fighters left southern Russia's Rostov region and were headed to their field camps, according to Russia's TASS news agency. The criminal case against Prigozhin will be dropped, and he will go to Belarus, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters on late Saturday, without specifying what exactly Prigozhin will do in the former Soviet republic.

Lukashenko has been personally acquainted with Prigozhin for about 20 years and "this was his personal proposal agreed with Putin," Peskov said.

"There was a higher goal to avoid bloodshed, to avoid internal confrontation, to avoid clashes with unpredictable results. It was for the sake of these goals that Lukashenko's mediation efforts were made, and President Putin made the appropriate decision," the spokesman said. According to the official, the guarantee that Prigozhin will be able to leave for Belarus was the word of the Russian president. The incident with the Wagner group will not affect the course of Russia's special military operation in Ukraine, which will continue, he added. **Xinhua**

Xie: Countries should respect each other's rights philosophy

RESPECTING human rights means respecting other countries' human rights philosophy, and China advocates safeguarding human rights through security, promoting them through development, and advancing them through cooperation, Beijing's top envoy in Washington said.

China is committed to a human rights development path that meets the trend of the times and suits its national conditions, China's Ambassador to the US Xie Feng told the 53rd Regular Session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States, a three-day event that ended in Washington on Friday.

"The Americas have Latin dance, while we have Chinese folk dance. Likewise, there is just no one-size-fits-all development model," Xie said. "True democracy is about respecting other countries' choice of democracy models in line with their national realities."

The envoy said China has been constantly developing whole-process people's democracy, which is in both process and outcome, procedure and substance.

A combination of direct and indirect democracy, it is people's democracy in nature, and also represents the will of the state, and therefore, it is the most extensive, genuine and effective socialist democracy, Xie said.

He noted that democracy is not a slogan; it should be used to resolve real problems.

Citing a decade-long Harvard poll and surveys by Edelman, Xie said the Chinese people's satisfaction with its government has stayed above 90 percent for years in a row.

"China never exports its model, nor does it ask others to copy its practice. Instead, we welcome exchange and mutual learning, and stand ready to jointly build a community with a shared future for mankind," he said.

As China advances modernization, it has been strengthening human rights protection to promote free and well-rounded development of the people, Xie said.

The ambassador said that China has built the world's largest education, social security, and healthcare systems, and that today, 56 ethnic groups are living in harmony, and the people are leading a happy life.

"Over the past four decades of reform and opening-up, China's per capita income has grown over 25 times. With 850 million lifted out of extreme poverty, we have ended absolute poverty once and for all, contributing over 70 percent to global poverty reduction," he said. **Xinhua**

US urged to stop using fentanyl-related issues for sanctions

BEIJING

CHINA urges the United States to stop using fentanyl-related issues as a pretext to sanction, indict or offer awards to hunt Chinese companies or nationals, a spokesperson for the Chinese foreign ministry said on Saturday.

On June 23 local time, the US Department of Justice announced indictments charging China-based companies and their employees with crimes related to fentanyl production,

distribution and sales resulting from precursor chemicals.

In response to a related query, a Foreign Ministry spokesperson said US law enforcement personnel ensnared Chinese nationals through "sting operation" in a third country and blatantly pressed charges against Chinese entities and individuals. This is typical arbitrary detention and unilateral sanction, which is completely illegal. It seriously harms the basic human rights of the Chinese nationals and the interests of the Chinese

companies concerned.

"China strongly condemns this move and has lodged serious demarches and strong protest to the US side," the spokesperson said.

China is an active participant in international counter-narcotics cooperation. Out of a sense of humanitarianism, China scheduled fentanyl-related substance as a class—the first country to do so in the world—which has played an important role in preventing the illicit manufacturing, trafficking and abuse

of fentanyl, the spokesperson noted.

Instead of giving China the credit for its contribution, the United States imposed illegal sanctions on Chinese counter-narcotics institutions and then openly slandered China's counter-narcotics efforts and illegally sanctioned Chinese companies. The United States has now gone even further by ensnaring and indicting Chinese nationals, the spokesperson said.

Such long-arm jurisdiction and bullying that tramples on

international law has further undermined the lawful rights and interests of relevant Chinese institutions and nationals, and seriously undercut the foundation for China-US cooperation on counter-narcotics, the spokesperson added.

Things the United States has so far been doing to address its concerns over the drug problem—be it pressure tactics, coercion or some kind of illegal operations—are essentially all about scapegoating. This will not work and benefits no one,

the spokesperson said.

"We urge the United States to stop shifting the blame, stop smearing and attacking China, immediately lift all sanctions on Chinese counter-narcotics law enforcement institutions, stop using fentanyl-related issues as a pretext to sanction, indict or offer awards to hunt Chinese companies or nationals, stop the arbitrary detentions, and immediately release the Chinese nationals under illegal arrest," the spokesperson said.

China will continue to do

what is necessary to firmly defend the lawful rights and interests of Chinese companies and nationals, the spokesperson added.



We urge the United States to stop shifting the blame, stop smearing and attacking China,

Modi, Egyptian President El-Sisi sign deal to elevate bilateral relationship to a 'Strategic Partnership'

CAIRO
PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday held a meeting with Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi during which they signed an agreement to elevate the bilateral relationship to a "Strategic Partnership".

Both the leaders discussed ways to further deepen the partnership between the two nations, including in trade, investment, defence, security, renewable energy, cultural and people-to-people ties. The two sides signed an agreement to elevate the bilateral partnership to a "strategic partnership." In addition, three Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in the fields of agriculture, archaeology and antiquities and competition law were also signed between India and Egypt.

Ministry of External Affairs official spokesperson Arindam Bagchi tweeted, "PM @narendramodi

held a productive meeting with President @AlsisiOfficial in Cairo on 25 June 2023. The leaders discussed ways to further deepen the partnership between the two countries, including in trade & investment, defence & security, renewable energy, cultural and people to people ties. An agreement to elevate the bilateral relationship to a "Strategic Partnership" was signed by the leaders. Three MoUs in the fields of Agriculture,

Archaeology & Antiquities and Competition Law were also signed."

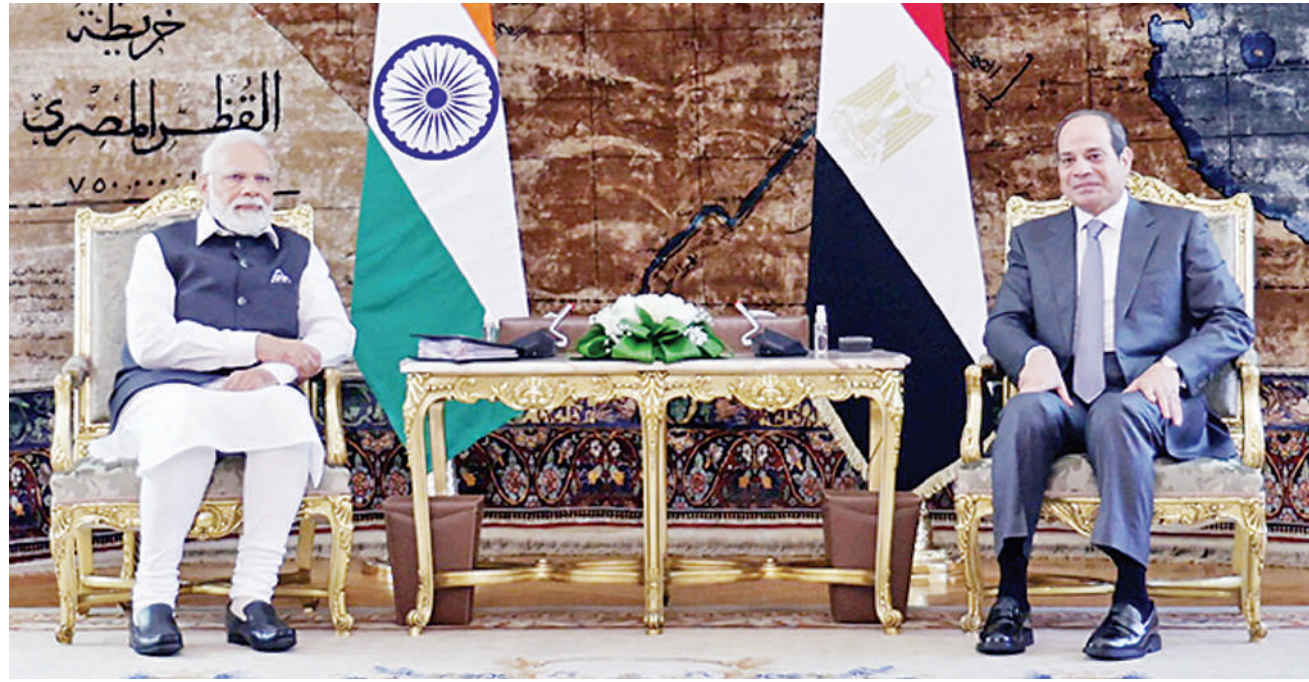
Earlier, Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi conferred PM Modi with the highest state honour of Egypt, the 'Order of Nile'. Arindam Bagchi tweeted, "A mark of abiding friendship between & ! PM @narendramodi was conferred with the highest civilian honour of Egypt, the 'Order of the Nile', by President @Alsisi-Official in Cairo on 25 June 2023."

PM Modi also visited the Al-Hakim Mosque in Cairo. Taking to Twitter, PM Modi said, "Honored to visit the historic Al-Hakim Mosque in Cairo. It's a profound testament to Egypt's rich heritage and culture."

After visiting the Al-Hakim Mosque, PM Modi, who arrived in Cairo on Saturday, went to Heliopolis War Cemetery and paid tribute to the Indian soldiers who made supreme sacrifices during the First World War. PM Modi is on a state visit to Egypt from June 24-25.

On Saturday, PM Modi held a roundtable meeting with his Egyptian counterpart Mostafa Madbouly in Cairo. He also met thought leaders in Egypt as a part of his two-day visit to the Arab nation.

PM Modi had a productive discussion with Hassan Allam, CEO of one of the largest Egyptian companies operating in the Middle East and North African region. The two leaders discussed possibilities of forging closer cooperation with Indian companies in renewable energy and green hydrogen.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi meets with Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, at President House, in Cairo yesterday. ANI

sibilities of forging closer cooperation with Indian companies in renewable energy and green hydrogen.

Taking to Twitter, Arindam Bagchi wrote, "Prime Minister Narendra Modi meets Mohamed Medhat Hassan Allam, CEO of Hassan Allam Properties in Cairo, Egypt. PM @narendramodi held a fruitful meeting with Hassan Allam, CEO of Hassan Allam Holding Company, one of the largest Egyptian companies operating in the Middle East & North African region."

After landing in Egypt, the prime minister arrived at a hotel in Cairo amid a rousing welcome and chants of 'Vande Mataram' and 'Modi Modi'. Several mem-

bers of the Indian community were present at the Ritz Carlton Hotel to welcome PM Modi.

The Indian diaspora displayed their enthusiasm by waving the Tricolour and chanting "Modi Modi" and "Vande Mataram" slogans. Many people also sang Indian songs and presented cultural programmes to welcome PM Modi. ANI

Afghan refugees in Pakistan face numerous challenges:

KABUL

AFGHAN refugees in Pakistan face numerous challenges, including arbitrary detentions, harassment, and imprisonment by Pakistani police due to failing to provide valid residential permits and visas, Afghanistan-based Khaama Press reported.

Pakistan is one of the primary destinations where Afghan refugees have travelled to after the Taliban took control of Afghanistan in August 2021.

After the Taliban's return to power in 2021, new waves of Afghan refugees shifted to Iran and Pakistan due to various reasons, including fearing death threats and persecution by the Taliban.

In spite of the refugees having the United Nations Higher Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) certificate, Pakistani police and other relevant agencies continue detaining and incarcerating Afghan refugees in various parts of the country, including Islamabad, Khaama Press reported.

Earlier, Maniza Kakar, an attorney of Afghan prisoners in Karachi claimed Pakistani police tore the residential documents of some Afghan nationals while they were arrested, the report said. Pakistani government's mistreatment of Afghan refugees has been termed as "inhuman and hateful," sparking criticism in Pakistan, Afghanistan and other nations.

"In less than two years, I have been detained three times by the police - harassed, humiliated and bitten due to not having a valid residential permit. Life has become extremely difficult for me in Pakistan. Every time, I come across police, I keep running from one ally to another to avoid possible imprisonment and forceful deportation to Afghanistan," Khaama Press quoted an Afghan refugee as saying.

Another Afghan refugee who recently moved to Freetown told Khaama Press that Pakistan does not give them anything other than sufferings. He called on other immigrants to follow up on their immigrant cases or otherwise, they will continuously face mistreatment, harassment and humiliation, according to Khaama Press.

The majority of Afghan refugees who are currently living in Pakistan have a migration case to one of the countries, the procedure of which has become extremely lengthy at the moment, resulting in ambiguity and hopelessness for refugees.

Earlier on June 13, the Taliban-led Ministry of Refugees and Repatriation said that Pakistan has deported some 531 Afghan refugees, including women and children, Afghanistan-based Khaama Press reported.

ANI

Why are more countries eager to join BRICS?

BEIJING

BANGLADESHI newspaper Dhaka Tribune has reported that Bangladesh has formally applied to join BRICS, an acronym of five major emerging economies -- Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, once again drawing wide attention to the expansion of its membership.

After over a decade of development, BRICS cooperation has greatly been strengthened. The international community has widely recognized and supported BRICS, and an increasing number of like-minded countries want to join it.

WHO WANTS IN?

According to Russian media reports, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov said on June 15 that the number of countries applying to join the BRICS bloc is increasing, reaching

nearly 20.

Bangladeshi Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and South African President Cyril Ramaphosa met in Geneva on June 14, after which Bangladesh applied to join BRICS.

Russian Ambassador to Egypt Georgy Borisenko confirmed in an interview with Russian news agency TASS that Cairo has submitted its application to join BRICS, given its interest in "de-dollarization."

According to Japan's Mainichi Shimbun, Iran and Argentina have recently applied. In addition, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Nigeria and other oil-producing countries have also applied. Once these countries' applications are approved, the BRICS members will cover more than half of the world's oil and gas resources.

At the end of May this

year, Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro told reporters after talks with Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva that BRICS countries are attracting people who seek peace and cooperation.

WHY IS IT SO ATTRACTIVE?

As an important platform for cooperation among emerging markets and developing countries, BRICS is committed to upholding multilateralism, reforming the global governance system, and increasing the representation and voice of emerging markets and developing countries.

The bloc has become a positive, stable and constructive force in international affairs.

Spanish website Rebellion said many countries are tired of the United States' virtual domination of the global econ-



omy for decades, forcing dollar transactions.

Failure to comply with Washington's directives will result in sanctions and economic and financial blackmail. In contrast, BRICS prioritizes assisting countries in advancing their investment and trade without imposing any preconditions.

"Above all, BRICS defends multipolarity and multilateralism..."

By defending multilateralism, BRICS coun-

tries are countering the concept of the Cold War and opening up the possibility of a more equitable and just international economic order that benefits the world," Cuban President Miguel Diaz-Canel said recently.

The primary mission of BRICS countries is to serve as advocates for the interests of developing nations, said Valeria Gorbacheva, head of the Multilateral Strategic Project Office at the Higher School of

Economics of Russia's National Research University.

The goals and values of BRICS countries are consistent with those of most countries in the world, which means that the expansion of BRICS is only a matter of time, said Gorbacheva.

WHEN TO EXPAND?

During the 14th BRICS Summit in June last year, the leaders of the five countries agreed to expand the bloc's membership.

South Africa holds the BRICS rotating presidency in 2023 and will host the 15th summit. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said in an interview with Russian media that the topic of BRICS membership expansion would be included in the summit's agenda in August.

"We stand ready to bring more like-minded partners into the big

family of BRICS," said Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Mao Ning, pointing out that BRICS is committed to upholding multilateralism and vigorously advancing global governance reforms. Peskov said Russia is pleased that more countries have shown strong interest in BRICS.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said that many countries are queuing to join BRICS and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, which reflects their increasingly important role.

In an interview with the TASS news agency, Nozipho Mxakato-Diseko, South Africa's permanent representative to the United Nations in Geneva, said BRICS is happy to accept new members who express interest in joining.

Xinhua

Japanese civic groups further oppose plan to dump nuke wastewater into sea

TOKYO

MULTIPLE civic groups in Japan have continued to oppose the country's plan of dumping nuclear-contaminated wastewater from the crippled Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant into the Pacific Ocean, exhorting the government to take the long-term impact into account to avoid entailing endless trouble to future generations.

"The problems regarding nuclear-contaminated water and the health hazards of radiation may further show their impact after a century, the situation 500 years or even 1,000 years later must be taken into consideration before judging whether the wastewater can be discharged into the sea," said Yoshitaka Ikarashi, the Japanese representative of the Somei Platform, or the Japan-China common market promotion association.

Also a resident of Iwaki city in southeastern Fukushima prefecture, he made the remarks during his recent speech at Meiji Gakuin University.

He has been involved in volunteer activities for disaster relief and reconstruction in the prefecture after the devastating earthquake



Dozens of protesters gather for a rally outside Tokyo Electric Power Company Holdings (TEPCO) headquarters building on Tuesday, May 16, 2023. CFP

in 2011. When referring to the water-dumping plan, Ikarashi mentioned a Japanese saying that "one cannot do things well if he only considers the immediate," citing carpenters building temples in ancient Japan as an example.

In order not to be blamed by future generations, the carpenters would think ahead and will strive to leave a building that can stand the test, according to him, stressing that the century-long impact from now must be taken into consideration regarding the nuclear-contaminated water.

"The sea is the common property of the world and Japan cannot make decisions alone," said Ikarashi, adding it is premature to make judgments as the possible future hazards of nuclear-contaminated water containing radioactive materials have not been verified.

He added that the current treatment methods of the relevant parties are also not doing their best to protect the marine environment and human health, the viewpoint of which was echoed by other local experts.

Hideyuki Ban, co-director of the Tokyo-based Citizens' Nuclear Information Center, told Xinhua in an interview that in order to prevent pollution of the marine environment, countries should use the most practicable methods at their disposal in accordance with their capabilities.

The nuclear expert believes there are other ways of treating contaminated water, such as cement solidification, that are more practi-

cal than dumping it into the sea.

According to Ban, the power plant in Fukushima has stored more than 1.3 million tons of nuclear-contaminated water, which will continue to increase in the future, and according to the plant's operator Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO), the discharge is planned to continue for more than 30 years.

If fish and shellfish are contaminated, it will ultimately affect the health of humans at the top of the food chain. The expert pointed out that TEPCO only assessed the uniform spread of radioactive material in the sea.

"In fact, the ocean terrain is undulating, and the complex ocean currents do not flow in only one direction. It is not surprising that high concentrations of radioactive substances appear in the process," he said.

Masanobu Sakamoto, president of the national federation of fisheries cooperatives known as JF Zengyoren on Thursday met with Japanese Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Yasutoshi Nishimura, and handed over to the latter a petition stating the federation's unchanged opposition to the discharge plan.

The president called the planned discharge of nuclear-contaminated water "a matter of life and death" for the fishing industry, and opposed the authorities' decision to start the discharge without the full consent of the fishing industry.

Ikarashi also questioned the end date of the water discharge, noting that Japan does not have the final treatment technology for decommissioned nuclear reactors, while the schedule for completing the disposal of waste reactors is completely unclear.

"Under such circumstances, how can this decision-making generation bear the responsibility for the discharge after they are gone?" "I probably won't live another 30 years, but as long as I live, I will continue to call on the government to change its policy," said Ban, who is now in his 70s.

Russian diplomat reminds Israeli ambassador about what Banderites did in Ukraine



Election officials start counting votes at a voting station in Freetown on Saturday during the presidential vote. AFP

FREETOWN

SIERRA LEONE kicks off its presidential, parliamentary, and local council elections Saturday, with more than 3.3 million registered voters casting their ballots across the country.

Voters queued in over 11,000 polling stations that were opened from 7 am to 5 pm. A total of 13 registered political parties including the ruling Sierra Leone People's Party (SLPP) and the main opposition All People's Congress (APC) participated in the elections, which are observed by both local and international observers in all polling stations.

President Julius Maada Bio is seeking a second and final term as he is contesting against

the main opposition presidential candidate Samura Kamara whom he defeated in the 2018 elections.

To be declared the winner of the presidential race, the leading presidential candidate must secure 55 percent of the votes cast, otherwise, a second round of voting will be held between the two candidates.

Counting would start after the polls are closed at 5 p.m. with the official results expected within a week.

This is the fifth election Sierra Leone has conducted since the civil war that ravaged the country. Tens of thousands of people were killed during the civil war from 1991 to 2002.

Agencies

SPORT



Dar es Salaam's Buza Secondary School students showcase their hockey skills during drills at Jakaya Kikwete Youth Park's venue recently. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Caravans B cricketers eye 2023 DC 30 Overs Division B League quarterfinals' spot

By Guardian Reporter

CARAVANS B cricketers have made their intention to garner qualification for the last-eight stage of this season's 2023 Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) 30 Overs Cup Division B League known, following the squad's six-wicket win over ALAF Aces B's team early this week.

ALAF Aces B went in to bat first in the Group A tie, which took place at Annadil Burhani's oval, amassing 139/8 in the allotted 30 overs after Caravans B had won the toss and elected to bowl.

They showcased elements of resoluteness for the first six overs, following several good shots showcased by Ally Hassan that unfortunately dismissed in the following over with 12 runs to his name.

The batting outfit had experienced a wobble brought about by two quick dismissals of top-order cricketers, Hamza Ally and Imran Khan, leaving the team with paltry 39 runs on the board after 12 overs.

Promising all-rounder, Ayoub Hamisi, also slotted in at the top, and middle-order batsman Raza Baloch sought to see to it the batting squad is on course for posting an imposing total, chipping in with 13 runs and 12 runs respectively.

An experienced cricketer, Ajith Shetty, and Darpan Jobanputra were ultimately the cricketers that made a significant impact for ALAF Aces B with solid knocks and set up a last-wicket stand that played a pivotal role.

Shetty was the cricketer that top-scored for the batting squad, ending with 28 runs not out consisting of four fours. Jobanputra added 20 runs not out.

Thirty extras, which were given away by Caravans B bowlers, as well improved ALAF Aces B's total.

Caravans B's all-rounder, Johnson Nyambo,

had a meaningful showing when his team fielded, having notched two wickets and giving away 37 runs in six overs.

Fellow bowlers, Gokul Das, Manoj Kumar, Jayaraj Malayil, Abhijit, and Issa Safari ended with a wicket each.

Needing 140 runs to grab victory, Caravans B hardly wasted time as the club battled well and got down to a successful chase, amassing 144/4 in 25.1 overs.

The cricketers were hardly perturbed by the early dismissal of the experienced opener, Anoop Kumar, given that fellow opening cricketer, Praveen Puthanpurayil, had a good day at the crease thanks to his 33 runs.

Even though reliable cricketers Sreejit Kumar and Gokul Das were as well victims of an early exit, their return did not shake the batting squad because of the impressive showing Sudu and skipper Kumar put in the latter stages.

Sudu was the batsman with the most runs in the successful chase given the cricketer posted 57 runs not out, enjoying an impressive partnership with Kumar (32 runs not out). Sudu's batting virtuosity won him the Best Player of the Match prize.

Prajapati had impressive bowling figures of 3-28 in six overs for ALAF Aces B, with his mettle including taking a crucial wicket of the opener, Kumar.

In Prajapati's impressive stats, the competent all-rounder managed two wickets and ended with a 4.67 economy rate.

The all-rounder's exploits however hardly helped his squad contain the uncompromising Caravans B batting unit.

The match's winners, positioned third in Group A, are as a result eyeing qualification for the knockout round with Group A's leader, ALAF Aces B, and second-placed Aga Khan SC B.



Caravans B cricket outfit. PHOTO: COURTESY OF CARAVANS CRICKET CLUB

Simba SC's squad overhaul in progress, releases fullback

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SIMBA SC has continued to overhaul the team's squad for next season after the club announced the departure of three more players.

The club will be on a hunt for a new left-back who will challenge the first-team left-back Mohamed Hussein who is also the vice-captain of the side.

Left-back Gadiel Michael is the latest player to head for the exit door last weekend after playing for Simba SC for four years.

In his spell with the squad, Michael has lifted the Premier League trophy two times, one Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC) title, two Community Shields, and one Mapinduzi

Cup showdown's silverware.

Michael has failed to dislodge Hussein in the left-back position for the past four seasons as the former fell out of the pecking order.

"The club's management informs the public that we will not continue with left-back Gadiel Michael after his contract expired," the club revealed in a statement.

Last week, Simba SC announced the departure of Nigerian midfielders Nelson Okwa and Victor Akpan, and Ivorian center-back Mohamed Ouattara.

Tanzanian midfielder Jonas Mkude has as well been offloaded by Simba SC after spending 13 years at the club.

SPORTS

Achievements, quality players brought about Nabi's honourable exit from Yanga

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TUNISIA-born coach Nasreddine Nabi has officially said goodbye to Yanga as the club's official statement said following an agreement that was known to both parties since April.

It will be comical to say that he is one of the coaches who lasted for a long time at Yanga.

Nabi may have only spent three seasons at Yanga but he has spent a long time with a local football team.

During his period at Yanga, how many coaches do individuals think other sides, Simba SC and Azam FC, have mutually parted ways with?

This is the reality of local football, its stakeholders have imitated other parts of Africa, given a coach only lasts for one season. If he lasts long then he might coach for two seasons. A coach can steer his club to success in one season and then witness the side taking second place the following season and get a letter of dismissal.

Nabi left Yanga with the outfit posting statement that reached the majority of Tanzanians at midnight.

I hardly know why Yanga likes to inform soccer enthusiasts of the club's issues at midnight. However, it was clear that Yanga might lose Nabi before the club's forward Fiston Mayele.

Recently, Nabi was quoted via social media that no contract negotiation had continued between him and Yanga since April 2. It is a bit of a shocking statement, given that Yanga's president, Hersi Said, told football enthusiasts they had the plan to extend Nabi's stay.

It is obvious Nabi has an offer in hand. I think he is pleased with the offers that are on his table.

He had to get an offer after leading Yanga to the final of this season's CAF Confederation Cup.

I initially believed that Yanga would fight to keep Nabi, however, I am starting to get worried after his statement that Yanga may already have other plans before even the CAF Confederation Cup final.

Nabi has told soccer lovers that the last time he spoke to Yanga was during the side's CAF Confederation Cup Group Stage match against DR Congo's TP Mazembe.

Either way, it was a happy ending, and it was not the end of the road given Nabi has left Yanga respectfully.

Right now I'm trying to remind myself that even the tears he shed during the continental showdown's final against USM Alger in Algeria meant that that was his last match in Yanga's technical area.

Yanga has won 29 Mainland Tanzania Premier League titles, therefore, Nabi will not be remembered much for the two Premier League titles he lifted with the squad because there are many coaches to have clinched the top honours with the outfit. Nabi will be remembered more for taking Yanga to the final of the CAF Confederation Cup, no coach has ever led Yanga to the highest stage of the CAF inter-club showdown more than him.

Yanga will be 89 years old in February



Former Yanga's head coach, Nasreddine Nabi. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

next year and, in the number of its coaches that exceed more than 200, no coach has ever achieved a feat that Nabi has enjoyed, therefore, after his departure, he will always be remembered.

If the gaffer might return to the country to coach Simba SC, he can break his respectable rank with Yanga but, otherwise, he will always be remembered.

As for Yanga, they have something to brag about to Nabi. Well, he was a good coach but they succeeded to rope in the best players for him.

If Nabi had the likes of the players who were under the tutelage of former Yanga coach, Congolese Mwinyi Zahera, I hardly think the Jangwani Street team would have been able to do what it did last season.

This is a case facing coach Pep Guardiola at Manchester City FC. People are arguing about either his quality or the quality of his players.

The truth is that the club has two best aspects, Guardiola is the best coach but he also has the best players.

Yanga's pride might lay in letting Nabi go easily because of the squad the outfit currently boasts and the money the side possesses.

The side might find a better coach than Nabi who will strengthen the outfit. It is also possible that Yanga has felt that it has the chance to get the best coach that will ensure it achieves more success compared to the achievements it enjoyed under Nabi's tutelage.

One should remember that Yanga has only been successful in CAF Confederation Cup but the club owes stakeholders a lot as far as flourishing in CAF Champions League is concerned.

The last time the club reached the CAF Champions League quarterfinals was in 1998 and, at that time, the tournament was played in a different format that approved outfits taking part in Group Stage as last-eight round participants. The club's rival Simba SC has reached the last-eight round severally in the current system, a quite difficult feat to achieve.

The new Yanga under GSM Group sponsorship had first wanted to crawl back to success in Premier League, which witnessed Simba SC enjoying dominance for four years in a row, and, Yanga further decided to embark on a search for more success in Africa inter-club showdowns.

In CAF Champions League, Yanga did not do well under Nabi, the squad then did well in CAF Confederation Cup. Yanga might believe the club needs a tactician set to take the club further in CAF Champions League.

I see that Yanga and Nabi have improved each other's profiles, the outfit has elevated Nabi and the tactician has done the same for the outfit. Both can get other clients easily based on the success they have achieved together.

Nabi can easily find a prominent outfit after what he did to Yanga, and the Jangwani Street club can also find either a good coach or good players easily after emerging as one

of the best teams in Africa last season.

All the best to Nabi and I will personally remember him for some basic issues focused on the field.

The Tunisia-born gaffer had what it takes to competently read the match and change the approach as the match progressed, especially in the second half.

Several times at the beginning of the second half he could change players/tactics that would change the whole game. In the second half, Yanga would opt for a different tactic. Nabi moreover boasted a great ability to change the squad's approach in the following assignment.

A soccer follower might have seen how Yanga locked horns with Tunisia's Club Africain in this season's CAF Confederation Cup playoff round first leg here in Dar es Salaam. The follower should have thereafter seen how Yanga played in the round's rematch in Tunis, they were different matches.

A football lover ought to have watched the way Yanga played against USM Alger in the first leg of the continental tournament's final here in Dar es Salaam, then watch how well the former played in the rematch in Algeria.

They were different matches and this was Nabi's great quality that many coaches in the country do not have.

I will mostly remember Nabi for being a coach with what it takes to take difficult decisions on the pitch. There was a time when he could easily bench a player like Burkinabe midfielder Stephane Aziz Ki despite the footballer's popularity.

Few players at the club were not on the receiving end of his decisions because they showcased quality on the pitch.

Apart from Mayele and goalkeeper, Djigui Diarra, many Yanga players faced Nabi's wrath when they either lost form or were not in good form.

Namungo FC signs Erasto Nyoni on free transfer

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

NAMUNGO FC has completed a deal to sign former Simba SC midfielder, Erasto Nyoni, on a free transfer as the versatile player becomes the former's first arrival of the 2023/24 transfer window.

On Friday, Namungo FC used the club's Instagram account to welcome Nyoni to the club several hours after Simba SC confirmed his departure on Thursday afternoon.

The Lindi-based outfit revealed: "We are happy to inform you that Erasto Edward Nyoni has joined to serve our Namungo team from Simba SC. Welcome to the

"Southern Killers" Family Erasto Edward."

The 35-year-old left Simba SC after five campaigns with the Robert Oliveira-coached squad and has signed a one-year deal with the Ruangwa-based side, with the option of an additional year.

He was limited to 11 league appearances in the 2022-23 season. During his time at Simba SC, Nyoni - who made 121 appearances in all competitions - won four Premier League titles, two Azam Sports Federation Cup showdown titles, and three Community Shields.

He also lifted the Mapinduzi Cup tournament's silverware as well as helping Simba SC make it to three quarterfinal

appearances in CAF Champions League and once in CAF Confederation Cup.

His exit at Simba SC was announced on Thursday alongside fellow midfielder Jonas Mkude. The duo added the number of Simba SC's confirmed departures to seven players so far.

Nyoni's vast experience will be welcomed by Namungo FC as the club regroups after another disappointing season that saw it finish 15 points behind fourth-placed Singida Big Stars in the NBC Premier League. The team also crashed out of the Azam Sports Federation Cup and failed to return to the Africa inter-club tournaments as a result.

The defensive midfielder's contract with the outfit has elapsed and has not been renewed, he will have to find a new home ahead of next season.

Another experienced defensive midfielder Erasto Nyoni has also been released after the expiration of his contract, the versatile footballer was roped in by Namungo FC last week.

Nyoni that has as well turned out for the senior national squad 'Taifa Stars' has been with the club for six years. Completing the list is reserve keeper Beno Kakolanya, who has been with Simba SC for four years.

"The management of the club informs the public that we will not continue to have the goalkeeper, Beno Kakolanya, after his contract ends," the statement from Simba SC read.

"The management of the club announces to the public that we will not continue to have our patch player, Erasto Nyoni after his contract ends."

The club had kind wishes for long-serving Mkude, saying: "The management of the club issues sincere thanks for the great contribution made to our team by midfielder Jonas Mkude throughout the 13 years he has been with us. We wish him all the best in the new challenge of his football life outside of Simba SC."

Kenyan international Joash Onyango, whose future at the club has been a subject of speculation in recent months with at least one more season left in his contract, is yet to be described as a footballer expected to either leave or stay till his final year.

What Edu and Mikel Arteta can offer Declan Rice to tempt him to Arsenal

By Sam Dean

THIS has been quite the month for Declan Rice. A few weeks ago he captained his club to their first major trophy in 43 years, and now he has the three best teams in the Premier League fighting for his signature. In the decades to come, he will surely look back at this as one of the defining periods of his life.

It must be exciting beyond measure, but also a little dizzying. Decision time is fast approaching and Rice, it seems, effectively has his pick of Manchester City, Arsenal and Manchester United. Well, that is not quite true, as any potential buyer has to reach an agreement with West Ham United first, but it is obvious that Rice's personal preference will be hugely important.

The key question for Arsenal, who have been the frontrunners for months, is whether they can offer a more compelling package than City and United. Not just in terms of finances, but in terms of the sporting project. How do they compete with the Treble winners, coached by the world's best manager, and the prospect of playing alongside the likes of Erling Haaland, Kevin De Bruyne and Jack Grealish?

This is the challenge for Mikel Arteta and Edu, Arsenal's sporting director. Edu oversees recruitment at the club and helps to construct their long-term strategy, although he is not alone in the deal-making process. It should be noted that Tim Lewis, executive vice-chair, and director of football operations Richard Garlick are also playing a key role in negotiations and the logistical process of attempting to sign the player.

For these decision-makers, the pitch to Rice is relatively straightforward: come to Arsenal as the new record signing, and the team will be built around you. You will be a guaranteed starter every week, playing Champions League football, and you will be a senior member of the squad from the moment you walk through the doors.

Arsenal are a team on an upward trajectory, too. Surround yourself with players of a similar age, all of whom have potential to grow, and see what might be possible as this group develops as one. Bukayo Saka, Martin Odegaard, Gabriel Martinelli, Gabriel Jesus, William Saliba – imagine how far these players can go if they stay together for the next five years.

City can blow Arsenal's bid out of the water

We know this is an attractive proposition to Rice. For some time now, Arsenal have been confident that the England international wants to stay in London and join them. The issue has been finding an agreement with West Ham (so far, two bids have been rejected) rather than convincing Rice that the Emirates Stadium would be the right fit.

But here come City, looming over the situation like a behemoth blocking the sun. At the time of writing, the champions are preparing to submit a bid to West Ham. Financially, there is no contest between them and Arsenal: As reported by Telegraph Sport earlier this month, their Treble earned them almost £300 million in prize money. If City want to blow Arsenal's offer out of the water, they can.

Every player in world football would be tempted by the thought of playing for Pep Guardiola, and joining City is as good a guarantee of winning trophies as Rice could ever hope to find. At the Etihad he would be surrounded by many of his England team-mates and one can only imagine how envious he has been of their post-Treble celebrations in recent weeks.

But can City offer the same level of seniority as Arsenal? Rice would have to compete with Rodri, De Bruyne and new signing Mateo Kovacic for a place in the side. That is no guarantee of game time and the case of Kalvin Phillips, Rice's England team-mate, is hardly an encouraging one.

United's presence in this race must also be considered, especially as they are also pushing to sign Mason Mount, Rice's best friend. Telegraph Sport revealed this week that United are considering rivaling Arsenal and City by proposing a player-plus-cash deal that could involve Harry Maguire or Scott McTominay.

Few players have ever been in a situation like this, with last season's top three teams all hoping to spend huge sums of money on them. Rice and his family are in a wonderful position, and he deserves to be there after years of impressive performances at West Ham.

But it is certainly not an easy position, and the 24-year-old will know that these next few days will shape the course of his entire career.

THE TELEGRAPH

The disease that could be about to transform football - and cost the sport hundreds of millions

By Jim White

THE former Scotland international footballer Gordon McQueen used to tell a story about his time at Manchester United that, in retrospect, takes on a more than poignant edge. He would recall how he once became exasperated by his then manager Dave Sexton, a coach, he reckoned, who was rather inclined to overthink.

Sexton was going through his plan for a corner and after about 10 minutes of complex, choreographed instruction, McQueen stuck his hand up and said: "Dave, it's a simple game, football. All you need to do is get someone to cross the ball into the box and I'll put my big stupid bonce on it and there's every chance it will go into the net."

Last week, at the age of 70, McQueen died from complications of vascular dementia. And there is little doubt his condition was exacerbated by spending his working life putting his "big stupid bonce" in the way of a football. In the immediate aftermath of McQueen's death, the former United manager Sir Alex Ferguson added his substantial voice to a campaign calling for dementia among ex-professional players to be reclassified as an industrial injury.

Ferguson was one of 20 Scottish football figures who issued a plea to the Scottish Parliament to acknowledge that players had been irrevocably damaged by their job, meaning, in the same manner as those found to have been afflicted by dangerous conditions in mining, manufacturing or the chemical industry, they would be entitled to additional state benefits.

"We, the undersigned, are calling for brain injuries experienced by ex-footballers to be classified as an industrial injury," reads the statement put out by Ferguson and his colleagues. "We have a generational chance to support those who entertained us in our national game to be given the support they desperately need."

The really sad news is that McQueen was by no means alone. Of the 11 players who won the World Cup for England in 1966, for instance, six have died of dementia. And Sir Bobby Charlton, one of the two men still alive, is now reduced by the condition.

Indeed, the statistics are brutal. Research has uncovered that professional footballers are three-and-a-half times more likely to develop a neurological disorder than the rest of the population; worse, they are five times more likely to develop dementia. Yet, so far no governing body, no football league, not a single club has acknowledged the link between the game and its devastating aftermath. And no player has yet received any financial compensation or anything by way of apology for being laid low by their profession.

"It is urgently needed," says Richard Boardman of the specialist injury lawyers Rylands Garth. "It is not just players going through hell. It is their families as well."

The conventional insistence, however, is that things have changed, that footballers of Charlton's vintage were brought down by heading heavy, old-school leather balls, which, when soaked in mud and rain, delivered the equivalent of being thumped in the temples by a heavyweight boxer. Except McQueen was playing in the 1970s and 80s, when balls were lighter and made of smarter material.

But research published in 2015 by Eric Nauman, a professor of biomedical engineering at Purdue University, Indiana, found the modern lightweight ball of the kind McQueen got his bonce to, particularly when over-inflated to make it travel quicker through the air, can still deliver a devastating force on the brain.

"If the ball has too high of a pressure, gets too waterlogged, or both, it actually turns into a weapon," Nauman explains. "Heading that ball is like heading a brick."

Some players, particularly central defenders such as McQueen, can head the ball up to 80 times



Of the 11 players who won the World Cup for England in 1966, six have died of dementia – Getty

in a match. And it is not so much the occasional interaction with a flying missile that is reckoned to cause lasting brain damage. It is the insistent thump-thump-thump of persistent heading practice in training.

When World Cup winner Nobby Stiles died of dementia in 2020, his family donated his brain to the Glasgow Brain Injury Research Group. On opening it up, Dr Willie Stewart, the consultant neurologist leading the group's research, discovered that Stiles's brain was irrevocably compromised by chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE).

"CTE is a progressive degenerative disease only found in people with a history of repetitive brain trauma," points out Dr Stewart. "Brain injury and head impacts are the only recognised risk factors. We don't find CTE in patients with dementia unless there is a story of brain injury or head impacts."

And Stiles was subject to regular impact doing his job. His son John calculates that, in training and in matches across an 18-year top-flight career, his father headed a football more than 70,000 times. "Dr Stewart told us the damage to my dad's brain could only be explained by him heading the ball over the sustained period of his career," he says.

Slowly, incrementally, some of those in charge of the game are coming to recognise the connection between repeated heading and the risk of brain damage. The Football Association has issued instructions to professional clubs to restrict players to 10 "high force" headers per week in training, has

advised amateurs not to head the ball more than 10 times per week and, last season, trialled a complete heading ban for players under the age of 12.

But what is most likely to accelerate change is if, as Ferguson would like, dementia was recognised as an industrial injury. "It would be a game-changer," says Dawn Astle, whose father Jeff died of dementia in 2013 and who is now the Professional Footballers' Association's project lead for neurodegenerative diseases in football.

"It would mean that the support available would be properly formalised and centralised," she continues. "We know it's a high bar they set [for such classification], so that's only going to happen if the data and the science is in place to ensure the link can't be disputed."

If the condition is deemed to be the result of an industrial injury, those suffering would be entitled to an additional state benefit of £160 per week. So far, the Industrial Injuries Advisory Council – the body that rules on the issue – has not passed judgment, despite having the issue under constant review for the past eight years. It claims it needs more scientific evidence. The council's usual requirement when making the link between illness and industry is that the workplace delivers double the likelihood of contracting a condition.

"Certain figures in football accept there is a link, that the science is straightforward and inarguable," says Boardman. "But, as with tobacco interests in the past, there is a widespread fear that full, formal acknowledgement would be a spur

to litigation."

In the US the connection between CTE and the helmet-to-helmet collisions that had long been part of American football was recognised by science as long ago as 2003. But it took a further 10 years before the National Football League finally reached a settlement of a class action lawsuit brought by brain-damaged former players said to be worth \$765 million (£600 million). And it was not until 2018 that the governing body altered its rules to limit helmet-to-helmet hits.

None of that would have happened without relentless legal action. Boardman's company (that also offers help to rugby players who have been similarly compromised by their profession) is already advising 30 former footballers on a class action case in this country. The football group – which includes the family of Nobby Stiles – is seeking compensation from several organisations, including the International Football Association Board, the body that sets the worldwide rules of the game.

Some would like things to go beyond compensation for past injuries and see the rules of the game significantly modernised to mitigate the dangers. Head for Change, a lobbying body established by Judith Gates, whose husband Bill played for Middlesbrough in the 1970s and is now diagnosed with dementia, held a no-heading trial match at Spennymoor FC in September 2021. Those who watched said the lack of heading was barely noticed.

"We are not looking to snowflake the game away," says Boardman. "Yes, the science suggests footballers would be at far lesser risk should heading be banned completely. But the risk is hugely lowered by having reduced amounts of heading in training, by ensuring balls are not over-inflated, by adopting proper concussion protocols. That is what we are seeking. And that should be the minimum."

One thing is for sure, this is an issue which is not going away. Gary Pallister, one of McQueen's successors at Manchester United, who won several league titles under Ferguson's direction, was talking recently about his own fear for the future. Although not yet diagnosed with any brain damage, the concern was starkly evident in his voice.

"Most of the time," he said, "my head feels like it is filled with broken glass."

THE TELEGRAPH



Sir Alex Ferguson is among 20 Scottish football figures calling for dementia and brain injuries among ex-footballers to be recognised as an industrial injury – PA

Gwiji by David Chikoko



Mikel Arteta (right) could offer Declan Rice the chance to have a team built around him – AFP

SPORT

The disease that could be
about to transform football

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

Yanga hits record revenue, announces stadium construction plans

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

YOUNG Africans SC had a gross revenue of 17.8bn/- in 2022/23 according to an unaudited report on the club read during the club's Annual General Meeting held at the Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre (JNICC) in Dar es Salaam on Saturday.

Club president, Hersi Ally Said (pictured) disclosed that expenditure for the club, popularly known as Yanga, rose to 17.3bn/-, making a pre-tax profit of 500m/- in the financial year.

Sponsorship revenue rose to \$3.4m thanks to new deals including SportPesa and Haier Group Corporation.

The club's president revealed a total of nine sponsors and partners, SportPesa, Azam Media Limited, Haier Group Corporation, GSM Group, Jembe Energy, CRDB Bank, Unicef, Smile, and Robbialac.

From winning the NBC Premier League and Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC), as well as progressing to the CAF Confederation Cup, this reporting period covers a season when Yanga played in every game possible, 55 matches in total.

As a result, the club collected an amount of 3.5bn/- from the winning and participation prizes.

The CAF Confederation run saw the outfit claim 2bn/- in revenues. Matchday proceedings brought in another 2bn/-, Wanaanchi Day festival being the biggest gate collection source after netting over 500m/-.

Midfielder Feisal Salum's move to city rivals Azam FC added 200m/- to Yanga's coffers. For the next season, the club's spending budget will be more than 20bn/-.

The cost of football has continued to rise throughout this period and despite making relatively fewer signings than the previous season, Yanga player wages and acquisition costs rose to 10.6bn/-, approximately 58 percent of club revenues.

On the pitch, seven new players were signed, including Gael Bigirimana, Tuisila Kisinda, Bernard Morrison, Lazarous Kambole, and Stephane Aziz Ki.

Several current players' contracts were extended throughout this period, with Fiston Mayele, Yannick Bangala, Dickson Job, Kibwana Shomari, Khalid Aicho, Djigui Diarra, Djuma Shaban and Farid Musa all signing new deals.

Said also vowed to ensure Yanga will start the construction of a modern stadium before the expiration of his office term.

The stadium will be built at the club headquarters, Jangwani, with a proposed capacity of between 15,000-18,000 seats.

"In my reign, my colleagues and I will not finish our term of office until without the construction of this stadium," Said disclosed amidst members' cheers and clapping.

In the AGM, new members of the Yanga Board of Trustees were introduced, led by Mama Fatma Karume, widow of the first President of Zanzibar and the first Chairman of the Zanzibar Revolution, the late Abeid Amaan Karume.

Other members are the Minister of State, President's Office, Public Service and Good Governance and Member of Parliament for Newala, George Mku-chika, Minister of Finance and Planning and Member of Parliament for Iramba West, Mwigulu Nchemba, Member of Parliament for Kinondoni, Tarimba Abbas and Deputy Minister of Agriculture and MP for Dodoma Urban, Anthony Mavunde.



Aurobindo Aga Khan SC's cricketer Ajith Augustin (L) receives the Colourflex Man of the Match award from the Sales Coordinator of ASAS Group, James, following the club's Super4s stage match against Azania Bank Upanga SC in the 2023 Petrofuel Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Caravans T20 Cup tournament on Saturday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF CARAVANS CRICKET CLUB

New Yanga head coach calls for unity to continue success

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

NEWLY appointed Young Africans SC head coach Miguel Angel Gamondi has called upon his side to come together to continue the upward trajectory next season.

The Argentine was officially announced as the new head coach of the squad, also known as Yanga, on Saturday during the club's Annual General Meeting which took place at Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre (JNICC) in Dar es Salaam.

Gamondi arrives to replace Tunisia-born Nasreddine Nabi who led Yanga to the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup final.

In his video presentation during his unveiling, Gamondi introduced himself to the congregated Yanga members, stating his vast experience in African football believing if all stakeholders work together the club will continue enjoying success.

The Argentine tactician said: "I'm Miguel Gamondi, a coach from Argentina. I have worked for more than 20 years in African football. I have been coaching for more than 20 years in Africa."

"I was coaching teams like Wydad Casablanca (in Morocco), Mamelodi Sundowns in South Africa, CR Belouizdad in Algeria, and Esperance in Tunis... I was lucky enough to get some good results and achievements with them," he disclosed.

He continued: "It's one of the greatest clubs in history, with incredible fans as well, I strongly believe if we can work together - fans, management, players, and technical staff, we can continue to bring success and even greater results, I'm excited to join and hope to see you very soon."

The 59-year-old was introduced to African football back in 2000 as an assistant coach at Libyan side Al Ahly Tripoli before going to other continental elites like ASEC Mimosas of Ivory Coast, Wydad Casablanca, Esperance and Etoile du Sahel both from Tunisia.

His major achievement was in 2008 when he guided South Africa's Platinum Stars to the round of 16 stage of the CAF Confederation Cup.

Gamondi will be tasked with



New Yanga head coach, Miguel Ángel Gamondi.

guiding Yanga as far as the club can go in the 2023/24 CAF Champions League and defend the domestic treble of NBC Premier League, Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC), and Community Shield.

In a related development, Burundian coach Cedric Kaze is expected to stay at Yanga as a member of Gamondi's coaching staff.

While nothing has fully been either decided or confirmed as of yet, the Burundian is now expected to work with Gamondi.

Kaze, who is on his second spell with Yanga, has attracted interest from Singida Fountain Gate FC and Namungo FC over potentially becoming a permanent head coach.

Aurobindo Aga Khan SC qualifies for 2023 Petrofuel DC Caravans T20 Cup tourney final

By Guardian Reporter

AZANIA Bank Upanga SC's hopes of securing a spot in the final of this season's Petrofuel Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Caravans T20 Cup tournament have been put into question, following the outfit's defeat in the hands of Aurobindo Aga Khan SC in a thrilling Super4 match last Saturday.

Despite winning the toss and opting to bat first, Azania Bank Upanga SC failed to capitalize on the decision, and the cricketers were dismissed for mere 121 runs in 18.5 overs.

The addition of two foreign players, Riazat Ali Shah, and Dinesh Nakrani, was expected to bolster Azania Bank Upanga SC's performance.

However, their batting lineup struggled to find its footing, succumbing to the relentless bowling attack deployed by Aurobindo Aga Khan SC.

Yelda Reddy and Maker Mukesh emerged as the top contributors with the bat, scoring 28 runs apiece off 19 balls and 15 balls.

Aurobindo Aga Khan SC's bowlers, Ajith Augustin and Sivaraj Selvaraj, shone brightly, picking up two wickets apiece and causing havoc among Azania Bank Upanga SC batsmen.

Their disciplined bowling restricted the opposition's scoring rate and prevented them from building a substantial total.

In pursuit of 122 runs for victory, Aurobindo Aga Khan SC approached the chase with determination and composure.

All-rounder Augustin showcased his batting prowess, playing crucial innings of 47 runs off 46 deliveries.

His calculated approach ensured that his team maintained control throughout the chase, eventually reaching the target in 19.2 overs with five wickets in hand. Augustin was adjudged the Colourflex Man of the Match for his exceptional all-round performance.

Sivaraj Selvaraj's bowling spell taking three wickets earned him the Rickshaw Game Changer of the Match award.

This triumph marked Aurobindo Aga Khan SC's third consecutive victory in the Super4 stage of the 2023 Petrofuel DC Caravans T20 Cup, securing their place in the much-anticipated final.

The team's impeccable performance throughout the tournament has established them as the front-runners and a formidable force to reckon with.

With the Super4 stage coming to a close, the outcomes of the matches between Aurobindo Aga Khan SC and Azania Bank Upanga SC, as well as e-Parking-backed Aces squad and Flashnet Pak Stars, have provided much-needed clarity regarding the finalists of the 2023 Petrofuel DC Caravans T20 Cup.

Aurobindo Aga Khan SC's resounding win guarantees their presence in the final, which was penned for yesterday, they were set to strive to claim the show-down trophy against the deserving contender from the other Super4 match.

The Petrofuel DC Caravans T20 Cup is an annual T20-formatted cricket competition organized by Caravans Cricket Club.

Petrofuel is the title sponsor of the showdown. Other sponsors include Alliance Insurance, Colourflex, TATA Africa Holdings, ASAS, Rickshaw Travels, RAS Logistics, Pepsi, e-Parking, Remax, Flashnet, and Aurobindo.

Others are Azania Bank, Jiuzhou, All Season Hotel, General Petroleum, UMC International, Automark, Hisense, Oman Air, Ashton Media, Mo Assurance, Aucom & Harmonic, and Car & General.

Horizon Teleports, Aone Bottlers, Samsonite, Bank of India, Canara Bank, Euro Cables, VL Smart Solutions, Mobidoc, GI Logistics, Delta Africa, The Works, and Tanzania Assurance wind up the sponsors' list.

Alliance Caravans lifted the 2022 Petrofuel DC Caravans T20 Cup tournament's trophy following the outfit's four-wicket drubbing of Aurobindo Aga Khan SC in the final.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

